UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT SPRINGFIELD

HIS 160A: The Modern Middle East

Credit Hours: 3
Term Year: Fall 2012
Class time and location: T/Th 2-3:30pm

Instructor: Dr. Barnwell
Office Hours: Tu 4-5; Th 4-5:45; or by appointment
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Course Description

The Modern Middle East is home to a large and diverse population. The peoples of the Middle East come from varied ethnic, linguistic, religious, and cultural traditions. The region's access to important natural resources and its strategic location, bridging three continents, has made the Middle East the subject of intense international attention. This course will survey major social, economic, and political developments in the Middle East with a focus on the modern period (20th c.). For the purposes of this course, the Middle East will be defined roughly west to east from Egypt to Iran and north to south from Turkey to Yemen. Major themes under consideration include the rise of Western influence; nationalism and national identity; authoritarianism; and the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.

Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes

Students who successfully complete this course will

1. Gain an understanding of major historical, economic, cultural, and social trends relating to the modern Middle East;
2. Increase your understanding of the ways in which global developments have shaped the Middle East;
3. Improve written communication skills through both formal and informal writing assignments;
4. Improve oral communication skills through active discussion and participation in a group presentation;
5. Learn to approach readings actively and critically by recognizing the motivations and arguments both implicit and explicit in a variety of source materials; and
6. Be able to recognize the differences between primary and secondary sources and apply the appropriate approaches to analyze the materials.

Reasonable accommodations are available for students who have a documented disability. A documented disability can include: physical, psychological, chronic health, vision, hearing, learning, traumatic brain injury, Asperger's Syndrome and/or autism, cognitive, and A.D./H.D.D. Please notify the instructor during the first week of class of any accommodations needed for the course. While O.D.S. does accept late applications, accommodations are not retroactive. All accommodations must be approved through the Office of Disability Services (ODS) (217-206-6666), HRB 80.

Course Expectations

The success of this course depends on an atmosphere of mutual respect. Out of respect for myself and your fellow students, I expect everyone to come to class regularly and on time, prepared to participate in discussion and pay attention in lecture. All cell phones should be silenced and put away during class. Anyone whose phone rings in class will be asked to leave for the remainder of the course—and is responsible for making up any material he/she misses. In return, students should expect me to come to class on time, to return graded assignments promptly (within 1 week for short assignments; 2 weeks for longer papers), and to convey information clearly and coherently. Additionally, I recognize that some of the topics in this course can elicit strong opinions and emotions; because I would like this class to serve as a forum for candid discussion where appropriate, it is important that everyone remain respectful of others' opinions.

UIS Academic Integrity Policy

The UIS policy on Academic Integrity states in part: "Academic integrity is at the heart of the university's commitment to academic excellence. The UIS community strives to communicate and support clear standards of integrity…. Violations of academic integrity demean the violator, degrade the learning process, deflate the meaning of grades, discredit the accomplishments of past and present students, and tarnish the reputation of the university for all its members. Academic sanctions range from a warning to expulsion from the university, depending on the severity of your violation and your history of violations. Whatever the sanction, I will file a report of academic dishonesty to the Office of the Provost. You are responsible for understanding and complying with the policy, which is available at www.uis.edu/academicintegrity.htm.

On plagiarism, in particular: *UIS Academic Integrity Policy defines plagiarism as: "intellectual theft: the plagiarist presents work done by others as his or her own, in writing or orally. Plagiarism is failure to properly and appropriately reference and acknowledge the ideas and words of others. This includes website material used in written, oral, or multi-media presentations." Words and ideas that are not your own must be credited to the author—whether you are quoting directly or paraphrasing. When quoting directly, you must use quotation marks, quote accurately, and provide the bibliographic information in a footnote. When paraphrasing, you summarize the idea from the source using your own words, and must still provide the bibliographic information as you would with a direct quote.*

If caught plagiarizing a student will receive a 0 (zero) for the assignment and may receive a failing grade for the semester. For more on how to avoid plagiarism, contact me with questions and/or visit the Center for Teaching and Learning at www.uis.edu/ctl/ for information.

Required Texts

James Gelvin, The Modern Middle East: A History, 3rd edition (2011)
Abdulrahman Munif, Endings (orig. 1977)
Blackboard readings

Course Requirements

Attendance: Students are required to attend classes regularly and promptly. Late attendance results in missing vital course information and can also cause students to miss in-class assignments. Students who arrive late to class will lose partial attendance credit. Absences cannot be made up without notifying me in advance and are excused at my discretion. Assignments for days you know in advance you will miss should be turned in PRIOR to the day they are due.

Participation: Active participation in our course is essential to a successful learning experience. Professional scholars and students alike learn from one another through lively debate and discussion. Thus, in addition to coming to class, students will be expected to take an active role in group work, class discussions, and in-class assignments.

Coursework: Assignments must be turned in the day they are due at the beginning of class. Late papers and assignments will receive a 10% deduction per day (24 hour period).

Methods of Evaluation

1. Group presentation: Students will prepare a 15min. presentation on a country in the region for 15% of their overall grade. Presentation grades will consider the quality of delivery, quality of overall information given, and a brief written description of the project and division of duties submitted by individual members of each group.
2. Written responses: Students will write a total of five (5) 2-3pp. written responses to the course text, *Modern Middle East: A History* as assigned in the course schedule below. Responses should include 1) an explanation of the argument; 2) a brief summary of the major points from the reading assigned; and 3) an explanation of the ways the material relates to ideas and events we have been discussing in class. Each response is worth 5% of the overall grade for a total of 25%.
3. Book responses: Students are required to turn in a set of short-answer responses to the novel *Endings*. Further details on the assignment will be forthcoming. (15% of grade)
4. Attendance/participation: attendance in this course is required. Attendance will be taken *at the beginning* of each class. Arriving late will result in partial or total loss of points for the day. On days when films or other activities take place, worksheets, etc., may be collected as evidence of attendance and participation in lieu of roll call. (10% of grade)
5. Essays (2): Twice during the semester, students will be asked to write a 5-7pp. analytical essay. The questions and format will be forthcoming. The first essay will be worth 15% of the overall grade, while the second will be worth 20%.

Grading

A= 93-100%	B-= 80-82	D+= 67-69%
A-= 90-92%	C+= 77-79%	D= 63-66%
B+= 87-89%	C= 73-76%	D-= 60-62%
B= 83-86%	C-= 70-72%	F= =/<59%

Tentative Course Schedule

Week	Topic	Assignment
1 **8/28** **8/30**	Course Introduction The Rise of Islam	 Gelvin, pp. 1-24 (8/30)
2 **9/4** **9/6**	Medieval Muslim Empires	Gelvin, pp. 1-24 (yes, again!) BB readings (poems)
3 **9/11** **9/13**	The Rise of the Ottoman Empire and the Ottomans in the World System	Gelvin, pp. 25-32 (9/11) Gelvin, pp. 33-43 (9/13)
4 **9/18** **9/20**	The Ottoman State at its Height	**Summary 1 due 9/18 (Gelvin, pp. 9-43)** Gelvin, pp. 45-59, 60-61 (9/20) **Country Presentation (9/20): Syria**
5 **9/25** **9/27**	The Ottomans and the Rise of the European Powers	Gelvin, pp. 69-86 , 147-153 (9/25) Gelvin, pp. 87-99, 157 "Poetry of Loss" (9/27) **Country Presentation (9/27): Oman**
6 **10/2** **10/4**	Social and Political Transformation in the 19th century	Gelvin, pp. 100-131 (10/2) Gelvin, pp. 132-147 (10/4)
7 **10/9** **10/11**	Identity at a crossroads	BB article (Saeed article) **Country Presentation (10/11): Egypt**
8 **10/16** **10/18**	Constitutionalism	**Summary 2 due 10/16 (Gelvin, pp. 69-109)** Gelvin, pp. 150-157 (10/16) Gelvin, pp. 158-179 (10/18)
9 **10/23** **10/25**	World War I and the Creation of the Modern Middle East	**Essay 1 due 10/23** Gelvin, 180-207 (10/25) BB reading (primary source documents, 10/27)
10 **10/30** **11/1**	Arab nationalism and the Mandate System; The origins of the Palestine-Israel Dispute	Gelvin, pp. 208-216 (10/30) Gelvin, pp. 217-232 (11/1) **Country Presentation (11/1): Bahrain**
11 **11/6** **11/8**	The origins of the Palestine-Israel Dispute; Pan-Arab Nationalism	**Summary 3 due 11/6 (Gelvin, pp. 180-207)** Gelvin, pp. 233-55, 327-30 (11/8) **Country Presentation (11/8): Lebanon**
12 **11/13** **11/15**	The Oil States	Gelvin, pp. 256-65 (11/13) Discussion of *Endings* by Abdulrahman Munif **Summary 4 due 11/15 (Gelvin, pp. 233-55)**
13 **11/20** **11/22**	**Thanksgiving Break: No Classes**	
14 **11/27** **11/29**	The Fall of Pan-Arabism and the creation of a new world order	Gelvin, 266-93 (11/27) **Book project due 11/29**
15 **12/4** **12/6**	Iranian Revolution; Political Islam	**Summary 5 due 12/4 (Gelvin, 217-26, 283-93)** Gelvin, pp. 294-306, 333-334 (12/4) Gelvin, pp. 307-18, 334-36 (12/6)
16 **12/11** **12/13**	The Middle East and "Globalization"; The Arab Spring	Gelvin, pp. 319-26 (12/11) BB reading (12/13)
	FINALS WEEK—Final papers due TBA	