

**BROWN UNIVERSITY - DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY**  
**HIST 1450: HISTORY OF THE MODERN MIDDLE EAST, 1800-1918**

Fall 2009  
Tu & Th 2:30-3:50 (K)  
**Wilson Hall 102**

Instructor: Engin Deniz Akarli (Sharpe House #208)  
Office hours: Tu 1-2 & W. 1:30-2:30  
(Tel: 863-2446)

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** Transformation of Middle Eastern societies along with their involvement in the processes of integration into the modern world order that emerged in the 19th century under Western European domination. The course aims at introducing you to problems of socioeconomic, political, and cultural change as experienced by the peoples of a geo-politically central and historically important region of the world in a formative period of world history. Another objective of the course is to examine the effects of changing power relations on the perceptions and knowledge of “others” within the context of 19th-century Middle Eastern history. The latter objective should help improve your critical reading skills.

**EVALUATION:** Your grades will be based on two mid-term exams and a final exam (30% each), as well as participation in class discussions and attendance (10%). All exams will have two sections. The first section will include questions to test your knowledge of the general developments and issues of the specific period covered in the relevant reading assignments and class meetings. The second section will include one or two essays on alternative topics. Essay topics will be announced before the exam in order to give you a chance to better prepare your essays. There will be occasions to discuss relatively complex issues and developments in class and students should feel free to interrupt any lecture to raise questions. We will also make arrangements for additional discussion sections in smaller groups (at hours that will be announced in class).

**READINGS:**

1. W. Cleveland, *A History of the Modern Middle East* (3<sup>rd</sup> ed., Westview Press, 2004)
2. *Al-Jabarti's Chronicle of the French Occupation, 1798: Napoleon in Egypt* (Markus Wiener, 1993)
3. Z. Lockman, *Contending Visions of the Middle East: The History and Politics of Orientalism* (Cambridge University Press, 2004)
4. [Recommended] *Hammond Atlas of the Middle East*, rev. ed. (Hammond, 1996)
5. *HI 1450 Reader* (Available at Allegra Print)

**COURSE OUTLINE AND ASSIGNMENTS**

**Introduction:**

**Sept 9:** The region and its people: “Introduction” to *The Middle East: A Geographical Study*, by Beaumont, Blake, & Wagstaff\* + *Hammond Atlas* + Study Guide\*\*

**Sept 15-17:** Historical background: An overview: Cleveland, 1-56 + Study Guide

**PART I: The “Liberal Era” (1800-1875):**

**Sept 22-24:** Perceptions of the French occupation of Egypt in 1798:

Accounts by Tignor, al-Jabarti, and de Bourrienne in *Al-Jabarti's Chronicle*, pp. 1-165 and 183-186 + Study Guides

**Sept 29 & Oct 1:** The Ottoman Middle East & Mehmed Ali's rule in Egypt: Cleveland, 61-80 + Akarli, “Provincial Power Magnates”\* + Study Guide

**Oct 6-8:** Westernizing reforms & the opening of the Middle East to “free trade”:  
Cleveland, 81-92 + R. Davison, “Attitudes Concerning Christian-Muslim Equality”\* +  
“Documents” # 80-84 & # 104-105\* + Study Guide

**Oct 13 (Tuesday): First mid-term examination**

**PART II: The “New Imperialist Era” (1875-1918):  
Religious & Nationalist Responses to European Domination**

**Oct 15:** The “new imperialist era”: An overview and changing perceptions of the region’s  
people: Lockman, 1-98 + Study Guide

**Oct 20-22:** British rule in Egypt, 1882-1918: Cleveland, 92-109 + R. Owen, "Egypt and  
Europe: from French Expedition to British Occupation"\*+ “Documents” # 128-130\* +  
Cromer, *Modern Egypt* (1908), Chapters 34 & 35\* + Study Guide

**Oct 27-29:** Shift in reorganization efforts: Abdulhamid II’s authoritarian regime:  
Cleveland, 101-102 & 119-122 + Akarlı, "The Tangled Ends of an Empire and Its  
Sultan"\* + Dumont, “Said Bey: The Everyday Life of an Istanbul Townsman”\* + Study  
Guide

**Nov 3-5:** Ideological Responses to European Domination in the Ottoman Middle East:  
Islamic Ottomanism, puritanism and reformism + Nationalism: Cleveland, 122-132 +  
Study Guide

**Nov 10 (Tuesday): Second mid-term examination**

**Nov 12-17:** Background to Iran: Geography, History and Culture: Cleveland, pp. 15, 31-33, &  
51-56 (on Shi‘ism and Safavis) + G. Hambly, “The Traditional Iranian City in the  
Qajar Period”\* + Study Guide

**Nov 19 & 24:** Iran: 1848-1918: Cleveland, 109-117 and 143-148 + N. Keddie, “Iran under the  
Later Qajars, 1848-1922”\* + Abrahamian, “The Crowd in the Persian Revolution”\* +  
“Documents” # 160-163\* + Study Guides

**Dec 1:** The Unionists and “The Great War” in the Middle East, 1914-1918: Cleveland,  
133-143 & 149-170 + Ahmad, “War and Society under the Young Turks, 1908-1918”\*

**Dec 3:** West Europe and the Middle East: Mutual perceptions revisited:  
Edward Said in *Al-Jabarti*, 167-185 + Lockman, 55-98.

**Dec 16 Wednesday, 2 pm: Final Exam**

***HAVE A NICE SEMESTER!***

(\* ) In the *HIST1450 Reader*

(\*\* ) Study Guides will be posted in the course web site at MyCourses