

This version 1/19/11

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POS 367 Politics of the Middle East

Tu-Th 10:15 to 11:35 Room LC 3B

Uptown office hrs Tuesday 2:40-4:00; downtown 3-5 p.m

Book orders have been placed exclusively at Mary Jane Books, Quail & Western

Midterm Exam March 15th Tuesday

Optional "parachute paper" due 28 April no late papers

Final Exam date: Thursday May 12th 1-3 p.m.

Course Books: Have been ordered exclusively at Mary Jane Books, at the corner of Quail and Western. Generally this will be your least expensive alternative. You may also order books via Internet, and prices vary considerably by vendor. Used books can be had at www.abebooks.com and other sources. Some packet materials will also be available there. A certain number of articles will be on the class web site and/or JSTOR. The academic objective of this course is to explore the political and social organization of the Middle East with an aim to understanding the material underpinnings of seemingly "irrational" tendencies. The course will present some materials on the Arab-Israeli conflict and then move on to Iran, Iraq, and Saudi Arabia.

Course grading. The course grade will be based on a midterm (nominally 40% of the grade each) and one final (nominally 60% of the grade plus adjustments due to attendance and subjective appreciation of such factors as class participation and quiz results. The exams are required. Students who are unhappy with the results of the midterm may write a short "parachute paper" of about 3 to 5 pages near the end of the semester. If the grade of the parachute paper is higher than the midterm, that grade will be substituted for the midterm grade. There is no guarantee that the paper will lead to a higher grade. Students who punt the midterm are not eligible to write a parachute paper. Papers must follow prof's required format regarding use of citations and bibliography.

The main on-line source of information will be the BLACKBOARD for this course AND ALSO such materials as are distributed from the prof's account on docs.google.com.

The purpose of this class is to make students conversant in four aspects of the contemporary Middle East: 1. The Arab-Israeli conflict 2. Saudi Arabia 3. Iran and 4. Iraq. Additional goals include 5. Islamic finance and 6. Other economic aspects of the region including oil.

The principal tools will be: a variety of assigned texts.

The principal evaluation metric will be a required in class exam, an optional make-up paper, pop quizzes; participation and attendance.

A student who successfully completes this course will understand basic aspects underpinning key past and present conflicts in the Middle East including: imperial rivalries, conflicting systems of property rights, economic dislocations, cultural and religious antagonisms.

Students who require special accommodations for disabilities must signal their needs at the beginning of the semester.

Week-by-week schedule

Week 1 – Thursday 20 January. Class Introduction and Organization. Iran.

Shuster, Strangling of Persia
Chapter II, 35-49; VI, VII, VIII, 157-230; X, XI, 247-318

This book is available through Google books and printed copies. The google version seems better able to reproduce the photos which did not upload well in the professor's google docs version.

...so try to get the google books version because the photos are priceless!

<http://tinyurl.com/strangling-of-persia>

There are many empty pages at the beginning of this link so scroll down a bit, please. And give google docs a few minutes to do its thing to open the file.

Week 2 Tuesday 25 January, Thursday 27 January Iran.

Shuster, Strangling of Persia
Chapter II, 35-49; VI, VII, VIII, 157-230; X, XI, 247-318

<http://tinyurl.com/strangling-of-persia>

This book is available through Google books and hard copies may be ordered on line.

Week 3 Tuesday 1 February, Thursday 3 February Iran.

Richards, Helmut (1975). "America's Shah Shahanshah's Iran," MERIP Reports, No. 40. (September), pp. 3 -26.

Majd, Mohammad Gholi (2000) "Small Landowners and Land Distribution in Iran, 1962-71," International Journal of Middle East Studies, Vol. 32, No. 1. (February), pp. 123-153.

Floor, William M. (1980). The Revolutionary Character of the Iranian Ulama: Wishful Thinking or Reality? *International Journal of Middle East Studies*, Vol. 12, No. 4. (Dec., 1980), pp. 501-524.

=>These three articles are on JSTOR. Go to <http://library.albany.edu> and find the small tab in DATABASES that says JSTOR. Log on and search for the articles.

Week 4 Tuesday 8 February, Thursday 10 February
Arabian Peninsula: Quick Survey of the Arab-Israeli conflict

Bard, Middle East Conflict pp. 4-227

(hard copy or ebook from Amazon: no linky here)

Week 5 WINTER BREAK 2011 (22 & 24 February: 21 thru 26 Feb off)

Week 6 Tuesday 22 February, Thursday 24 February: Quick Survey of the Arab-Israeli conflict

Bard, Middle East Conflict, pp. 229-413

(hard copy or ebook, no linky)

Week 7 Tuesday 1 March, Thursday 3 March: Saudi Arabia

Vassiliev, 235-320, 321-353

(hard copy only, Mary Jane books, no linky)

Week 8 Tuesday 8 March, Thursday 10 March: Saudi Arabia

Vassiliev, 354-392, 401-451, 474-482

(hard copy only, Mary Jane books, no linky)

Week 9 Tuesday 15 March, Thursday 17 March, Saudi Arabia – da bad guys

Dore Gold, pp. 41-184

(hard copy only, no linky)

Week 10 Tuesday 22 March, Thursday 24 March: Exam

Tuesday: In class question period for exam

=>THURSDAY: MIDTERM EXAM

Week 11 Tuesday 29 March, Thursday 31 March: The U.S. Decision to Invade

Vinogradov (1972)

<http://tinyurl.com/vinogradov-1920-revolt-in-iraq>

Ferguson: *No End in Sight* (movie, shown in class)

(You can also watch it on NETFLIX but may need to join)

Week 12 Tuesday 5 April, Thursday 7 April: Kurdistan

O’Leary, Brendan, John McGarry, and Khaled Salih, eds. (2006) *The Future of Kurdistan in Iraq*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press. ISBN-13: 9780812219739

pp. 3-43, 116-143, 173-185, 186-194, 195-218, 268-281

Hard copy only: ordered at Mary Jane books

Week 13 Tuesday 12 April, Thursday 14 April: Invasion et sequelae

Anderson, New Yorker, “Inside the surge.”

<http://tinyurl.com/anderson-inside-the-surge>

U.S. military analogies:

Willis, After the Blitzkrieg

<http://tinyurl.com/willis-after-the-blitzkrieg>

Siegrist, Apache Insurgency

<http://tinyurl.com/siegrist-apache-insurgency>

Week 14 Tuesday, 19 April, Thursday 21 April: Spring Break (18th-25th)

Week 15 Tuesday 26 April, Thursday 28 April
Waqf property rights and Khoury selections on tribalism

Baer (1997)

<http://tinyurl.com/baer-Waqf-as-a-prop-for-social>

Khoury: Gellner (pp. 109-126); Tibi (pp. 127-152); Beck (pp. 185-225); Kostiner (pp. 226-251) No linky for this stuff.

The Khoury edited volume is hard copy only at Mary Jane Books.

28 April: Due date for optional "parachute paper"

Week 16 Tuesday 3 May Last day of class

Review of final exam

COURSE BIBLIOGRAPHY FOR POS 367

Make sure you have/can get/ have access to these titles, Anderson through Vinogradov

Anderson, Jon Lee (2007). "Inside the Surge: the American Military Finds New Allies, but at What Cost?" *New Yorker*, November 19, pp. 58-69.

Baer, Gabriel (1997). "The Waqf as a Prop for the Social System: 16th through 20th Centuries," *Islamic Law and Society*, v. 4 no. 3, pp. 264-297. (Posthumous publication of 1979 paper)

Bard, Mitchell (2008). *Middle East Conflict*. 4th edition. NY: Penguin. Available Amazon books in e-version.

Dumper, Michael (1993). "Forty Years Without Slumbering: Waqf Politics and Administration in the Gaza Strip, 1948-1987" *British Journal of Middle Eastern Studies*, v. 20, no. 2, pp. 174-190. (JSTOR)

Ferguson, Charles, director (2004) *No End in Sight*, movie. (Netflix)

Floor, William M. (1980). "The Revolutionary Character of the Iranian Ulama: Wishful Thinking or Reality?" *International Journal of Middle East Studies*, Vol. 12, No. 4. (Dec., 1980), pp. 501-524. (JSTOR).

Gold, Dore (2004). *Hatred's Kingdom: How Saudi Arabia Supports the New Global Terrorism*. Washington, D.C.: Regnery Publishing.

Khoury, Philip S., and Joseph Kostiner, (1990) eds. *Tribes and State formation in the Middle East*. Berkeley: University of California Press. ISBN-13: 978-0520070806

Majd, Mohammad Gholi (2000) "Small Landowners and Land Distribution in Iran, 1962-71," *International Journal of Middle East Studies*, Vol. 32, No. 1. (February), pp. 123-153. (JSTOR)

Mandaville, Jon E. (1979) "Usurious Piety: the Cash Waqf Controversy in the Ottoman Empire," *International Journal of Middle East Studies*, v. 10 no. 3 August pp. 289-308 (JSTOR)

O'Leary, Brendan, John McGarry, and Khaled Salih, eds. (2006) *The Future of Kurdistan in Iraq*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press. ISBN-13: 9780812219739 (BOOK)

Powers, David S. (1989) "Orientalism, Colonialism, and Legal History: the Attack on Muslim Family Endowments in Algeria and India," *Comparative Studies in Society and History*, v. 31 no. 3 pp. 535-571. (JSTOR)

Richards, Helmut (1975). "America's Shah Shahanshah's Iran," *MERIP Reports*, No. 40. (September), pp. 3 -26.

Shaham, Ron (1995). "Jews and the Shari'a Courts in Modern Egypt," *Studia Islamica*, no. 82, pp. 113-136. (JSTOR)

Shuster, W. Morgan (2006; 1912) *The Strangling of Persia: A Personal Narrative* . NY: Mage Publishers. (available on Google books, complete text)

Vassiliev, Alexei (2000) *The History of Saudi Arabia*. Trans. P.A. Seslavin. NY: New York University Press. ISBN-13: 978-0814788097

Vinogradov, Amal (1972). "The 1920 Revolt in Iraq Reconsidered: The Role of Tribes in National Politics," *International Journal of Middle East Studies*, Vol. 3, No. 2, (April), pp. 123-139

LIST OF ADDITIONAL BOOKS. This is not a “to buy” list. Just here for those that are interested in more books on the Middle East, and it is by no means meant to be exhaustive or authoritative..

Alizadeh, Parvin, Hassan Hakimian, and Marsoud Kashenas, eds. (2001). *Economy of Iran: Dilemmas of an Islamic State*. NY: I.B. Tauris.

Anderson, Jon Lee (2007). “Inside the Surge: the American Military Finds New Allies, but at What Cost?” *New Yorker*, November 19, pp. 58-69.

Antonius, George (1939) *The Arab Awakening* Simon Press ISBN-13: 9781931541244

Baer, Gabriel (1997). “The Waqf as a Prop for the Social System: 16th through 20th Centuries,” *Islamic Law and Society*, v. 4 no. 3, pp. 264-297. (Posthumous publication of 1979 paper)

Bard, Mitchell (2008). *Middle East Conflict*. 4th edition. NY: Penguin. Available Amazon books in e-version.

Burr, J. Millard, and Robert O. Collins (2006/). *Alms for Jihad: Charity and Terrorism in the Middle East/*. NY: Cambridge University Press.

Chaudry, Kiren Aziz (1997). *The Price of Wealth: Economies and Institutions in the Middle East*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press.

Devji, Faisal (2005). *Landscapes of the Jihad: Militancy, Morality, Modernity*. New Delhi: Foundation Books. ISBN 1850657750.

Dumper, Michael (1993). “Forty Years Without Slumbering: Waqf Politics and Administration in the Gaza Strip, 1948-1987” *British Journal of Middle Eastern Studies*, v. 20, no. 2, pp. 174-190.

Ferguson, Charles, director (2004) *No End in Sight*, movie.

Floor, William M. (1980). “The Revolutionary Character of the Iranian Ulama: Wishful Thinking or Reality?” *International Journal of Middle East Studies*, Vol. 12, No. 4. (Dec., 1980), pp. 501-524.

Galbraith, Peter W. (2007). *The End of Iraq: How American Incompetence Created a War without End*. NY: Simon and Schuster. ISBN-13: 9780743294249

Ginat, Joseph (1997). *Blood Revenge: Family Honor, Mediation and Outcasting*, Sussex: Sussex Academic Press, 1-84519-197-8.

Gold, Dore (2004). *Hatred’s Kingdom: How Saudi Arabia Supports the New Global Terrorism*. Washington, D.C.: Regnery Publishing.

Hashim, Ahmed (2006) *Insurgency and Counter-Insurgency in Iraq*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press. 482pp. ISBN: 0801444527 2 weeks

Heiss, Mary Ann (1997). *Empire and Nationhood: The United States, Great Britain, and Iranian Oil, 1950-1954*, NY: Columbia Univ. Press, ISBN: 0231108192

Hoexter, Miriam (1998). *Endowments, Rulers, and Community: Waqf al-Haramayn in Ottoman Algiers*.

ibn Khaldoun (2004; 1377) *The Muqaddimah: An Introduction to History*, trans. Franz Rosenthal, Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

Kazemzadeh, Massoud (2002). *Islamic Fundamentalism, Feminism, and Gender Inequality in Iran under Khomeini*, Washington, D.C.: University Press of America.

Khoury, Philip S., and Joseph Kostiner, (1990) eds. *Tribes and State formation in the Middle East*. Berkeley: University of California Press. ISBN-13: 978-0520070806

Lang, Sharon (2002). "Sulha Peacemaking and the Politics of Persuasion," *Journal of Palestine Studies* Vol. 31, No. 3 (Spring, 2002), pp. 52-66

Majd, Mohammad Gholi (2000) "Small Landowners and Land Distribution in Iran, 1962-71," *International Journal of Middle East Studies*, Vol. 32, No. 1. (February), pp. 123-153.

Maloney, Suzanne (2004). "Politics, patronage, and social justice: parastatal foundations and post-revolutionary Iran," in *Peace Research Abstracts*. 41 (4).

Mandaville, Jon E. (1979) "Usurious Piety: the Cash Waqf Controversy in the Ottoman Empire," *International Journal of Middle East Studies*, v. 10 no. 3 August pp. 289-308

Martin, Vanessa (2003) *Creating An Islamic State (Library of Modern Middle East Studies Series): Khomeini and the Making of a New Iran*. London: I. B.Tauris & Company, Limited.

Martin, Vanessa (1989). *Islam and Modernism: the Iranian Revolution of 1906*. London: I.B. Tauris.

O'Leary, Brendan, John McGarry, and Khaled Salih, eds. (2006) *The Future of Kurdistan in Iraq*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press. ISBN-13: 9780812219739

Pape, Robert A. (2005) *Dying to Win: the Strategic Logic of Suicide Terrorism*, NY: Random House.

Powers, David S. (1989) "Orientalism, Colonialism, and Legal History: the Attack on Muslim Family Endowments in Algeria and India," *Comparative Studies in Society and History*, v. 31 no. 3 pp. 535-571.

Richards, Helmut (1975). "America's Shah Shahanshah's Iran," *MERIP Reports*, No. 40. (September), pp. 3 -26.

Shaham, Ron (1995). "Jews and the Shari'a Courts in Modern Egypt," *Studia Islamica*, no. 82, pp. 113-136.

Shuster, W. Morgan (2006; 1912) *The Strangling of Persia: A Personal Narrative* . NY: Mage Publishers.

Smith, Daniel L. (1989). "The Rewards of Allah," *Journal of Peace Research*, Vol. 26, No. 4. (Nov., 1989), pp. 385-398. (brief article on sulha)

Starkey, Armstrong *European and Native American Warfare 1675-1815*, Norman, OK: University of Oklahoma Press ISBN: 080613075X

Tetreault, Mary Ann, and Robert A. Denemark, eds. (2004) *Gods, Guns, and Globalization: Religious Radicalism and International Political Economy*, Boulder, CO: Lynn Reinner. ISBN: 978-1-58826-253-0

Vassiliev, Alexei (2000) *The History of Saudi Arabia*. Trans. P.A. Seslavin. NY: New York University Press. ISBN-13: 978-0814788097

Vinogradov, Amal (1972). "The 1920 Revolt in Iraq Reconsidered: The Role of Tribes in National Politics," *International Journal of Middle East Studies*, Vol. 3, No. 2, (April), pp. 123-139
