

HINE 114

HISTORY OF THE ISLAMIC MIDDLE EAST (600-1800)

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H&SS 6040
Office hrs.: W 1-3

Fall 2012
Tu Th 9:30-10:50
HSS 1330

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 encounters 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 27** Introduction: Islam in historical perspective

Independent viewing assignment:

Islam: Empire of Faith

<http://whiv.alexanderstreet.com/View/897551>

(part I)

1. **Tu Oct 2** The prophet as messenger, leader, and model

Th Oct 4 The evolution of the first Islamic state

Readings:

J. J. Saunders, **A History of Medieval Islam**, 1-37

<https://roger.ucsd.edu:443/record=b5800843~S9>

“The Qur’an and Other Islamic Texts,” in M. E. Gettleman and S. Schaar, **The Middle East and Islamic World Reader**, 12-26

Fred Donner, “Muhammad and the Believers’ Movement,” in **Muhammad and the Believers**, 39-89

2. **Tu Oct 9** The problem of political legitimacy and schisms

Th Oct 11 Film: **Hajj: The Pilgrimage**

Readings:

Saunders, 39-75

Heinz Halm, **Shi’a Islam**, 3-9, 15-37

THE AGE OF ARAB DYNASTIC EMPIRE

3. **Tu Oct 16** Formation of an empire
Th Oct 18 Consolidation of Islamic civilization

Readings:

Saunders, 77-105
Donner, "The Emergence of Islam," in **Believers**, 194-224.
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 23** Societal tensions and rival sovereignties
Th Oct 25 The challenges from the West and the East: The crusades and the Mongols

Readings:

Saunders, 106-198
Excerpt from **Autobiography** of Usama ibn Munqidh in **The Islamic World**, ed. W. H. McNeill and M. Waldman, 184-206
Rashid al-Din Fazlullah, "The Mongol Conquest of Baghdad," in Gettleman and Schaar, 48-51

FROM DISUNITY TO RE-CONSOLIDATION

5. **Tu Oct 30** Fragmentation
Th Nov 1 *Discussion*

Readings:

Vernon Egger, **A History of Muslim World since 1260**, 4-23
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 6** **MID-TERM EXAMINATION**
Th Nov 8 (To be announced)

RE-CONSOLIDATION OF MUSLIM EMPIRES

7. **Tu Nov 13** Foundations and rise of the Ottoman state
Th Nov 15 Ottoman institutions and expansion

Readings:

Suraiya Faroqhi, **The Ottoman Empire**, 41-55, 59-81
 Kritovoulos, **History of Mehmed the Conqueror** in McNeill & 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 20** Film: "The Age of Sulayman"
Th Nov 22 *Holiday -- Thanksgiving*

Readings:

Ira Lapidus, **A History of Islamic Societies**, 226-47
 "Letters from Selim and Isma'il," in McNeill & 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 27** Gunpowder empires (16th century): Safavid Iran and Mughal India
Th Nov 29 Internal and external challenges

Readings:

Norman Itzkowitz, **Ottoman Empire and Islamic Tradition**, 63-109
 Lady Mary Wortley Montagu, **The Complete Letters**, v-vii; 353-373

10. **Tu Dec 4** *Discussion*
Th Dec 6 Towards the modern Middle East

Reading:

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

(OVER)

READINGS

J. J. Saunders, **A History of Medieval Islam** can be accessed from Roger on campus terminals and VPN enabled personal computers.

<https://roger.ucsd.edu:443/record=b5800843~S9>

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

REQUIREMENTS

Mid-term exam on November 6 (35%)

Final exam (comprehensive) on December 13 (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>