

## HINE 114

### HISTORY OF THE ISLAMIC MIDDLE EAST (600-1800)

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Office hrs.: Tu Th 11-12

Fall 2011  
Tu Th 9:30-10:50  
CSB 002

The course is an introductory survey of the politics, society, and culture of the pre-modern Middle East from the birth of Islam in Arabia to the beginnings of European domination of the region, seventh through the eighteenth centuries. Themes such as state formation, sectarianism, political legitimacy, imperial consolidation, and contacts with the Christian world will be examined on the example of early Arab empires and the Ottoman and Safavid states.

#### **BEGINNINGS OF ISLAM AND THE ISLAMIC POLITY**

0. **Th Sep 22** Introduction: Islam in historical perspective

Independent viewing assignment:

**Islam: Empire of Faith** (part I)

1. **Tu Sep 27** The prophet as messenger, leader, and model  
**Th Sep 29** The evolution of the first Islamic state

Readings:

J. J. Saunders, **A History of Medieval Islam**, 1-37  
"The Qur'an and Other Islamic Texts," in M. E. Gettleman and S. Schaar, **The Middle East and Islamic World Reader**, 12-26

Independent viewing assignment:

**Hajj: The Pilgrimage**

2. **Tu Oct 4** The problem of political legitimacy and schisms  
**Th Oct 6** Discussion

Readings:

Saunders, 39-75  
Richard Yann, **Shiite Islam**, 15-34

## THE AGE OF ARAB DYNASTIC EMPIRE

3. **Tu Oct 11** Formation of an empire  
**Th Oct 13** ...and a civilization

### Readings:

Saunders, 77-105  
 Leila Ahmed, **Women and Gender in Islam**, 79-101  
 Abdelhamid I. Sabra, "The Exact Sciences" in **The Genius of Arab Civilization**, ed., J. Hayes, 179-93

Independent viewing assignment:

**Islam: Empire of Faith** (part II)

4. **Tu Oct 18** Societal tensions in the domain of the caliphate  
**Th Oct 20** Rival caliphates

### Readings:

Saunders, 106-198  
 Excerpt from **Autobiography** of Usama ibn Munqidh in **The Islamic World**, ed. W. H. McNeill and M. Waldman, 184-206

## FROM DISUNITY TO RE-CONSOLIDATION

5. **Tu Oct 25** The challenges from the West and the East: The crusades and the Mongols  
**Th Oct 27** Fragmentation

### Readings:

Rashid al-Din Fazlullah, "The Mongol Conquest of Baghdad," in Gettleman and Schaar, 48-51  
 Excerpt from Ibn Khaldun's **Muqaddimah**, ed. Charles Issawi, 99-126  
 Ross Dunn, **The Adventures of Ibn Battuta**, 1-12; 41-62  
 H.A.R. Gibb, ed., **The Travels of Ibn Battuta**, vol. 1, 70-89

6. **Tu Nov 1** Discussion  
**Th Nov 3** **MID-TERM EXAMINATION**

## RE-CONSOLIDATION OF MUSLIM EMPIRES

7. **Tu Nov 8** Foundations and rise of the Ottoman state  
**Th Nov 10** Ottoman institutions and expansion

### Readings:

- Norman Itzkowitz, **Ottoman Empire and Islamic Tradition** 3-61  
 Kritovoulos, **History of Mehmed the Conqueror** in McNeill and Waldman, 312-36  
 Cemal Kafadar, "The Ottomans and Europe," in T. Brady, et. al., **Handbook of European History, 1400-1600**, 589-628

### Independent viewing assignment:

**Islam: Empire of Faith: The Ottomans** (part III)

8. **Tu Nov 15** Film: "The Age of Sulayman"  
**Th Nov 17** The gunpowder empires (16<sup>th</sup> century): Safavid Iran and Mughal India

### Readings

- Ira Lapidus, **A History of Islamic Societies**, 226-47  
 "Letters from Selim and Isma'il," in McNeill and Waldman, 337-44  
 Stephen Dale, **The Muslim Empires of the Ottomans, Safavids, and Mughals**, 1-9; 48-76

## THE MUSLIM WORLD AND THE RISE OF MODERN EUROPE

9. **Tu Nov 22** Internal and external challenges  
**Th Nov 24** Holiday -- Thanksgiving

### Readings:

- Itzkowitz, 63-109  
 Lady Mary Wortley Montagu, **The Complete Letters**, v-vii; 353-373
10. **Tu Nov 29** Discussion  
**Th Dec 1** Towards the modern Middle East

### Reading:

- James Gelvin, **The Modern Middle East**, 47-59, 69-87

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## READING LIST

Norman Itzkowitz, **Ottoman Empire and Islamic Tradition**  
J. J. Saunders, **A History of Medieval Islam**

(Both available at the University Bookstore and on hard-copy Reserves at SSH Library)

All other readings can be accessed on TED (Web-Ct)

The films for independent viewing are available at SSH Video and Film Reserves.

## REQUIREMENTS

Mid-term exam on November 3 (35%)

Final exam (comprehensive) on December 8 (8:00 a.m.) (65%)

Both exams are mandatory and in-class. They cannot be administered before the scheduled dates under any circumstances. Bring **blue book** and pen/pencil.

Students are responsible for following University rules governing academic honesty, as explained on the following web site:

<http://students.ucsd.edu/academics/academic-integrity/index.html>

Access to electronic devices, including cell phones, is not allowed during examinations.