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HSTR 264H.01: Islamic Civilization - Modern Era

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Spring 2022

Islamic Civilization (Modern Era)
History 284
Professor Mehrdad Kia
Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:30-5:00
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After a brief discussion of the life of the Prophet Muhammad, the teachings of Islam, and sketching the nineteenth century background (the disintegration and collapse of the Ottoman and Iranian/Persian empires), this course will examine in greater detail, the political history of the Middle East and Central Asia since the beginning of the twentieth century. Special attention will be given to the origins of the Arab-Israeli conflict, the struggle for the leadership in the Arab world, and the rise of Arab nationalism after the end of Second World War. The geographic emphasis will be on the Arab Middle East, but time permitting we will discuss the most important “hot spots” such as Afghanistan and the former Soviet Republics of Central Asia.

First Text: **A Concise History of the Middle East**
Author: Arthur Goldschmidt

First Exam: March 3, pp.1-146

Second Exam: April 5, pp.147-237

Third Exam: May 11, 1:10-3:10, pp.257-408

Second Text: **A Concise History of the Arab-Israeli Conflict**
Authors: Ian Bickerton and Carla Klausner

First Exam: pp.1-15

Second Exam: pp.16-115

Third Exam: pp.116-360

Third Text: **Daily Life in the Ottoman Empire**

Author: Mehrdad Kia

First Exam: Entire Text

Grade for the Course

First Exam: 25%

Second Exam: 25%

Third Exam: 25%

Paper on the Annual Central and Southwest Asia Conference: 15%

Attendance: 10%

Please Note: There will be no incomplete given in this course. Two absences will result in loss of a grade.

Topics to be discussed in the class:

- 1- Who are the peoples of the Middle East and Central Asia?
 - A. The Arabs of the Middle East and North Africa
 - B. The Tajiks, Afghans and Iranians
 - C. The Turkic Peoples: Kazakhs, Kirgiz, Uzbek, Turkmen, and Turks of Turkey
 - D. The Jewish People of the Middle East and Central Asia

- 2- Muhammad and the Rise of Islam
 - A. Muhammad of Mecca
 - B. Muhammad of Medina
 - C. The Five Pillars of Islam and the Teachings of Holy Quran
 - D. The Sunni-Shia Divide

- 3- The Last Three Great Muslim Empires
 - A. The Mughals of India
 - B. The Persian Safavids
 - C. The Ottoman Turks

- 4- The Arrival of European Imperialism
 - A. Mughal Empire Becomes British Occupied India

- B. The Russians Invade and Occupy the Caucasus and Central Asia
- C. British Interference in Iran and Afghanistan
- D. The Disintegration of the Ottoman Empire
- E. Mustafa Kemal Atatürk and the Rise of Modern Turkey
- F. The First World War and the Partition of the Arab Middle East

5- The Origins of the Arab-Israeli Conflict

- A. Pogroms in Eastern Europe and the Rise of the Zionist Movement
- B. Sykes-Picot Agreement, Husain-McMahon Correspondence, Balfour Declaration
- C. The Arrival of Jewish Settlers in Palestine and the Rise of Arab Palestinian Nationalism
- D. War of 1948

6- Gamal Abdul Nasser and the Rise of Arab Nationalism

- A. Egypt Nationalizes the Suez Canal
- B. Egypt and Syria become the United Arab Republic
- C. The Revolution in Iraq and the End of Iraqi Monarchy
- D. The June 1967 Arab-Israeli War

7- From June 1967 to the Camp David Peace Accords

- A. The Rise of Anwar Sadat
- B. The Rise of Palestine Liberation Organization
- C. The Arab-Israeli War of 1973
- D. The Camp David Peace and the Assassination of Anwar Sadat
- E. Islamic Brotherhood and Islamic Jihad

8- The Resurgence of Political Islam

- A. The Taliban Movement and Pakistan's Interference in Afghanistan
- B. Northern Alliance and Ahmad Shah Masu'd
- C. 9/11 Terrorist Attacks and the Collapse of Taliban
- D. The Rise of Islamic Movements in Tajikistan and Uzbekistan
- E. United States in Afghanistan and Iraq