

Hist-282: Survey of Middle Eastern Civilization 2

George Mason University
Spring 2010
Tuesday/Thursday 10:30-11:45
Robinson A 248

Instructor:

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Office hours: Tuesday/Thursday 12:00-2:00 PM, Robinson B 373B

This survey will investigate the history of the modern Middle East since the 18th century. We will examine the political, economic, social, and cultural transformations of this period in the Ottoman Empire, its successor states, Egypt, and Iran. Using a variety of historical documents and secondary sources, we will consider a range of topics including state formation, European imperialism, the rise of nationalism and other ideological developments, religion, urbanization, oil, revolution, and war.

Required Texts:

William L. Cleveland and Martin P. Bunyan, *A History of the Modern Middle East*, (Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 2009).

Cameron Amin, Benjamin C. Fortna, and Elizabeth Frierson, eds., *The Modern Middle East: A Sourcebook for History* (Oxford University Press, 2006).

Evaluation:

Two 5-7 page papers analyzing readings from the sourcebook: (first paper--20%; second paper 30%).

Midterm Exam (in-class essay): 20%

Final Exam (in-class essay): 30%

*The weekly source book readings should be completed by the Thursday session to facilitate in-class discussion.

Weekly Schedule

Week 1: Introduction: the Gunpowder Empires and Modernity in the Middle East
Cleveland, Chapters 1-3

Week 2: Early reform in the Ottoman Empire, Muhammad ‘Ali’s Egypt, and Qajar Iran

Cleveland, Chapter 4

Sourcebook: 1.4 “Negotiating the power of the sultan: the Ottoman Sened-i Ittifak (Deed of Agreement), 1808”; 1.6 “Observing Muhammad ‘Ali Pasa and his administration at work, 1843-1846”; 8.3 “Economic Change: Muhammad ‘Ali’s development schemes in Egypt and Syria, 1834 and 1837.”

Week 3: Tanzimat in the Ottoman Empire

Cleveland, Chapter 5-6

“Hatt-i Sherif of Gulhane, 1839”

http://sitemaker.umich.edu/emes/sourcebook/da.data/97045/FileSource/1839_gulhane.pdf

Sourcebook: 5.2 “An official report on efforts to re-establish Ottoman control over Kuwait, 1870.”

Week 4: Iran in the reign of Nasir al-Din Shah

Keddie, *Roots of Revolution*, Chapter 2-3 (Library reserve)

Sourcebook: 1.7 “A Manifesto for educational reform in Qajar Iran, 1959”; 2.1 “‘The Statement of Purpose’ of an early official gazette in Qajar Iran, 1851”; 6.5 “The West through the eyes of an Iranian Qajar monarch: Naser al-Din Shah’s first trip to Europe, 1873.”

Week 5: The Formation of an Opposition: Young Ottomans, Arabi, and the Tobacco Protests

Cleveland, Chapter 7

“Imperialism, Science and Religion: Two Essays by Jamal al-Din al-Afghani, 1883 and 1884”

http://sitemaker.umich.edu/emes/sourcebook/da.data/82631/FileSource/1884_al-afghani.pdf

Sourcebook: 6.4 “The young Ottoman: Namik Kemal’s ‘Progress’, 1872”; 8.4 “Financial imperialism and its relationship to development; the Ottoman Public Debt Administration, 1881-1925.” 8.5 “Development concessions, the D’Arcy Concession for Iranian oil, 29 May 1901.”

****First Paper Due Thursday, February 18, 2010****

Week 6: Revolution: the CUP and the Iranian Constitutionalists

Cleveland, Chapter 8

Sourcebook: 5.4 “Excerpts from *Uc Tarz-i Siyaset* (“Three Kinds of Politics”) by Akcuraoglu Yusuk, 1904”; 6.8 “Conceptualizing modernity in late Ottoman times: Japan

as a model nation, 1902-1913”; 2.4 “The Aftermath of revolution in the Ottoman cartoon space, 1909-1910”; 5.6 “Armenian and Iranian collaboration in the constitutional revolution: the agreement between Dashnakists and Majlis delegates, 1908”; 1.9 “An Armenian-Iranian promoted to Amir Tuman of the Persian Cossack Brigade: firman of Mohammad ‘Ali Shah Qajar, 1908.”

Week 7: World War I and the Remaking of the Middle East

Cleveland, Chapter 9

“The Evolution of Political Zionism, from the Basel Program to the Balfour Declaration, 1897-1917”

http://sitemaker.umich.edu/emes/sourcebook/da.data/82632/FileSource/1897_zionism.pdf

Sourcebook: 6.9 The Ottoman home front, a German correspondent’s remarks, 1917”;

1.13 “The rise of mass doctrinal political parties: the program of Hasan al-Banna and the Muslim Brotherhood, 1936.”

****Midterm: Thursday, March 4, 2010****

Week 8: Spring Break

Week 9: Economy and Society in the Modern Middle East

Sourcebook: Chapter 8 part 1: “Economic Data”; 5.1 “On justice towards the peasants: from Rif‘a Rafi‘ al-Tahtawi’s *Paths of Egyptian Minds in the Delights of Modern Culture*, 1869”; 3.2 “‘Should a woman demand all the rights of a man?’ From the Cairo Periodical, *Al-Hilal*, 1894; 8.7 “The population as a national economic resource: an Iranian press article, 1937”; Taha Husayn: revolt against tradition, from *Al-Ayyam (the Days)*, 1939.”

Week 10: Iran and Turkey between the Wars

Cleveland, Chapter 10

“Nation-Building and Expanding State Power in Iran: Two Military Telegrams, 1931”

http://sitemaker.umich.edu/emes/sourcebook/da.data/82628/FileSource/1931_amin.pdf

Sourcebook: 3.5 “The Turkish ‘Modern Woman’: two press articles, 1924 and 1926.”

4.3 “Kemal Ataturk on the abolition of the Ottoman caliphate, 3 March 1924”; 3.6

“Gender, morality, and state policy in modern Iran: A Ministry of Education memorandum, 1935.”

Week 11: World War II and the “revolutions” of the 1950s

Cleveland, Chapters 11-13, 15

Sourcebook: 1.14 “Jamal ‘Abd al-Nasir (Gammal Abd al-Nasser): from *Egypt’s Liberation*, 1953”; 5.10 “Iran and the National Front, a speech by Prime Minister Mohammad Mosaddeq, 27 September 1951.”

Week 12: The Arab States and Israel to 1970

Cleveland, Chapters 16-17.

“Israel’s Drive for Social Integration, Observations by Prime Minister Levi Eshkol, 1964”

<http://sitemaker.umich.edu/emes/sourcebook/da.data/82638/FileSource/1964eshkol.pdf>
Sourcebook: 1.15 “The Program of the Ba‘th (Arab Socialist Resurrection), 1963”;
4.7 “The Committee for Public Morality in Saudi Arabia, 1957”; 6.10 “Muslim state
participation in UN human rights debates, 1946-1966.”

Week 13: The Arab States and Israel after 1970

Cleveland, Chapters 18-19, 21

Sourcebook: “Anwar al-Sadat’s speech to the Israeli Knesset, 1977”; 4.9 Israel at fifty:
the cultural war in the pages of *Ha’aretz* and the *Jerusalem Post*, 1998.”

Week 14: Turkey and Iran, 1960s-1970s

Cleveland, 14; Keddie, Chapter 7

Sourcebook: 8.8 “Diplomatic and court perspectives on the ‘White Revolution,’ 1958-
1971”; 2.7 “Cartoon from the satirical Turkish weekly comic *LeMan* entitled ‘Sozde Mini
Oyku . . .’ (A So-Called Short Story), 27 January 2001.”

****Second Paper Due, Thursday, April 15, 2010****

**Week 15: The Iranian Revolution, the Iran-Iraq War, and “America’s Moment in
the Middle East”**

Cleveland, Chapter 20, 22-25

Sourcebook: 4.8 “Twelver Shi‘ism and revolutionary Islam in Iran: from ‘Ali
Shari‘ati’s, *Approaches to the Understanding of Islam*, 1968”; 7.5 “The Brigadier and the
Imam: two commemorative poems from Iran, 1928 and 1989.” : 4.10 Osama bin Laden’s
use of history: an audiotape released in early 2004”;

****Final Exam****