The Arabic Film Series is offered by the Arabic Language Program at Indiana University Bloomington. For more information contact the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures at nelc@indiana.edu.
Caramel is a romantic comedy centered on the daily lives of five Lebanese women. While single Layale struggles with her growing attraction to a married man, Nisrine fears that her future husband will find out that she has already lost her virginity, and Rima wages a futile war against her lesbian instincts. Meanwhile, Jamale does everything within her power to reverse the visible effects of aging, and Rose laments the fact that she has sacrificed her own happiness in order to care for her older sister.

NADINE LABAKI (LEBANON), 2007, 95 MIN
After the death of her husband, Lilia's life revolves solely around her teenage daughter, Salma. Whilst looking for Salma late one night, Lilia stumbles upon a belly dance cabaret and though initially reserved and taken aback by the culture of the place, Lilia gets consistently drawn back to it. She befriends one of the belly dancers and is encouraged into dancing for the audience. Lilia also starts a romance with one of the cabaret's musicians, who unbeknown to both of them, is also romancing Salma.

**Raja Amari (Tunisia), 2002, 100 min**
Reda, a young French-Moroccan guy and his old father drive from the south of France to Mecca in order for the father to do his pilgrimage. At first distant, they gradually learn to know each other.

Ismaël Ferroukhi (Morocco), 2004, 108 min
Alexandria... Why? is a 1979 Egyptian drama film directed by Youssef Chahine. It was entered into the 29th Berlin International Film Festival, where it won the Silver Bear - Special Jury Priz. The film was selected as the Egyptian entry for the Best Foreign Language Film at the 52nd Academy Awards, but was not accepted as a nominee. The film portraits the early life of the director in his home city, Alexandria.

Youssef Chahine (Egypt), 1979, 133 min
City of Life is a 2009 multilingual Emirati film written, directed, and produced by Ali F. Mostafa. Set in the United Arab Emirates, the film revolves around three parallel lives, amongst many cultures in one city, namely, Dubai.

Ali F. Mostafa (UAE), 2009, 120 min
In April, 1975, civil war breaks out; Beirut is partitioned along a Moslem-Christian line. Tarek is in high school, making Super 8 movies with his friend, Omar. At first the war is a lark: school has closed, the violence is fascinating, getting from West to East is a game. His mother wants to leave; his father refuses. Tarek spends time with May, a Christian, orphaned and living in his building. By accident, Tarek goes to an infamous brothel in the war-torn Olive Quarter, meeting its legendary madam, Oum Walid. He then takes Omar and May there using her underwear as a white flag for safe passage. Family tensions rise. As he comes of age, the war moves inexorably from adventure to tragedy.

Ziad Doueiri (Lebanon), 1998, 105 min
In the northeast of contemporary Morocco, Zeinab, a young wife watches her husband leave the country to go underground the day after their wedding. Zeinab is expecting a child. While she is waiting for her husband to return she lulls the foetus to sleep. Time goes by and the husband does not come back.

YASMIN KASSARI (MOROCCHO), 2004, 95 MIN