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Themes in World History (HIST 315-004)
Special Topics 7 (ISLA 300-1)
Islamic Reform and Radicalism in the Middle East
(Winter 2016)

MW 1:05-2:25

Redpath Museum Auditorium

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Course Description

The course highlights the process of modernization and reform in the late Ottoman period leading up to the rise of modern nation states and the call for secularization in several Middle Eastern countries. It places particular emphasis on the nature and manifestations of this process in Greater Syria (which includes future Lebanon), Iran and Iraq. It sheds light on diverse Arab and Iranian thinkers and the historical forces, which shaped their ideas about modern reform, and the political and socio-economic conditions which informed their approaches to religious modernism, secularism, public religion and the Shari`a. As such, the course brings together the voices of religious modernists, liberal secularists, leftists and Islamists, particularly in Shi`ite Muslim societies. We look at these historical changes and ideological shifts through the lens of Shi`ite Muslim citizens, underscoring the tensions and struggles, which characterize the interface between the secular state, Islamic reform, and the Shari`a in modern times.

Course Requirements

I- Quizzes and Exams:

There will be 3 pop-up quizzes: on maps, films, Islamic terms, schools of thought, or special historical events. Students are required to write a **Primary Source Analysis (PSA)** which is due on **March 30 2016**. Its is around 8-10 pages long, typed-written and double-spaced (**electronic versions are not accepted**).The **Final Exam will cover the material that we studied since the beginning of the semester. The definite date of the final exam will be announced at a proper time.** The final exam is an essay-type exam, based on both lecture and discussion topics. A week before the exam I will give you a **study Guide** which aims to help you in drafting your essays. The exam will be composed of 3 questions. **You have to answer only 2.**

II- Discussion:

Wednesday sessions will be dedicated for discussion. Questions from the lectures and new material will form the topics of discussions. The policy on absence is very strict and only in case of a health problem that students, with a **medical report**, are allowed to miss the class. Attendance includes **active** participation in class discussion: answering and asking questions and demonstrating your perspective on the assigned reading material. **Passive** participation will affect the grade. Classrooms for the discussion sessions (conferences) are the following: **Arts 145** for the section **16799**; **Arts W-120** for the section **16801**, **BURN 1214** for the section **16802** and **Arts 230** for section **16806**. Students are expected to attend class regularly, both lecture and discussion, and to engage in discussion of assigned materials and raise questions on central historical points. Students are also expected to **thoroughly** read and prepare the assigned materials and to be ready to respond to basic questions on them. A make-up quiz is only given to students who can justify their absence by a **medical note**.

III- **It is important to check myCourses regularly especially before coming to class as the lecture's outline, question for discussion and possible messages will be posted.**

IV- **Classroom rules:** Mobile phones should not be used in class for any reason and, most importantly, laptop computers may only be used for taking notes in class. Penalty will be applied (5 pts. from your final discussion grade).

Please read this essay:

<http://chronicle.com/blogs/linguafranca/2014/08/25/why-im-asking-you-not-to-use-laptops/>

V- Primary Source Analysis (PSA)

Two speeches by Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah

1- No Verbal Abuser would enter Heaven

http://english.bayynat.org/Lectures/Lecture_22082008.htm#.Vo3npyiZ1UQ

2- Birthday of Jesus

http://english.bayynat.org/Lectures/Lecture_26122008.htm#.Vo3oXyiZ1UQ

On Fadlallah, read Jamal Sankari, *Fadlallah: The Making of a Radical Shi`ite Leader*. London: Saqi, 2005. (Reserve Shelf, Islamic library)

VI- Final Grade:

Attendance & Discussion: 30 %

3 Quizzes (Best grade of two quizzes):15 %

Primary Source Analysis: 25%

Final Exam: 30%

VII- Books to Buy from McGill Bookstore:

1- Course Pack Material (**CPM**).

Reading Assignments

Week 1

Thur. Jan. 7th . **Introduction**

Week 2

Mon. Jan. 11th . **Film:** *Islam: An Empire of Faith*

Wed. Jan. 13th . **Lecture:** Geography and brief Historical background of the Middle East since the birth of Islam.

Week 3

Mon. Jan. 18th . **Lecture:** Ottoman Reforms (The Tanzimat). Read William Cleveland, *A History of the Modern Middle East*, Ch. 5 (**Ebook**)

<http://web.b.ebscohost.com.proxy3.library.mcgill.ca/ehost/ebookviewer/ebook/bmxlYmtfXzI1MzU5NF9fQU41?sid=92b79a1a-dc1e-4702-9b25-3dad06a66121@sessionmgr113&vid=0&format=EB&rid=1>

Wed. Jan. 20th . **Discussion:** Albert Hourani, ch. V “Jamal al-Din Al-Afghani,” & ch. VI “Muhammad `Abduh,” in Albert Hourani, *Arabic Thought in the Liberal Age, 1798-1939*. Pp.103-160. (**CPM-1**)

Week 4

Mon. Jan. 25th . **Lecture:** Post-Ottoman history of Syria and Lebanon since the Great Arab Revolt. Read Cleveland, *A History of the Modern Middle East*, ch. 9 “World War I and the End of the Ottoman Order,” pp. 157-169 & ch. 12 “the French Mandate and the Arab Struggle for Independence.” Pp. 218-230 (**Ebook**)

Wed. Jan. 27th . **Discussion:** Jurdi Abisaab & Abisaab, *The Shi`ites of Lebanon*, prologue and the first 4 chapters. Pp. xiii-102. (**Ebook**)

Week 5

Mon. Feb. 1st . **Lecture:** Post-Ottoman Iraq. Read Cleveland, *A Modern History of the Middle East*, ch. 11 “The Arab Struggle for Independence: Egypt Iraq and Transjordan from the Interwar Era to 1945.” Pp. 204- 213. (**Ebook**)

Wed. Feb. 3rd . **Discussion:** Marion Farouk-Sluglett & Peter Sluglett, ch. 2, "1958-1963," Pp. 47-84 in Marion Farouk-Sluglett & Peter Sluglett, *Iraq Since 1958: From Revolution to Dictatorship*, (**Ebook**)
<http://site.ebrary.com.proxy3.library.mcgill.ca/lib/mcgill/reader.action?docID=10132948&ppg=23>
& Abdul-Halim al-Ruhaimi, "The Da`wa Islamic Party: Origins, Actors and Ideology," in `Abd al-Jabbar, *Ayatollahs, Sufis and Ideologues: State, Religion and Social Movements in Iraq*, pp. 149-161. (**CPM-2**)

Week 6

Mon. Feb. 8th . **Lecture:** The Modern History of Iran since the Tobacco Revolt. Read William Cleveland, *A History of the Modern Middle East*, ch. 6 "Egypt and Iran in the late Nineteenth Century." Pp. 109-117 (**Ebook**)

Wed. Feb. 10th .**Discussion:** Abrahamian, ch. 3 "The Iron Fist of Reza Shah," in Ervand Abrahamian, *The Modern History of Iran*, Pp. 63-96. (**Ebook**)
<http://site.ebrary.com.proxy3.library.mcgill.ca/lib/mcgill/reader.action?docID=10240276&ppg=66>

Week 7

Mon. Feb. 15th . **Lecture:** Public Religion and Civil Society I. Read, Calhoun, "Secularism, Citizenship and the Public Sphere" chapter 3 in C. Calhoun & eds., *Rethinking Secularism*, Pp. 75-91 (**Ebook**)
<http://site.ebrary.com.proxy3.library.mcgill.ca/lib/mcgill/reader.action?docID=10492585&ppg=86>

Wed. Feb. 17th **Explaining the Primary Source Analysis Assignment**

Week 8

Mon. Feb. 22nd . **Lecture:** Public Religion and Civil Society II. Read, Dale F. Eickelman & Armando Salvatore, "Public Islam and the Common Good," *Etnográfica*, vol. X, no. 1 (2006): 97-105. (**Ebook**)
http://ceas.iscte.pt/etnografica/docs/vol_10/N1/Vol_x_N1_05-Eickelman-Salvatore.pdf
Wael Hallaq, "What is Shari`a?" (**Ebook**)
http://www.academia.edu/11170698/What_is_Sharia

Wed. Feb. 24th . **Discussion:** Jurdi Abisaab & Abisaab, *The Shi`ites of Lebanon*, chapters 5 to conclusion. Pp. 103-216 (**Ebook**)

Week 9

Mon. 29th to March 4th . Study Break

Week 10

Mon. March 7th . **Lecture:** Iran between two Revolutions and the Rise of Radical Shi`ism. Read William Cleveland, *A Modern History of the Middle East*, ch. 14 "Democracy and Authoritarianism: Turkey and Iran," pp. 288- 300 & ch. 20 "The Iranian Revolution and the Resurgence of Islam," Pp. 423-440 (**Ebook**)

Wed. March 9th . **Discussion:** Abrahamian, ch. 1 "Fundamentalism or Populism," in Abrahamian, *Khomeinism*, Pp. 13-39. (**Ebook**)
<http://publishing.cdlib.org.proxy3.library.mcgill.ca/ucpressebooks/view?docId=ft6c6006wp&chunk.id=d0e419&toc.depth=1&toc.id=d0e419&brand=ucpress>

Week 11

Mon. March 14th . **Lecture:** The Iran-Iraq War and Gulf War I and II. Read, William Cleveland, *A Modern History of the Middle East*, ch. 22 "Challenges to the Existing Order," pp. 478-490 & ch. 25, "America's Troubled Moment in the Middle East, pp. 563-573. (**Ebook**)

Wed. March 16th . **Discussion:** Joyce Wiley, "'Alima bint al-Huda, Women's Advocate," in Linda S. Walbridge , *The Most Learned of the Shi`a: The Institution of the Marja` Taqlid*. Pp. 149-160. (**myCourses**)

Week 12

Mon. March 21st . **Lecture:** Wahhabism and the Rise of Saudi Arabia. Read William Cleveland, ch. 12, "The Arab Struggle for Independence." Pp. 231-234 & (**Ebook**) & As`ad AbuKhalil, "Wahhabiyyah," in As`ad Abu Khalil, *the Battle for Saudi Arabia*, pp. 50-75 + footnotes (**CPM-3**)

Wed. March 23rd . **Discussion:** The Shi`ites of Saudi Arabia. Read, Madawi al-Rasheed, "The Shia of Saudi Arabia: A Minority in search of Cultural Authenticity," *British Journal of Middle Eastern Studies*, vol. 25, no. 1 (1998): 121-138. (**Ebook**)
<http://www.tandfonline-com.proxy3.library.mcgill.ca/doi/abs/10.1080/13530199808705657>

Week 13

Mon. March 28th . **Easter Holiday**

Wed. March 30th . **Discussion:** Madawi al-Rasheed, *A Most Masculine State: Gender, Politics and Religion in Saudi Arabia*, ch. 6 "Celebrity Women Novelists and the Cosmopolitan Fantasy," pp. 212-243 & ch. 7, "Guarding Self and Nation," pp. 244-279. (**Ebook**)
<http://ebooks.cambridge.org.proxy3.library.mcgill.ca/ebook.jsf?bid=CBO9781139015363>

Submit the Primary Source Analysis

Week 14

Mon. April 4th . **Lecture:** Oil and Democracy in the Middle East. Read, Timothy Mitchell, *Carbon Democracy: Political Power in the Age of Oil*, chs. 3 and 6, Pp. 66-85 & 144-172. (**myCourses**)

Wed. April 6th . **Discussion:** Timothy Mitchell, ch. 8 "McJihad," in Timothy Mitchell, *Carbon Democracy: Political Power in the Age of Oil*. Pp. 200-230. (**myCourses**)

Week 15

Mon. April 11th . **Lecture:** The Rise of ISIS

Wed. April 13th . **Revisions**

Bibliographical List

Abrahamian, Ervand. *A History of Modern Iran*. Cambridge; New York: Cambridge University Press, 2008.

----- . *Khomeinism: Essays on the Islamic Republic*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1993.

Abu Khalil, As`ad. *The Battle for Saudi Arabia: Royalty, Fundamentalism, and Global Power*. New York: Seven Stories, 2004.

Calhoun J. Craig; Mark Juergensmeyer; Jonathan VanAntwerpen (eds.). *Rethinking Secularism*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2011.

Cleveland, L. William. *A History of the Modern Middle East*, 4th edition. Boulder: Westview Press, 2008.

Eickelman, F. Dale & Armando Salvatore. "Public Islam and the Common Good." *Etnográfica*. Vol. X, no. 1 (2006): 97-105.

Farouk-Sluglett, Marion & Peter Sluglett. *Iraq since 1958: From Revolution to Dictatorship*. London; New York: I.B. Tauris, 2001.

Hallaq, Wael. "What is Shari`a?"

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Hourani, Albert. *Arabic Thought in the Liberal Age, 1798-1939*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1988.

Jurdi Abisaab Jurdi & Malek Abisaab. *The Shi`ites of Lebanon: Modernism, Communism, Hizbullah's Islamists*. Syracuse, NY: Syracuse University Press, 2014.

Mitchell, Timothy. *Carbon Democracy: Political Power in the Age of Oil*. London; New York: Verso, 2011.

Al-Rasheed, Madawi. *A Most Masculine State: Gender, Politics and Religion in Saudi Arabia*. Cambridge; New York: Cambridge University Press, 2013.

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Al-Ruhaimi, Abul Halim. "The Da`wa Islamic Party: Origins, Actors and Ideology." In `Abd al-Jabbar, *Ayatollahs, Sufis and Ideologues: State, Religion and Social Movements in Iraq*. London: Saqi, 2002.

Sankari, Jamal. *Fadlallah: The Making of a Radical Shi`ite Leader*. London: Saqi, 2005.

Wiley, Joyce. "Alima bint al-Huda, Women's Advocate." In Linda S. Walbridge, *The Most Learned of the Shi`a: The Institution of the Marja` Taqlid*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2001.