

UC San Diego, Department of History / Fall Quarter 2013

HINE 126: Iranian Revolution in Historical Perspective

Section: B00 / Section ID: 789377

Professor: Ali Gheissari

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Office: H&SS 6071

Office Hrs: Tuesday / Thursday, 11:30am-12:15pm, TBA, and by appointment

Class: Tuesday / Thursday, 12:30-1:50pm, CSB 004

- First day of class: Thursday September 26, 2013
- Last day of class: Thursday December 5, 2013

Holiday: Thursday, November 28, 2013, Thanksgiving, no class.

Tests:

- Midterm: Week 5, Thursday, October 31, in class
- Final: Friday, December 13, 2013, 11:30am-2:29pm, Room: TBA

Iranian Revolution in Historical Perspective

In this course we shall examine the Iranian revolution of 1979 in its historical context, and will explore major aspects of the political and social history of modern Iran. Topics will include reformist ideas in 19th century Qajar society, the constitutional revolution of the early 20th century, nationalism, formation and development of the Pahlavi state, anatomy of the 1979 revolution, and a survey of the Islamic Republic. Further attention will be given to certain political, social, and intellectual themes in 20th century Iran and their impact on the revolution, as well as discussions on the reception of (and response to) western ideas in diverse areas such as political ideology and legal theory. Additional focus will be on major currents after the revolution, such as debates on democracy and electoral politics, factionalism, reform movement, and conservative consolidation.

Evaluation and Grading: There will be two tests: one midterm (35 points) and a cumulative final (65 points). Tests will consist of short essays (detailed identifications) and long analytical essays. Both exams are mandatory and in-class. They cannot be administered before the scheduled dates under any circumstances. Please bring **blue book** and pen/pencil. Attendance is assumed and required; grades will be reduced for lack of class attendance or if persistently late for class. Midterm and final tests will be graded up to their maximum percentage points (100 points = 100%). Students are responsible for following University rules governing academic honesty, as explained on this web site: <http://students.ucsd.edu/academics/academic-integrity/index.html>

Required Reading: Notes taken during lectures are important. Relevant chapters of the following books will serve as the essential background reading for each class. Students are expected to read the material in advance and bring questions to class for discussion. Required and Optional titles are available at the UCSD Bookstore.

Required:

1. Ervand Abrahamian, *A History of Modern Iran*, Cambridge UP, 2008.
2. Ali Gheissari and Vali Nasr, *Democracy in Iran: History and Quest for Liberty*, Oxford UP, 2006 (paperback, 2009).
3. Nikki R. Keddie, *Modern Iran: Roots and Results of Revolution*, Yale UP, 2006.

4. Regular handouts.

Optional:

1. Said Amir Arjomand, *After Khomeini: Iran under his Successors*, Oxford, 2009.
2. Ali Gheissari (ed), *Contemporary Iran: Economy, Society, Politics*, Oxford, 2009.
3. Homa Katouzian, *The Persians: Ancient, Medieval and Modern Iran*, Yale, 2009.

Course Outline

First meeting (Thursday 9/26):

General introductions / unity and diversity in Iranian history

Week 1 (Tuesday 10/1, Thursday 10/3):

Formation of the Safavid state, 1501-1722 / an overview of the Safavid's legacy
Qajar state and society in the 19th century

Reading:

Keddie, *Modern Iran*, Chapters 1, 2, 3.
Abrahamian, *A History of Modern Iran*, Chapter 1.

Recommended:

Katouzian, *Persians*, Chapters 1-5.
Lambton, "Tobacco Regie as a Prelude to Revolution."

Week 2 (Tuesday 10/8, Thursday 10/10):

Iran's constitutional revolution of 1906-11 / Shi'ism and constitutionalism

Reading:

Abrahamian, *A History of Modern Iran*, Chapter 2.
Gheissari / Nasr, *Democracy in Iran*, Introduction and Chapter 1.
Keddie, *Modern Iran*, Chapter 4.
Keddie, "Religious Radical Alliance in Iran."

Recommended:

Katouzian, *Persians*, Chapters 6, 7, 8.
Sohrabi, "Historicizing Revolutions: Constitutional Revolutions in Ottoman Empire and Iran, 1905-1908."
M. Kia, "Constitutionalism, Economic Modernization and Islam."
Gheissari, "Despots of the World Unite! Satie in the Iranian Constitutional Press."

Week 3 (i) (Tuesday 10/15):

Pahlavi state-nationalism / modernization and autocracy: the era of Reza Shah
The development of a central judiciary / modern education

Reading:

Abrahamian, *A History of Modern Iran*, Chapter 3.
Gheissari / Nasr, *Democracy in Iran*, Chapter 1.
Keddie, *Modern Iran*, Chapter 5.
Gheissari, "Constitutional Rights and the Development of Civil Law in Iran."
Gheissari, "Persia" (Iran in WW2).

Recommended:

Katouzian, *Persians*, Chapter 9.

Week 3 (ii) (Thursday 10/17):

The period: 1941-1953 / political parties

Popular Nationalism: Mosaddeq and the nationalization of Iranian oil industry

Reading:

Abrahamian, *A History of Modern Iran*, Chapter 4.

Gheissari / Nasr, *Democracy in Iran*, Chapter 2.

Keddie, *Modern Iran*, Chapter 6.

Recommended:

Katouzian, *Persians*, Chapter 10.

Week 4 (i) (Tuesday 10/22):

The period of Mohammad-Reza Shah

The coup of 1953 and its social and political impact

Reading:

Abrahamian, *A History of Modern Iran*, Chapter 5.

Gheissari, "US 1953 Coup in Iran, Sixty Years On."

Gheissari / Nasr, *Democracy in Iran*, Chapter 2.

Keddie, *Modern Iran*, Chapter 7.

Recommended:

Katouzian, *Persians*, Chapter 11.

Week 4 (ii) (Thursday 10/24):

The idea of land reform and the royal "White Revolution" / the opposition

Reading:

Abrahamian, *A History of Modern Iran*, Chapter 5.

Gheissari / Nasr, *Democracy in Iran*, Chapter 2.

Keddie, *Modern Iran*, Chapters 7, 8.

Abrahamian. "Ali Shariati: Ideologue of the Iranian Revolution."

Alvandi, "Nixon, Kissinger and the Shah."

Recommended:

Katouzian, *Persians*, Chapter 11.

Week 5:

Discussions and Revision (Tuesday 10/29)

Midterm Test (Thursday 10/31)

Weeks 6-7 (Tuesday 11/5; Thursday 11/7; Tuesday 11/12; Thursday 11/14):

The 1978-79 revolution and after / Iran's revolution in comparative perspective

The question of "Islamic state" / social change / Iranian diaspora

Reading:

Abrahamian, *A History of Modern Iran*, Chapter 6.

Gheissari / Nasr, *Democracy in Iran*, Chapter 3.

Keddie, *Modern Iran*, Chapters 9, 10.

Abrahamian, "Crowd in the Iranian Revolution."

Enayat, "Revolution in Iran: Religion as Political Ideology."

Enayat, "Guardianship of the Jurisconsult."

Gheissari / Nasr, "Iran's Democracy Debate."

Recommended:

Amanat, "From Ijtihad to Wilayat-e Faqih."
 Arjomand, *After Khomeini*, Chapter 1.
 Gheissari (ed.), *Contemporary Iran*, Chapters 2, 4, 5, 6, 8.
 Katouzian, *Persians*, Chapters 12, 13.

Week 8 (Tuesday 11/19, Thursday 11/21):

Post-Khomeini period: Khamenei / Rafsanjani and "pragmatic conservatism"
 Khatami and the reform movement: debate on civil society

Reading:

Abrahamian, *A History of Modern Iran*, Chapter 6.
 Gheissari / Nasr, *Democracy in Iran*, Chapters 4, 5.
 Keddie, *Modern Iran*, Chapters 11, 12, and Conclusion

Recommended:

Arjomand, *After Khomeini*, Chapters 2, 3.
 Gheissari (ed.), *Contemporary Iran*, Chapters 1, 3, 7, 10.
 Hakimian, *Iran's Macroeconomic Performance, 1979-2004*.
 Katouzian, *Persians*, Chapter 14.

Week 9 (Tuesday 11/26; Thursday 11/29 Thanksgiving, no class):

2005 and 2009 presidential elections
 Ahmadinejad and new conservative consolidation / the "Green Movement"
 Continuity and change in Iran's domestic and foreign policy, 1979-present

Reading:

Gheissari / Nasr, *Democracy in Iran*, Chapter 6 (Epilogue)
 Gheissari / Nasr, "Conservative Consolidation in Iran."
 Ostovar, "Iran's Basij."

Recommended:

Arjomand, *After Khomeini*, Chapters 4, 5, 6, 7.
 Gheissari (ed.), *Contemporary Iran*, Chapters 9, 11, 12.

Week 10 (Tuesday 12/3; Thursday 12/5, last day of class):

2013 presidential elections / overview of Iran's social, cultural, political change

Reading:

TBA

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Further Recommended Readings:

Ervand Abrahamian, *Iran Between Two Revolutions*.
 Janet Afary, *The Iranian Constitutional Revolution*.
 Ali Ansari, *A History of Modern Iran since 1921: The Pahlavis and After*.
 Said Amir Arjomand, *The Turban for the Crown: The Islamic Revolution in Iran*.
 Ali Gheissari, *Iranian Intellectuals in the Twentieth Century*.
 Vanessa Martin, *Creating an Islamic State: Khomeini and the Making of a New Iran*.
 Roy Mottahedeh, *The Mantle of the Prophet: Religion and Politics in Iran*.
 Ali Rahnama, *An Islamic Utopian: A Political Biography of Ali Shariati*.

Encyclopaedi Iranica: <http://www.iranicaonline.org/>

Iranian History Chronicle:

<http://fouman.com/history/index.htm>

http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/middle_east/806268.stm

http://www.iranchamber.com/history/historic_periods.php

Web-links:

http://www.parstimes.com/Iran_history.html

<http://countrystudies.us/iran/>

<http://www.iranchamber.com/index.php>

<http://www.worldstatesmen.org/Iran.htm>

Story of Revolution (in Persian):

http://www.bbc.co.uk/persian/revolution/rev_01.shtml

http://www.bbc.co.uk/persian/revolution/rev_02.shtml

http://www.bbc.co.uk/persian/revolution/rev_03.shtml

http://www.bbc.co.uk/persian/revolution/rev_04.shtml

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/persian/revolution/biogs.shtml>

Harvard Iranian Oral History Project:

http://ted.lib.harvard.edu/ted/deliver/home?_collection=iohp

http://hul.harvard.edu/ois/systems/ctools/iohp_help/IOHP_TED-1-1.html

Foundation for Iranian Studies, Oral History:

<http://fis-iran.org/en/oralhistory>

Iran and the West (history after the revolution): BBC-4 report, in three parts:

I: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FfrJ2rBobGs> (59mins)

II: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wLjRkrTxkzY> (59mins)

III: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cf3fcoXx0pI> (59mins)

Recommended Films:

Documentary

Iran: veiled appearances; End of Empire (Iran: Oil Crisis and the Coup of 1953);

The Century (Iran: Evolution of a Revolution); Divorce Iranian Style; Rough Cut

Feature Films

Crimson Gold (2004); Ten (2004); Offside (2006); Separation (2011)

News Links:

<http://www.irna.ir/ENIndex.htm>

<http://gooya.com/>