

MODERN MIDDLE EAST

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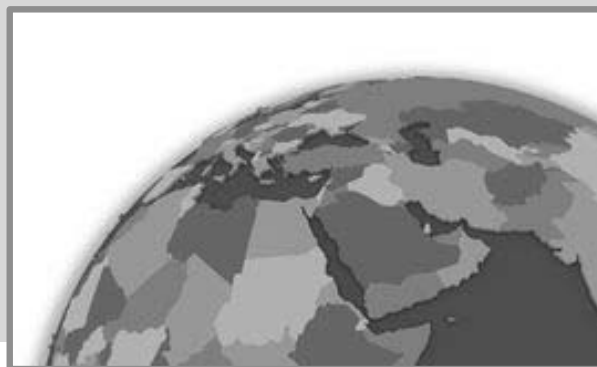
SPRING 2018

TR 10:00-11:20AM @ SMITH 242

Dr. Leyla Amzi-Erdogdular

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316 Conklin Hall – office hours by appointment



COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course focuses on the diverse political, socioeconomic, and cultural developments in the Middle East and North Africa, from the late Ottoman era to the present. The course will analyze events, ideas, and movements including nationalism, migrations, political Islam, regional conflicts, and popular uprisings through recent secondary research, primary sources, art, literary fiction, and film. It will further identify methods used in interdisciplinary study of the Middle East and highlight the role of technology, gender, the environment, and legal structures in historical analysis. By contextualizing the events that shaped the Middle East over the past century - while focusing on the bottom-up perspective, this course will provide an understanding of the region and its inhabitants in a comparative global framework.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students in this class will be able to:

- Demonstrate knowledge of key figures, events, and institutions associated with the Middle East.
- Contextualize interdisciplinary studies and methodologies in understanding the history of the Middle East.
- Understand historical factors that have contributed to the development of institutions and values of today's world.
- Critically read primary sources and familiarize themselves with the methodology for interpreting them.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students are required to read the assignments before class each week, write a response online, and participate in class discussions. There are three exams and three papers.

ATTENDANCE is mandatory and only 3 excused (documented) absences are allowed before grade is affected.

Silent attendance does not earn full credit. Class work cannot be made up – it depends on being in class.

Recognized grounds for absence are illness requiring medical attention, curricular or extracurricular activities approved by the faculty, personal obligations claimed by the student and recognized as valid, recognized religious holidays, and severe inclement weather causing dangerous traveling conditions. Please be aware of Rutgers policy where any student who misses eight or more sessions through any combination of excused and unexcused absences will not earn credit in this class. Such students should withdraw to avoid getting an F.

→ Use of electronic devices is prohibited in class. Students using them will be marked absent.

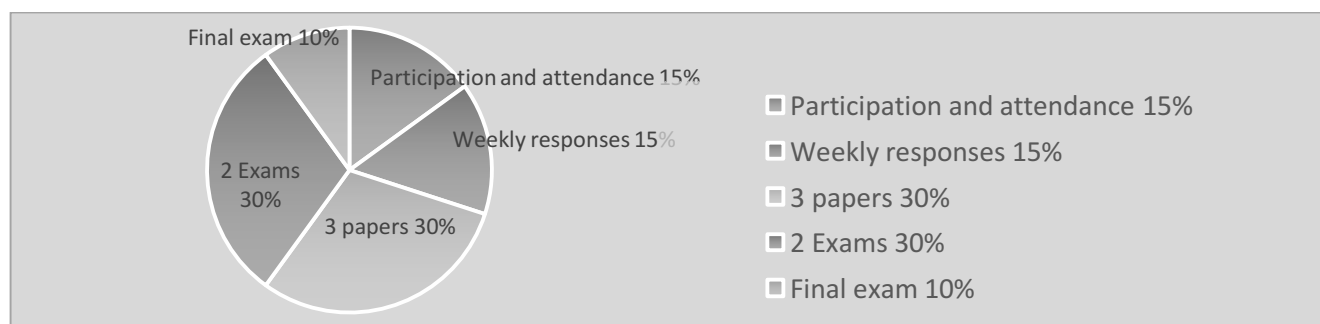
→ No student may record the class in any fashion unless they have written permission from the teacher and the recording device is visible to everyone in the classroom.

EXAMS There are three exams: Two exams during the semester focus on class material. The final exam is take home essay question where students are expected to show the grasp of historical knowledge and cognizance of overarching themes covered during the semester. No makeups are available. In the case of a schedule

conflict or an unavoidable delay in taking an exam or completing an assignment, the student should discuss the issue with the instructor.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS Written response to weekly readings is due every Sunday on Blackboard’s discussion board. Students should write a brief response to the readings and engage in discussion/respond to other students’ comments. The responses should focus on all the readings and media assigned for each week. Three papers **Paper 1 - *Portrait of a Turkish Family* due March 1; Paper 2 - *Miramar* due March 27; Paper 3 - *“Turtles Can Fly”* due April 26**, are due on Blackboard. Emailed or late papers are not acceptable. Papers are to be written in the format of a book/film review (guidelines on Blackboard). Each paper should be 3 pages, double-spaced; Times New Roman font 12, with 1 inch margins and, if using outside sources, conform to the citation guidelines as per the Chicago Manual of Style. Papers should include discussion and analysis in light of material assigned in class as well as outside sources when possible, and not solely summarize the book or class notes. Written assignments will be graded based on content and accuracy, evidence used to support the analysis and interpretation, grammar, spelling, punctuation, clarity of thinking and writing, organization, and presentation. Students are strongly encouraged to visit the Writing Center: <https://www.ncas.rutgers.edu/writingcenter> for help with brainstorming or organizing ideas or for feedback on a draft.

GRADING



90-100 %	A (outstanding)
80-89 %	B (above average)
70-79 %	C (comprehension of the subject at an appropriate university level)
60-69 %	D (unsatisfactory performance, barely passing)
Below 60%	F (failure)

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Principles of academic integrity require that Rutgers University students:

- properly acknowledge and cite all use of the ideas, results, or words of others
- properly acknowledge all contributors to a given piece of work
- make sure that all work submitted as his or her own in a course or other academic activity is produced without the aid of unsanctioned materials or unsanctioned collaboration
- obtain all data or results by ethical means and report them accurately without suppressing any results inconsistent with his or her interpretation or conclusions
- treat all other students in an ethical manner, respecting their integrity and right to pursue their educational goals without interference. This requires that a student neither facilitate academic dishonesty by others nor obstruct their academic progress
- uphold the canons of the ethical or professional code of the profession for which he or she is preparing.

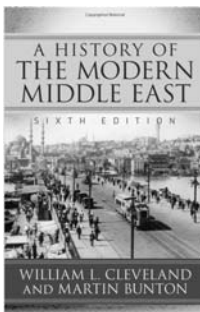
Read entire policy: <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-at-rutgers/>

→ Please note: in this matter, ignorance is never an acceptable excuse.

DISABILITY SERVICES

Rutgers University welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University's educational programs. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, a student with a disability must contact the appropriate disability services office at the campus where you are officially enrolled, participate in an intake interview, and provide documentation: <https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentation-guidelines>. If the documentation supports your request for reasonable accommodations, your campus' disability services office will provide you with a Letter of Accommodations. Please share this letter with your instructors and discuss the accommodations with them as early in your courses as possible. To begin this process, please complete the Registration form on the ODS web site at: <https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/registration-form>. For more information please contact the Office of Disability Services in the Paul Robeson Campus Center, in suite 219, by phone at [973-353-5375](tel:973-353-5375) or by email at odsnewark@newark.rutgers.edu.

REQUIRED TEXTS



1. William L. Cleveland and Martin Burton. *A History of the Modern Middle East*, 6th Edition. Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 2016. ISBN: 9780813349800
2. Edmund Burke III and David Yaghubian, eds. *Struggle and Survival in the Modern Middle East*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2005. ISBN: 9780520246614
3. Orga, Irfan. *Portrait of a Turkish Family*. Eland, 2003. (novel) 9780907871828 – **PDF ON BLACKBOARD**
4. Mahfuz, Najib. *Miramar*. New York: Anchor Books, 1993. (novel) ISBN: 9780385264785

→ All other primary sources, readings, and media (*) are provided online and are mandatory.

Syllabus is subject to change. The most updated version is on Blackboard.

WEEKLY CLASS PLAN



WEEK 1. Introduction

January 16 & 18

What is the Middle East?
Islamic Civilization in the Middle East

Cleveland, 1-53



Osman Hamdi Bey, Mount Nemrut, 1883

WEEK 2. Great Empires and their Modern Transformations

January 23 & 25

Cleveland, pp. 53-96.

Burke, *Shemsigul: A Circassian Slave in mid-nineteenth century Cairo*; pp. 48-65; *Journeymen Textile Weavers in Nineteenth Century Damascus*, 64-79; *Assaf: A Peasant of Mount Lebanon*, 35-47



British officers in Egypt

WEEK 3. Imperialism and the New Balance of Power

January 30 & February 1

Cleveland, pp. 111-139

Burke, *The Shaykh and His Daughter: Coping in Colonial Algeria*, 119-136; *Mohand N'Hamoucha: A Middle Atlas Berber*, 89-102; and *Bibi Maryam: A Bakhtiyari Tribal Woman*, 103-118



Refugees, 1912

WEEK 4. The End of Empires

February 6 & 8

Cleveland, 139-159

Keith D. Watenpaugh, "Cleansing the Cosmopolitan City: Historicism, Journalism and the Arab Nation in the post-Ottoman Eastern Mediterranean." *



Mustafa Kemal Ataturk

WEEK 5. Interwar Era

February 13 & 15

Cleveland, 161-206

Burke, *Hagob Hagobian: An Armenian Truck Driver in Iran*, 178-186

EXAM 1 – February 15



Emir Faisal at the Paris Peace Conference, 1919

WEEK 6. Struggle for Independence

February 20 & 22

Cleveland, 139-160

Burke, *Abu Ali al-Kilawi: A Damascus Qabaday*, 152-162



Tehran, 1953

Week 7. Nations and States

February 27 & March 1

Cleveland, 257-286

The Nat'l Security Archive documents on CIA coup*

Burke, *Rostam: Qashqa'i Rebel*, 223-236

PAPER 1 DUE – March 1



Che Guevara and Nasser

Week 8. Arab Politics

March 6 & 8

Cleveland, 286-351

Burke, *Migdim: Egyptian Bedouin Matriarch*, 205-221

Ryme Seferdjeli, *Two views of women fighters during the Algerian War of National Liberation, 1957* *

SPRING BREAK

March 10-18



Week 9. Authoritarian Regimes, Oil, and Conflicts

March 20 & 22

Cleveland, 378-447

Burke, *Haddou: A Moroccan Migrant Worker*, 281-299;

Ussama Makdisi, *The Modernity of Sectarianism in Lebanon* *



Protests in Tehran, 1978

Week 10. The Iranian Revolution

March 27 & 29

Cleveland, 351-371

Film: Marjane Satrapi, *Persepolis* *

Ervand Abrahamian, "Ali Shariati: Ideologue of the Iranian Revolution" *

PAPER 2 DUE – March 27



Week 11. Islamist Revival

April 3 & 5

Cleveland, 371-378

Burke, *Nadia*: "Mother of the Believers," 366-386

Ziad Abu-Amr, " Hamas: A Historical and Political Background" *

EXAM 2 – April 5



Week 12. End of the Century

April 10 & 12

Cleveland, 447-518

Burke, *June Leavitt: West Bank Settler*, 387-404

Film "Rana's Wedding" *



US marines in Iraq, 2013 Photo: Lynsey Addario

WEEK 13. U.S. in the Middle East

April 17 & 19

Cleveland, 519-537

Timothy Mitchell, "McJihad: Islam in the US Global Order" *

Soldiers of  reddit *

Film: Bahman Ghobadi, *Turtles Can Fly* *



WEEK 14. Popular Uprisings

April 24 & 26

Cleveland, 537-556

Fatma Naib, "Egypt: women of the revolution" *

PAPER 3 DUE – April 26

FINAL EXAM DUE – May 8