

HIST 438 MODERN MIDDLE EAST
(TR 12:30-1:45 Natural Resources 109)
Spring 2019

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Office Hours: Tuesday 10:00-12:00

FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION:

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for redress of grievances.

WARNING:

Although this university values and encourages civil expression and respectful personal behavior, you may at any moment, and without further notice, encounter ideas, expressions and images that are mistaken, upsetting, dangerous, prejudiced, insulting, or deeply offensive. We call this *education*.

(Jonathan Rauch, [A New Trigger Warning for College Kids](#))

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Historical developments in the Middle East since 1800.

REQUIRED TEXTS—Cleveland is available as an e-book in Morgan Library

William L. Cleveland and Martin Bunton, *A History of the Modern Middle East, 6th Edition*

Michael Oren, *Six Days of War: June 1967 and the Making of the Modern Middle East*

Vali Nasr, *The Shia Revival: How Conflicts within Islam will Shape the Future*

William F. McCants, *The ISIS Apocalypse: The History, Strategy, and Doomsday Vision of the Islamic State*

Various articles and book chapters (Available via Canvas)

GRADING: Plus/minus grading will be used in this course.

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|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| A 93.00-100.00 (A 95) | B- 80.00-82.99 (B- 82) | D 60.00-69.99 (D 65) |
| A- 90.00-92.99 (A- 92) | C+ 77.00-79.99 (C+ 77) | F 0.00-59.99 |
| B+ 87.00-89.99 (B+ 87) | C 73.00-76.99 (C 75) | |
| B 83.00-86.99 (B 85) | C- 70.00-72.99 (C- 72) | |

METHODS OF EVALUATION:

Attendance and Class Participation (10%)

Three 2-3-page analytical essays (30%)

Three 4-6-page analytical book review essays (60%)

MISSED CLASSES AND ASSIGNMENTS

Missed classes and late assignments will be excused only with written proof of university-sanctioned activities, personal illness, or family emergency.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

For University policies on “Academic Integrity/Misconduct” and “Procedures for Dealing with Academic Dishonesty,” see the [Colorado State University Catalog](#). See specifically the CSU definitions of “Cheating” and “Plagiarism”. Any instances of cheating, plagiarism, academic dishonesty, etc. will result in a grading penalty ranging from a failing grade on the assignment to a failing grade in the course; the Office of Conflict Resolution and Student Conduct Services will be notified.

HONOR PLEDGE:

Each course faculty/instructor shall provide the opportunity for students to sign an affirmative honor pledge on any course components of the faculty/instructor’s choosing. The honor pledge shall include one of the following statements and may be expanded according to faculty/instructor’s, department, or college practices and policies:

HONOR PLEDGE: I have not given, received, or used any unauthorized assistance.

HONOR PLEDGE: I will not give, receive, or use any unauthorized assistance.

See <http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/policies/students-responsibilities/>.

ATTENDANCE AND CLASS PARTICIPATION:

Participation in class discussion is a crucial part of the course and an important part of your grade. Three points that should be intuitively obvious to all but the most deluded: 1) since you are expected to come to class each day prepared to discuss the daily readings, if you do not come to class you cannot participate in our discussions; 2) if you do not do complete the readings, you will have nothing intelligent to say about them; 3) you should be prepared to answer intelligently and thoughtfully all questions on the readings during class discussions.

You are allowed one (1) absence without penalty. You must be present the entire class period to be considered present for that day. Each absence thereafter will result in a loss of 10% of your attendance and class participation grade, so schedule your late arrivals, early departures, absences, etc. wisely. Come to class on time and of course be respectful of your classmates even if you disagree with their points of view. N.B. Arriving late and leaving early will be counted as an absence. Please leave your pets at home.

READING AND WRITING FOR THIS COURSE:

This course requires a large volume of challenging reading and considerable writing. It is not for everyone. *You should examine the required readings, and consider your needs and expectations carefully, before choosing whether to remain enrolled.* If you choose to remain in this course, by the end of the four weeks (if you work hard) you will have fulfilled two of the most important and difficult tasks each historian faces: (1) you will have acquired some of the basic interpretive and methodological skills necessary to be a good historian; (2) you will have begun to understand complex worlds very different from your own.

I expect you to be able to communicate in acceptable formal prose. Your ability to construct an effective argument in clear, lucid, and idiomatic prose is essential for you to succeed in this course. [Essays written with errors in spelling, idiom, and syntax are unacceptable for college-level work](#). All assignments must be uploaded to Canvas.

ANALYTICAL ESSAYS:

You will submit three 2-3-page analytical essays based on the assigned articles and book chapters by Dawn, Campos, and Foss, and three 4-6-page analytical book review essays of the monographs by Oren, Nasr, and McCants. Your essays should exhibit standard formatting: double-spaced text, 12-point Times New Roman or equivalent font, one-inch margins, your name and page number on each page, etc. Your essays should reflect the very best writing of which you are capable; they should consist of complete sentences and follow correct rules of grammar, spelling, and usage.

To receive credit, you must turn in a hard copy of your essay and be present for the discussion on the day that it is due. You will also need to upload a copy of your essay to Canvas by the beginning of class on the day that it is due. No bibliography or cover page is necessary.

COURSE TOPICS/WEEKLY SCHEDULE:**UNIT ONE: EMPIRE AND REFORM IN THE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURIES**

1. January 22 & 24: Introduction to Course and the Middle East

Lewis, “Why Study History?” (**Canvas**)

Cleveland, chs. 1-2

2. January 29 & 31: Empire and Reform in the Nineteenth Century

Cleveland, chs. 3-4

Davison, “Turkish Attitudes Concerning Christian-Muslim Equality in the 19th Century”

3. February 5 & 7: Empire and Reform in the 19th and Early 20th Centuries, Part I

Cleveland, chs. 5-6

Analytical Essay 1 Due 2/7

Dawn, “From Ottomanism to Arabism”

4. February 12 & 13: Empire and Reform in the 19th and Early 20th Centuries, Part II

Cleveland, ch. 7

Cleveland, ch. 8, pp. 134-137 “The Period of the Iranian Constitutional Revolution”

Ervand Abrahamian, “The Crowd in the Persian Revolution”

5. February 19 & 21: Empire and Reform in the 19th and Early 20th Centuries, Part III

Cleveland, ch. 8

Analytical Essay 2 Due 2/21

Campos, “Between ‘Beloved Ottomania’ and ‘The Land of Israel’”

UNIT TWO: THE STRUGGLE FOR INDEPENDENCE

6. February 26 & 28: World War I and the Making of the Modern Middle East

Cleveland, ch. 9

Rogan, “The Annihilation of the Armenians”

7. March 5 & 7: Turkey and Iran
Cleveland, ch. 10

Analytical Essay 3 Due 3/7

Foss, “Kemal Atatürk: Giving a New Nation a New History”

8. March 12 & 14: The Arab Middle East
Cleveland, chs. 11-12

SPRING BREAK—NO CLASS

9. March 26 & 28: British Palestine: Mandate to the Establishment of the State of Israel
Cleveland, ch. 13
Cohen, “Between a Rock and a Hard Place”

UNIT THREE: THE MIDDLE EAST SINCE WWII

10. April 2 & 4: The Middle East from WWII to the 1970s
Cleveland, chs. 14-16

11. April 9 & 11: June 1967 and the Making of the Modern Middle East
Oren, *Six Days of War*, pp. 1-169
Oren, *Six Days of War*, pp. 170-327

**Tuesday
Thursday**

Analytical Book Review Essay Due 4/11

12. April 16 & 18: The Resurgence of Shi`i Islam, Part I
Cleveland, ch. 18 and 24

13. April 23 & 25: The Resurgence of Shi`i Islam, Part II
Vali Nasr, *The Shia Revival*, Introduction and chs. 1-5
Vali Nasr, *The Shia Revival*, chs. 6-9 and Afterword

**Tuesday
Thursday**

Analytical Book Review Essay Due 4/25

14. April 30 & May 2: The Resurgence of Sunni Islam, Part I
Cleveland, chs. 19-23

15. May 7 & 9: The Resurgence of Sunni Islam, Part II
McCants, *The ISIS Apocalypse*, Introduction, chs. 1-3
McCants, *The ISIS Apocalypse*, chs. 3-6, Conclusion

**Tuesday
Thursday**

16. Final Exam Week

Analytical Book Review Essay of McCants

Due Tuesday, May 14 by 12:30pm