

Dr. Jon Cowans  
Class meets: MW 4-5:20, Engelhard 211

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Office hours: Wed 3:30-3:50

## **THE WEST, ISLAM, AND THE MIDDLE EAST**

21:510:339 Sec. 01 (Fall 2019) Index #19769

This course examines the historical relationship between Europe/the West and the Islamic world/the Middle East from the advent of Islam to today.

### **READINGS**

**Course reader**, available **only** at Porta Print, 33 Halsey St., 973 622-1828

### **GRADING**

Students are bound by the university's academic integrity policy, which appears here:

<http://www.ncas.rutgers.edu/office-dean-student-affairs/academic-integrity-policy>.

If you are unsure whether something is permitted, ask the professor, as the penalties are very strict.

**TESTS:** There is a midterm on Wed. Oct. 16 and a final on Wed. Dec 18, 3:00-6:00pm, each consisting of a few short essays. The final is comprehensive but emphasizes the material after the midterm.

**LECTURE QUESTIONS:** At the end of each lecture, you are required to hand in a 3x5 card with one or two brief questions or comments concerning the material covered in the lecture. Grades are based on the number of cards handed in; if you hand in cards for 90% of the sessions, your score will be 90. To receive credit, your card must contain a question or comment on that session.

**ABSENCE PENALTY:** Your overall course grade will fall by a half-letter for each unexcused absence starting with the fourth one. Arriving late or leaving early is pro-rated: arriving or leaving halfway through class is a half-absence. It is your duty to provide written documentation for absences, and no excuses are accepted after final grades are turned in. Any student who misses eight or more sessions through any combination of excused and unexcused absences will not earn credit in this class and should withdraw by the deadline to avoid getting an F in the class.

**CLASS PARTICIPATION:** Everyone is required to participate regularly in class discussions, asking questions or making relevant comments. Scores reflect both the quality and quantity of your participation, but you must speak at least once in each session for a score of 90 or higher. Quality of participation primarily means an ability to answer specific questions on the assigned readings. Sleeping in class, using any cell phone or similar device, and leaving the classroom repeatedly during class will lower your score. No laptops are allowed in this class.

**QUIZZES:** Because the class is built around discussion of the readings, it is essential that you come to class having done all the readings carefully. There will thus be several unannounced quizzes during the semester. Each will contain a few short, specific questions about the day's assigned readings. The lowest grade on the quizzes will not count.

Lecture questions .....	5%
Class participation .....	10%
Quizzes .....	15%
Midterm .....	30%
Final exam .....	<u>40%</u>
	100%

### **Wed. 9-4: Introduction**

#### **Mon. 9-9: The Rise of Islam**

"The Success of the Arab Conquests" (R-1)

"The Early Muslim Conquests and Relations with the Conquered" (R-2)

Contemporary Accounts of the Muslim Conquests (R-3)

#### **Wed. 9-11: The Crusades**

"The Concept of Jihad before the Crusades" (R-4)

"The Origins of the First Crusade" (R-5)

Robert the Monk, "An Account of Pope Urban's Sermon at Clermont" (R-6)

"The First Crusade" (R-7)

#### **Mon. 9-16: The Crusades**

"Islam and the Crusades" (R-8)

Ibn al-Athir, "Saladin and the Franks" (R-9)

Amin Maalouf, "An Epilogue on the Crusades" (R-10)

Will Durant, "The Results of the Crusades" (R-11)

#### **Wed. 9-18: Mutual Perceptions in the Middle Ages**

"The Crusaders' Perceptions of their Opponents" (R-12)

"How the Muslims Saw the Franks" (R-13)

Theological Debates in the Middle Ages (R-14)

#### **Mon. 9-23: Medieval Spain**

Will Durant, "Civilization in Moorish Spain" (R-15)

Ibn Abdum, "Market Regulations in Muslim Seville" (R-16)

The Chronicle of Alfonso III, "Pelayo and the Beginnings of the Reconquest" (R-17)

"Conversions and Intellectual Life in Muslim Spain" (R-18)

#### **Wed. 9-25: Medieval Spain II**

"A Land of Three Religions" (R-19)

The Siete Partidas, "Laws Concerning the Moors" (R-20)

"Surrender Treaty of the Kingdom of Granada" (R-21)

"The Transmission of Knowledge" and "Reflections on Moorish Spain" (R-22)

#### **Mon. 9-30: Spain's Expulsion of the Muslims**

Francisco Núñez Muley, "A Morisco Plea" (R-23)

Francisco Bermúdez de Pedraza, "The Moriscos of Granada" (R-24)

King Philip III, "Decree of Expulsion of the Moriscos" (R-25)

The Archbishop of Seville, "On the Expulsion of the Moriscos" (R-26)

#### **Wed. 10-2: Europe & the Ottomans, 1500-1800**

"The Ottoman Obsession" (R-27)

"The Changing Balance of Power, 1500-1800" (R-28)

Arakel of Tauriz, "The Conversion of the Jews of Persia" (R-29)

#### **Mon. 10-7: Napoleon & Egypt**

Constantine-François Volney, "Travels in Egypt" (R-30)

Napoleon Bonaparte, "Proclamations in Egypt" (R-31)

Abd al-Rahman Al-Jabarti, "Chronicle of the French Occupation, 1798" (R-32)

Capt. Joseph-Marie Moiret, "Memoirs of the Egyptian Expedition" (R-33)

**Wed. 10-9: French Conquest and Colonization of Algeria**

"French Conquest and Colonization of Algeria" (R-34)

Alexis de Tocqueville, "Report on Algeria" (R-35)

Jean Jaurés, "Speech to the *Alliance Française*" (R-36)

"Identities and Relations in Colonial Algeria" (R-37)

**Mon. 10-14: open session**

**Wed. 10-16: Midterm**

**Mon. 10-21: The West and Islam in the Nineteenth Century**

"Europe and the Ottoman Empire" (R-38)

Namik Kemal, "Impressions of London" (R-39)

Jamal al-Din al-Afghani, "Islamic Union" and "A Reply to Ernest Renan" (R-40)

Reports on Christians and Jews in Muslim Lands (R-41)

**Wed. 10-23: Britain and Egypt, 1882-1914**

"The British Occupation of Egypt" (R-42)

Edward Dicey, "Our Route to India" (R-43)

Mustafa Kamil, "What the National Party Wants" (R-44)

Lord Cromer, "Egyptian Nationalism" (R-45)

**Mon. 10-28: World War I and Mapmaking in the Middle East**

Theodore Herzl, "The Jewish State" (R-46)

"The Sick Man Dies" (R-47)

"Iraq, A Country Shaped by Oil" (R-48)

Zionist Organization, "Memo to the Versailles Peace Conference, 1919" (R-49)

"Resolutions of the General Syrian Congress, 1919" (R-50)

**Wed. 10-30: The Founding of Israel**

The British Government White Paper on Palestine, 1939 (R-51)

Nuri al-Said, "Speech to the London Palestine Conference of 1939" (R-52)

"The End of the Mandate and the 1948 Arab-Israeli War" (R-53)

"The First Arab-Israeli War" (R-54)

**Mon. 11-4: The US and Middle Eastern Nationalism: Iran (1953) and Egypt (1952-56)**

"US Foreign Policy toward Iran during the Mussadiq Era" (R-55)

"The Suez War" (R-56)

President Nasser, "The Revolution of July 1952" and "Speech on the Suez Crisis" (R-57)

Prime Minister Eden, "BBC Speech on the Suez Crisis" (R-58)

**Wed. 11-6: The French-Algerian War**

"Algeria, the Land and the People" and "The Beginnings of War" (R-59)

Ferhat Abbas, "The Algerian War and Revolution" (R-60)

Colonel Roger Trinquier, "Modern Warfare" (R-61)

**Mon. 11-11: The West and the Arab-Israeli War of June 1967**

"The Six-Day War" (R-62)

Abba Eban, "UN Speech of June 6, 1967" (R-63)

"The 1967 Arab-Israeli War: US Actions & Arab Perceptions" (R-64)

Gamal Abdel Nasser, "Speeches of May 25 & 26, 1967" (R-65)

**Wed. 11-13: The Iranian Revolution and the Hostage Crisis, 1979-1980**

Ayatollah Ruholla Khomeini, "On the Shah's Regime" and "Islamic Government" (R-66)  
"The Iranian Revolution and the Hostage Crisis" (R-67)  
"Interviews with Iranian Revolutionaries, 1980" (R-68)

**Mon. 11-18: The US, Saudi Arabia, and the Gulf**

"The US in the Persian Gulf: From Twin Pillars to Dual Containment" (R-69)  
Saudi Arabian Government Statements on the Oil Industry, 1958 & 1975 (R-70)  
"The Middle East: Geostrategy and Oil" (R-71)  
Osama Bin Laden, "On Americans Occupying the Land of the Two Holy Sanctuaries" (R-72)

THANKSGIVING

**Mon. 11-25: The First Gulf War**

"What Washington Gave Saddam for Christmas" (R-73)  
Iraqi Military Assets (R-74)  
Saddam Hussein and US Ambassador Glaspie, "Conversation of July 25, 1990" (R-75)  
Arthur Schlesinger, Jr., "The Most Unnecessary War in American History" (R-76)  
Stephen Solarz, "The Case for Intervention" (R-77)

**Wed. 11-27: 9/11 and Recent U.S. Policy**

Osama Bin-Laden, "Message to the Americans" (R-78)  
President Bush, "Speeches, 2001-2003" (R-79)  
"Being Muslim, Being American after 9/11" (R-80)  
Ansar al-Sunnah, "Statement on Democracy in Iraq" (R-81)  
"America, the West, and Democracy in the Middle East" (R-82)

**Mon. 12-2: Europe & Islam**

"Muslims in Europe: A Congressional Research Service Report" (R-83)  
Elisabeth Badinter, et al., "An Open Letter on the Islamic Scarf Affair" (R-84)  
Jean-Marie Le Pen, "Program of the National Front" (R-85)  
NY Times, "Across Europe, Worries on Islam Spread to Center" (R-86)

**Wed. 12-4: Contemporary Israel/Palestine**

"The United States and Palestine, 1967-2003" (R-87)  
President George W. Bush, "Statement on the Palestinian Question, June 2002" (R-88)  
The Hamas Charter (R-89)  
The Economist, "Why Europe, Unlike America, Finds It So Hard to Love Israel" (R-90)

**Mon. 12-9: A Clash of Civilizations?**

Sayyid Qutb, "Milestones: Islam and the Modern World" (R-91)  
"The Roots of Muslim Rage" (R-92)  
"The Clash of Ignorance" (R-93)  
"Muslim Views of the USA: Polling Data, 2006-2010" (R-94)

**Wed. 12-11: Hollywood and the Muslim World**

"Reel Bad Arabs" (R-95)  
"Muslims on the Silver Screen" (R-96)  
Opinions and Letters on *The Siege* (R-97)  
Film: *The Siege* (1998)

**Wed. Dec. 18: Final Exam, 3:00-6:00pm**

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's 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 Kate Torres at [\(973\)353-5375](tel:9733535375) or in the Office of Disability Services in the Paul Robeson Campus Center, in suite 219 or by contacting [odsnewark@rutgers.edu](mailto:odsnewark@rutgers.edu).