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### HSTR 368.01: Iran Between Two Revolutions

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## **Iran Between Two Revolutions History 368**

Professor Mehrdad Kia

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After sketching the geographical, historical, and cultural background of ancient Persia, this course will examine, in greater detail and depth, the political, social, and intellectual history of Iran since the beginning of the nineteenth century. Special attention will be given to the rise of nationalism in the nineteenth century and the radicalization of the Shia religious hierarchy and the modernist intelligentsia as well as the reforms introduced by the two Pahlavi shahs from 1925 to 1979 and the political, social, and cultural causes of the 1979 revolution. The course ends with a discussion of Iran under the Islamic regime and the emergence of the country as a major political, economic, and military power challenging American and Russian hegemony in the Middle East and Central Asia.

### **Exam Schedule:**

First Exam: March 2

Second Exam: April 6

Third Exam: Wednesday, May 11

### **Textbooks:**

Sandra Mackey, *The Iranians*

Reading for First Exam: pp. xv–186

Reading for Second Exam: pp. 187–300

Reading for Third Exam: pp. 301–410

Stephen Kinzer, *All the Shah's Men*

Reading for Second Exam: Entire Text

### **Grade for the Course**

First Exam (March 2): 25%

Second Exam (April 6): 25%

Third Exam (Wednesday, May 11): 25%

Paper on the Central & 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:**

#### **I – Geography and Population Composition**

- A. Ancient History and Identity
- B. Who is an Iranian, a Tajik, and an Afghan?
- C. Cultural and Geographical Features of Tajiks/Persians of Central Asia
- D. Ancient Persia becomes Modern Iran

#### **II – Nineteenth Century Background**

- A. Russian and British colonialism
- B. Military defeat and the beginning of national awakening
- C. Disintegration of the traditional order

#### **III – The Constitutional Revolution of 1905–1906 and 1909–1911**

- A. Modernist Intelligentsia
- B. Shia Ulama and the Bazaar
- C. Democracy, Islam, and Modernization

#### **IV – The Pahlavi Dynasty**

- A. Reza Khan becomes Reza Shah
- B. Nationalism, secularism, and “modernization”
- C. State Capitalism and the emergence of modern social classes

**V – Mohammad Mossadegh, Nationalism of Iran’s Oil Industry, and the CIA–MI6 overthrow of Iran’s democratic government**

- A. National Front
- B. Communist Tudeh Party
- C. Mohammad Reza Shah Pahlavi and his supporters

**VI – From August 1953 coup to the “Revolution of the Shah and His People”**

- A. Destruction of the feudal order
- B. Iran and the United States
- C. Industrialization, political suppression, and intellectual alienation

**VII – The Iranian Revolution of 1979: Turban for the Crown**

- A. Political and ideological forces in the revolution
- B. Ayatollah Khomeini, the Democratic Opposition and the Marxist movement
- C. From revolution to the establishment of the Islamic Republic

**The grade for this course is based on three exams, each constituting 25% of the total grade as well as a paper on the Central & Southwest Asia Conference 15%. Attendance will constitute the remaining 10% of your grade. Two absences will result in loss of a grade. There will be no incomplete given in this course.**

**Disability Services for Students (DSS) is The University of Montana’s student affairs office, which assumes program access to the University by students with disabilities. Any student with disability or special need should contact Dr. Kia and he will coordinate and provide reasonable modifications which may be required.**