

HINE 118

The Middle East in the Twentieth Century

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Office hrs.: Tu 9:30-11:30 or by appointment

Spring 2005
Tu Th 8-9:20
CSB 001
ID#: 529147

The course is an introductory survey of the Middle East in the last century. Emphasis will be on the period since World War I. Themes in modern Middle Eastern history such as identity formation and nationalism, imperialism, Islamic movements, the economics and politics of oil, globalization, and communal conflict will be treated within a broad chronological and comparative framework drawing on the experience of the Southwest Asian countries and Egypt. Each student is encouraged to develop an in-depth knowledge of a particular country by choosing a related book. (See reading list at the end of syllabus.) The course assumes no background in Middle Eastern history.

I. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

Week 1:

Tu Mar 29 Unity and diversity in historical perspective

Th Mar 31 The Middle East and the West: The 19th Century

Readings:

The following selection, in particular pp. 61-132, is strongly recommended background reading. (You will not be examined on this section of the Cleveland book.)

William L. Cleveland, **A History of the Modern Middle East**, 1-132.

II. IMPERIALISM AND NATIONALISM: CREATION OF STATES

Week 2:

Tu Apr 5 World War I

Th Apr 7 European re-assertion and its outcome, 1918-1922

Readings:

Cleveland, 133-70.

Albert Hourani, **A History of the Arab Peoples**, 263-314.

Walter Laqueur and B. Rubin, **The Israel-Arab Reader**, 12-33.*

(Note: "*" indicates readings available on electronic Reserves)

Week 3:

Tu Apr 12 Film ("Promises and Betrayals") and discussion

Th Apr 14 Nation-building in the Arab Middle East between the two World Wars

Readings:

Cleveland, 171-73; 193-237.

Hourani, 315-49.

Richard P. Mitchell, **The Society of the Muslim Brothers**, 1-34.*

Week 4:

Tu Apr 19 The making of the Palestine Question

Th Apr 21 Discussion

Readings:

Cleveland, 239-71.

Charles D. Smith, **Palestine and the Arab-Israeli Conflict**, 156-66.*

Week 5:

Tu Apr 26 Building a state and a nation: Turkey

Th Apr 28 Alternative paths to state building: Iran and Saudi Arabia

Readings:

Cleveland, 175-192.

Hugh Poulton, **Top Hat, Grey Wolf and Crescent**, 87-129.*

Nikki Keddie, **Roots of Revolution**, 79-141.*

Madawi al-Rasheed, **A History of Saudi Arabia**, 72-105.*

Week 6:

Tu May 3 Discussion
Th May 5 MID-TERM EXAMINATION

Week 7:

Tu May 10 The Cold War and the "Arab Cold War"
Th May 12 Arab Nationalism and the Israeli Factor

Readings:

Cleveland, 273-372.
Hourani, 351-458

Week 8:

Tu May 17 The oil revolution and the Iranian Revolution
Th May 19 Rise of religion: Egypt, Lebanon

Readings:

Cleveland, 373-472. Beinin, Joel and Joe Stork. "On the Modernity, Historical Specificity, and International Context of Political Islam," 3-22.*
Keddie, "Women in Iran Since 1979," 405-37.*

IV. CONTEMPORARY MIDDLE EAST

Week 9:

Tu May 24 Israel: unity, division, and occupied territories
Th May 26 Gulf wars

Readings:

Cleveland, 473-517.
Richard Perle, et. al. "A Clean Break"
<http://www.israeleconomy.org/strat1.htm>

Week 10

Tu May 31 September 11 and its aftermath
Th Jun 2 Looking back and looking ahead from the war in Iraq

Readings:

Cleveland, 519-548.

Malise Ruthven, "The Seeds of Terror," 169-200.*
Chalmers Johnson, "Blowback."
<http://www.thenation.com/doc.mhtml?i=20011015&c=1&s=johnson>
Rashid Khalidi, **Resurrecting Empire**, 152-75.*
David Fromkin, "A Wall of Faith and History," in **New York Times**, March 24, 2005.*

COURSE READINGS

(1) William Cleveland, **A History of the Modern Middle East** (Westview, 2004), 3rd edition.

(2) Albert Hourani, **A History of the Arab Peoples** (Warner, 1991 or any other edition)

(3) Choose ONE of the following five books (to be read at your own pace). The final exam will include a question pertaining to each of these five books. You will be asked to address one.

* Feroz Ahmad, **Turkey: A Short History** (Oneworld, 2004)

* Derek Hopwood, **Egypt: Politics and Society** (Routledge, 1991)

* Nikki Keddie, **Modern Iran: Roots and Results of Revolution** (Yale, 2003)

* Bernard Reich and G. Kieval, **Israel: Land of Tradition and Conflict** (Westview, 1993)

* Charles Tripp, **A History of Iraq** (Cambridge, 2000)

(4) **Hammond Atlas of the Middle East**

All books are available at the University Bookstore, Price Center.

(5) Items on Course Reserves at the University Library (indicated with an asterisk in the reading list)

REQUIREMENTS

Mid-term examination on Thursday, May 5 (35%).

Final examination (comprehensive) tentatively scheduled on Wednesday, June 8, 8-11 (65%).

Both exams are compulsory and in-class. Bring blue book.