MODERN MIDDLE EAST
21:510:361
SPRING 2020
T/TH 2:30-3:50PM @ HAH 322

Dr. Leyla Amzi-Erdogdu
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316 Conklin Hall – Office hours: T/TH 1:00-2:15PM

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 – roughly turn of the twentieth century, 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 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 modern 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. Please be aware that 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. Per the University’s Course Attendance policy (10.2.7), students are responsible for communicating with their instructors regarding absences. The Division of Student Affairs is available to verify extended absences: (973) 353-5063 or DeanofStudents@newark.rutgers.edu.

➤ 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 and a take-home final. Students are expected to show the grasp of historical knowledge and understanding 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**

At least seven written responses to weekly readings during the semester are due Sunday on Blackboard’s discussion board. Students should write a brief response to the readings and engage in discussion/respond to other students’ comments.

Three papers, Paper 1 - *Portrait of a Turkish Family*; Paper 2 - *Miramar*; Paper 3 - "Turtles Can Fly," 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. Paper grading rubric is available on Blackboard.

**Grading**

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<th>Weight</th>
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<tr>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Final exam</td>
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<tr>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Participation and attendance</td>
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<td>10%</td>
<td>Weekly responses</td>
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<td>2 Exams</td>
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<td>10%</td>
<td>Final exam</td>
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- 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**

As an academic community dedicated to the creation, dissemination, and application of knowledge, Rutgers University is committed to fostering an intellectual and ethical environment based on the principles of academic integrity. Academic integrity is essential to the success of the University’s educational and research missions, and violations of academic integrity constitute serious offenses against the entire academic community. The entire Academic Integrity Policy can be found here: [http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-policy/](http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-policy/)

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

**Accomodation and Support**

Rutgers University Newark (RU-N) is committed to the creation of an inclusive and safe learning environment for all students. RU-N has identified the following resources to further the mission of access and support:
Students with Disabilities: Rutgers University welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University’s educational programs. The Office of Disability Services (ODS) is responsible for the determination of appropriate accommodations for students who encounter barriers due to disability. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, a student with a disability must contact ODS, register, have an initial appointment, and provide documentation. Once a student has completed the ODS process (registration, initial appointment, and documentation submitted) and reasonable accommodations are determined to be necessary and appropriate, a Letter of Accommodation (LOA) will be provided to the student. The student must give the LOA to each course instructor, followed by a discussion with the instructor. This should be completed as early in the semester as possible as accommodations are not retroactive. More information can be found at ods.rutgers.edu. Contact ODS: (973) 353-5375 or ods@newark.rutgers.edu.

Religious Holiday Policy and Accommodations: Students are advised to provide timely notification to instructors about necessary absences for religious observances and are responsible for making up the work or exams according to an agreed-upon schedule. The Division of Student Affairs is available to verify absences for religious observance, as needed: (973) 353-5063 or DeanofStudents@newark.rutgers.edu.

Counseling Services: Counseling Center Room 101, Blumenthal Hall, (973) 353-5805 or http://counseling.newark.rutgers.edu/.

Students with Temporary Conditions/Injuries: Students experiencing a temporary condition or injury that is adversely affecting their ability to fully participate in their courses should submit a request for assistance at: https://temporaryconditions.rutgers.edu.

Students Who are Pregnant: The Office of Title IX and ADA Compliance is available to assist students with any concerns or potential accommodations related to pregnancy: (973) 353-1906 or TitleIX@newark.rutgers.edu.

Gender or Sex-Based Discrimination or Harassment: Students experiencing any form of gender or sex-based discrimination or harassment, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, relationship violence, or stalking, should know that help and support are available. To report an incident, contact the Office of Title IX and ADA Compliance: (973) 353-1906 or TitleIX@newark.rutgers.edu. To submit an incident report: tinyurl.com/RUNReportingForm. To speak with a staff member who is confidential and does NOT have a reporting responsibility, contact the Office for Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance: (973) 353-1918 or run.vpva@rutgers.edu.

LEARNING RESOURCES
Rutgers Learning Center (tutoring services)
Room 140, Bradley Hall
(973) 353-5608
https://sasn.rutgers.edu/student-support/tutoring-academic-support/learning-center

Writing Center (tutoring and writing workshops)
Room 126, Conklin Hall
(973) 353-5847; nwc@rutgers.edu
https://sasn.rutgers.edu/student-support/tutoring-academic-support/writing-center

REQUIRED TEXTS

➤ All other readings, primary sources, and media links (*) are on Blackboard or online and are mandatory.
➤ Syllabus is subject to change. The most updated version is on Blackboard.

**WEEKLY CLASS PLAN**

### WEEK 1. Introduction
January 21 & 23

What is the Middle East?
Cleveland & Bunton, 1-5

➤ READ THE SYLLABUS

![Shah’s Mosque in Isfahan, Iran](image1)

### WEEK 2. Great Empires and their Modern Transformations
January 28 & 30

Cleveland & Bunton, pp. 53-110.

![Osman Hamdi Bey, Mt. Nemrut, 1883](image2)

### WEEK 3. Imperialism and the New Balance of Power
February 4 & 6

Cleveland & Bunton, pp. 111-139

![British officers in Egypt](image3)

### WEEK 4. The End of Empires
February 11 & 13

Cleveland & Bunton, 139-159
Keith D. Watenpaugh, “Cleansing the Cosmopolitan City: Historicism, Journalism and the Arab Nation in the post-Ottoman Eastern Mediterranean.” *
WEEK 5. Interwar Era  
February 18 & 20  
Cleveland & Bunton, 161-206  
Burke & Yaghoubian, *Hagob Hagobian: An Armenian Truck Driver in Iran*, 178-186

WEEK 6. Struggle for Independence  
February 25 & 27  
Cleveland & Bunton, 206-257  
PAPER 1 DUE – February 27

Week 7. Nations and States  
March 3 & 5  
Cleveland & Bunton, 257-286  
The Nat’l Security Archive documents on CIA coup*  
Burke & Yaghoubian, *Rostam: Qashqa’i Rebel*, 223-236  
EXAM 1 – March 3

Week 8. Arab Politics  
March 10 & 12  
Cleveland & Bunton, 286-350  
Burke & Yaghoubian, *Migdim: Egyptian Bedouin Matriarch*, 205-21  
Ryme Seferdjeli, *Two views of women fighters during the Algerian War of National Liberation, 1957* *

SPRING BREAK March 14-22

Week 9. Authoritarian Regimes, Petrol, and Conflicts  
March 24 & 26  
Cleveland & Bunton, 378-447  
Burke & Yaghoubian, *Haddou: A Moroccan Migrant Worker*, 281-99  
Ussama Makdisi, The Modernity of Sectarianism in Lebanon*
Week 10. The Iranian Revolution
March 31 & April 2

Cleveland & Bunton, 351-371
Film: Marjane Satrapi, *Persepolis*

Week 11. Disillusionment
April 7 & 9

Cleveland & Bunton, 371-378
Burke & Yaghoubian, *Nadia: “Mother of the Believers,”* 366-386
Ziad Abu-Amr, “Hamas: A Historical and Political Background” *

PAPER 2 DUE – April 7

Week 12. End of the Century
April 14 & 16

Cleveland & Bunton, 447-518
Burke & Yaghoubian, *June Leavitt: West Bank Settler,* 387-404
Film “Rana’s Wedding” *

Week 13. U.S. in the Middle East
April 21 & 23

Cleveland & Bunton, 519-537
Timothy Mitchell, “McJihad: Islam in the US Global Order” *

Soldiers of 🚹 redd.it *

EXAM 2 – April 21

Week 14. Popular Uprisings & Post-National Directions
April 28 & 30

Cleveland & Bunton, 537-556
Cemil Aydin, *The Idea of the Muslim World,* Selection*
Suzanne Schneider, Getting off the Merry-Go-Round: Approaching Religious Violence*

PAPER 3 DUE – April 30

FINAL EXAM DUE – May 12