

HINE116
MWF 11:00-11:50
CSB002
Winter 2012

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The Middle East in the Age of European Empires 1798-1920

Course Description

This course is an introduction to the principal historical themes shaping the modern Middle East. The class is suitable for students with no prior knowledge of the region and its history, though students who wish to further their studies in Middle Eastern history can profit from the course too.

In geographical scope we will discuss the Ottoman Empire, its Arab provinces, Egypt and Iran. The course comprises a brief background to the history of the region and follows with the long nineteenth century through the First World War and the dissolution of the Ottoman Empire.

The course treats several themes, including society and economy, central government reform, the emergence of new forms of identity and other challenges to the Ottoman order, and the entry of both informal and direct European colonial rule into the region.

While we will follow the political narrative of this history, we will be also concerned to study and discuss what history and politics have meant for ordinary men and women, and the roles they have played in making their own histories.

Required books

(available in the bookstore, and on reserve at Geisel Library.)

William Cleveland, *A History of the Modern Middle East*. 0813340489, Westview

James Gelvin, *The Modern Middle East: A History*. 0195167880, Oxford

Roger Owen, *The Middle East in the World Economy*. 1850436584, IB Tauris.

(recommended) Michael Reynolds, *Shattering Empires: The Clash and Collapse of the Ottoman and Russian Empires*. 978-0-521-14916-7

Course Structure and Requirements

The class will meet three days a week and regular attendance is required.

Assignments

There will be a mid-term examination and a final examination.

Grades are as follows:

mid-term examination	35%
final examination	65%

Important Dates

10 February	Mid-Term Exam
16 March	Last day of Class
19 March, 11:30-2:30	Final Exam

CLASS SCHEDULE AND READINGS

Week 1 **Background to the Long Nineteenth Century in the Middle East**

- 9 January The Arab, Islamic, and Ottoman Heritage.
- 11 January The Society and Economy of the Ottoman Empire.
- 13 January Discussion
Cleveland, chs. 1-3, Gelvin, x-99

Week 2

16 January Dr. Martin Luther King holiday (no class).

- 18 January Global Power Shifts Between the Ottoman and European States.
- 20 January The Controversy Over Islamic-Ottoman “Decline.”
Owen, xxi-99.

Week 3 **A Century of Reform**

- 23 January Napoleon’s Egyptian Adventure.
- 25 January Rebellion in Arabia and Greece and Ottoman state modernization.
- 27 January Discussion
Cleveland, ch. 4, Gelvin, 100-131.

Week 4

- 30 January The Tanzimat programs, 1839-1876, and their results.
- 1 February Changes in the Ottoman-Arab provinces.
- 3 February Discussion and exam handout.
Cleveland, 5, Gelvin, 132-154.

Week 5

- 6 February Qajar Iran in the 19th Century.
- 8 February Ottoman and Egyptian bankruptcy.
- 10 February **Mid-term exam.**
Cleveland, ch. 6, Gelvin, 154-167.

Week 6 Foreign Intervention and Colonial Rule

13 February The Ottoman Constitution and International Crisis.

15 February The British Occupation of Egypt.

17 February Discussion.
Owen, 100-152.

Week 7

20 February **President's Day holiday (no class).**

22 February Abdül-Hamid's Long Reign.

24 February Discussion.
Cleveland, ch. 7, Owen 153-188.

Week 8

27 February The Ottoman Constitutional Revolution of 1908.

29 February Constitutionalism in Iran.

2 March Discussion.
Cleveland, ch. 8, Owen, 189-216.

Week 9

5 March A decade of war in the Ottoman realms.

7 March The WWI Agreements and the Post-war Settlement.

9 March Discussion.
Cleveland, ch. 9, Gelvin, 171-218.

Week 10

12 March The Colonial Partition of the Middle East.

14 March Independence?

16 March Discussion. Final exam handout.
Cleveland, Intro ch. 10, chs. 11-13.

FINAL EXAM 19 March, 11:30-2:30