

## **HIST 375: *History of the Modern Middle East***

Fall Semester 2018

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<b>Office hours:</b>	Tuesday 1:30-2:30pm & 4:30-5:30pm Wednesday 2:00-3:00pm Thursday 1:30-2:30pm
<b>Class days and times:</b>	Tuesday & Thursday 11:00am–12:15pm
<b>Classroom:</b>	MCM 312

*Course Description:* This course explores the history of the Middle East from the middle of the 18<sup>th</sup> century to the present. Rather than narrate it as a series of wars and conflicts, however, we will focus on the principal cultural, intellectual, political, and social factors that have shaped the countries of the Middle East. Themes include: legacies of imperialism; the late nineteenth century cultural renaissance known as the *nahda*; the World Wars; Islamic revival; revolutionary movements; politics of oil and war; cultural modernism; exile and diaspora; and the Arab Rebellions. Our focus in the 20<sup>th</sup> century will be largely on the emergence of anti-colonial nationalist revolutions and post-colonial national regimes. The course will highlight certain countries with the purpose of critically addressing the themes that are dominant in both the scholarly and non-scholarly literature on the region.

### **Required Books:**

William Cleveland, *A History of the Modern Middle East* (6<sup>th</sup> Edition, Westview Press, 2016)

Sonallah Ibrahim, *The Committee* (Syracuse University Press, 2001)

Sayyid Qutb, *A Child from the Village* (Syracuse University Press, 2004)

Readings available through the course website [CW]

### **Grading:**

20% paper #1 (due on 14 October @7pm)

30% paper #2 (due on 11 December @ 1:30pm)

20% Online exam (20 November, starts @ 11am and ends @ 12:15pm)

30% in-class writing responses

**Grading Scale:** A=93-100, A-=90-92.99, B+=88-89.99, B=83-87.99, B-=80-82.99, C+=78-79.99, C=73-77.99, C-=70-72.99, D+=68-69.99, D=63-67.99, D-=60-62.99

### **Week 1: The Middle East in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century**

8/28: Course Intro –*Tanzimat* Reforms in the Ottoman Empire

8/30: Nature, Animals, and Napoleon's Invasion of Egypt

#### Readings:

W. Cleveland, *Modern Middle East*, chs. 4-5 (pp. 53-95)

Moreh (trans.), *Al-Jabarti's Chronicle of the French Occupation* (selections) [CW]

### **Week 2: Modernization in Iran and Egypt**

9/4: From Ottoman to British Egypt

9/6: Iran - Qajars to the Constitutional Revolution

#### Readings:

W. Cleveland, *Modern Middle East*, chs. 6-8 (pp. 96-138)

S. Qutb, *A Child From the Village*, pp. 1-58 & 106-137 (chapters 1-5 and 9-12)

J. St. John, *Egypt and Muhammad 'Ali* [CW]

### **Week 3: The Middle East from the interwar era to the end of World War II:**

#### **Anti-colonial nationalism in Egypt and the Levant**

9/11: Ideologies of Nationhood: Egypt

9/13: Ideologies of Nationhood: Greater Syria

#### Readings:

W. Cleveland, *Modern Middle East*, chs. 9 & 11-12 (pp. 139-159 & 184-225)

Primary source selections *Nahda and Nationalism* (al-Afghanai, al-Tahtawi, Amin, Saadah, Hussayn, Aflaq, al-Nadim, al-Sayyed, al-Kawakibi, al-Husri) [CW]

S. Qutb, *A Child From the Village*, pp. 78-96 (chs. 6-8)

### **Week 4: Palestine/ Israel**

9/18: Zionism and Arab Nationalism in Palestine

9/20: Catastrophe/Independence

#### Readings:

W. Cleveland, *Modern Middle East*, ch. 13 (pp. 226-256)

Primary source selections *Zionism and Nationalism Palestine* (Herzl, Pinsker, Touqan, & The Arab Case for Palestine and the Case for a Binational State) [CW]

### **Week 5: Military Nationalism in Egypt**

9/25: Modern Egyptian Womanhood

9/27: Film clips: *Umm Kulthum: A Voice like Egypt* (dir. Michel Goldman)

Readings:

W. Cleveland, *Modern Middle East*, chs. 15-16 (pp. 286-327) 161

G. Abdel Nasser, *The Morrow of Independence & The Struggle for Renaissance* [CW]

T. Mitchell, "Can the Mosquito Speak?" in *Rule of experts: Egypt, techno-politics, modernity*. (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2002). [CW]

**Week 6: Politics and Economics on the Nile**

10/2: The Muslim Brotherhood

10/4: Iraq: Revolution and counter-Revolution

Readings:

H. al-Banna, *The New Renaissance* [CW]

S. Qutb, *Milestones* [CW]

**Week 7: Petro-Monarchy**

10/9: The Making of Saudi Arabia

10/11: Regional Politics of Oil

Readings:

W. Cleveland, *Modern Middle East*, ch. 12 & 20 (pp. 219-225 & 402-421)

ARAMCO Handbook [CW]

A. Mounif, *Cities of Salt* (selections) [CW]

**Week 8: Secular Republicanism**

10/16: *No class, fall recess*

10/18: Kemalist Turkey

Readings:

W. Cleveland, *Modern Middle East*, ch. 10 (pp. 166-183)

M. Kemal, *Nutuk: The Great Speech (October 1927)* [CW]

**Week 9: From Monarchy to Islamic Republic**

10/23: Social Origins of the Iranian Revolution

10/25: The Iranian Revolution

Readings:

W. Cleveland, *Modern Middle East*, ch. 14 & 18 (pp. 261-285 & 355-377)

CIA Report "Overthrow of Premier Mossadeq" [CW]

A. Khomeini *Islamic Government*

A. Shari'ati *On the Sociology of Islam* [CW]

### **Week 10: The Arab-Israeli Conflict**

10/30: Israel-Palestine post-1967

Film Clips: *Checkpoint*

11/1: From Oslo to Gaza

#### Readings:

W. Cleveland, *Modern Middle East*, ch. 17 (pp. 328-349)

A. Oz, *In the Land of Israel* [CW]

G. Kanafani, *Palestine's Children – Returning to Haifa* [CW]

### **Week 11: Neoliberalism and Political Transformation**

11/6: The *Infitah* in Egypt

11/8: Turkey's Passive Revolution

#### Readings:

W. Cleveland, *Modern Middle East*, pp. 378-389 & pp. 499-512

S. Ibrahim, *The Committee* [all]

### **Week 12: Postmodern Islamist Violence**

11/13: Al-Qaeda and "Muslim Radicalism"

11/15: Dubai: The Gilded Cage

#### Readings:

W. Cleveland, *Modern Middle East*, chs. 22-23 (pp. 451-498)

*Messages to the World: The Statements of Osama bin Laden* (excerpts) [CW]

### **Week 13: Thanksgiving week**

11/20: **ONLINE EXAM**

11/22: *no class*

#### Readings:

W. Cleveland, *Modern Middle East*, chs. 22-23 (pp. 451-498)

### **Week 14: Post 9/11**

11/27: The Second Gulf War

11/29: The Arab Rebellions

#### Readings:

W. Cleveland, *Modern Middle East*, ch. 25 (pp. 519-536)

Riverbend, *Baghdad Burning: Girl Blog from Iraq* (selections) [CW]

O. El Shakry, *Egypt's Three Revolutions* [CW]

**Week 15: From the “Arab Spring” to the Islamic State**

12/4: Film clips: *The Square* (dir. Jehane Noujaim)

12/6: The Islamic State

Readings:

W. Cleveland, *Modern Middle East*, ch. 26 (pp. 537-556)

P. Mishra, *How to think about the Islamic State* [CW]

C. Bunzel (trans.), *The Islamic State’s Creed and Path* [CW]

Guito’n - *Ya Mitchaded (“Yo, Extremist!”)* [CW]