

**HIST 3382**  
**North Africa & the Middle East in Modern Times**  
**Fall 2019**

Classroom & time: Social Science Building- 2021, MW 3:30-4:45 PM

Instructor: Hakki Gurkas

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Office Hours: MWF 11:00AM-12:00PM and by appointment

**Course Description**

This course traces the major transformations that the Middle East and North Africa has gone through within the last two centuries. Over this period, the peoples of these places have struggled with imperialism, nationalism, and militarism. This course will analyze these major currents and themes. We will shortly address the early history of the region and then deal with the nineteenth and twentieth centuries in a chronological manner. We will thoroughly study and discuss the end of the multi-ethnic empires, reinstatement of colonialism, emergence of nationalism, and decolonization, as well as the expansion and decline of radical Islam in the region and the gender ramifications of these developments. During the course of our study, we will focus on Turkey, Iran, Egypt, Algeria, Iraq, and Israel/Palestine. During the course, we will gain a better understanding of the formation of the modern Middle East through a study based on readings from textbooks with primary documents as well as historical films.

**Course Objectives**

- to acquire a general knowledge of historical development in the MENA
- to develop our knowledge of MENA geography and traditions
- to gain new insights to the historical human experience in the MENA
- to develop our writing, critical thinking, and public speaking skills

**Required Readings**

Cleveland, William L. and Martin P. Bunton. *A History of the Modern Middle East*, 6<sup>th</sup> Edition. Boulder: Westview, 2017.

Supplemental readings will be available in the Sturgis Library and/or on D2L.

Films: *Ararat* (2002) by Atom Egoyan; *The Battle of Algiers* (1966) by Gillo Pontecorvo

### Course Requirements and Policies

**Course Communication:** Students should use the above office hours, e-mail address and phone number to communicate with the course instructor for asking questions or discussing matters related to the student's academic standing in the course when outside of class.

**Electronic Communications:** The University provides all KSU students with an "official" email account with the address "students.kennesaw.edu." As a result of federal laws protecting educational information and other data, **this is the sole email account you should use to communicate with your instructor or other University officials.**

### Grading

Your final grade will be based on 1 midterm exam, 1 comprehensive final exam, 2 film papers, 1 geography quiz, weekly journal and active class participation. The weight of each assignment in the final grade is as follows:

Midterm exam	20 %
Final exam	30 %
Film Papers (2)	20 %
Weekly Journal	10 %
Geography Quiz	10 %
Participation	10 %
<b>Total</b>	<b>100 %</b>

A = If your total points are  $\geq 90$  points

B = If your total points are  $\geq 80$  points and  $\leq 89$  points

C = If your total points are  $\geq 70$  points and  $\leq 79$  points

D = If your total points are  $\geq 60$  points and  $\leq 69$  points

F = If your total points are  $\leq 59$  points

#### I. Geography Quiz

Each student is required to take a geography quiz on MENA and demonstrate that has a good grasp of the regional geography.

#### II. Exams

There will be 1 midterm exam and 1 final exam, which will consist of a combination of multiple-choice, true/false, short-answer, long-answer and paragraph questions.

#### III. Film Paper

Every student is responsible for writing two analytical film papers on the assigned movies. Each paper will be min. 900 words long. In these papers, you are expected to analyze the movie from a critical perspective and to discuss the main issues, points, and prominent details of the films.

#### IV. Weekly Journal

Students will keep a weekly journal where they analyze historical documents, discuss culture and society, and report on past or present events from MENA. The entries must be, at least, 300 words. Please keep in mind that meeting the minimum length requirement does not mean that the assignment is over. The entries should be clearly written and analytical. See D2L for some links to relevant media. Weekly journal is a semester-long activity and it is important to make weekly submissions (one submission per week) by 11:59PM on Fridays in the designated D2L dropbox.

#### V. Participation

Students will participate in the class in an active manner through the semester at a regular pace. Regular attendance is a prerequisite for active participation. Oral and written ways of participation are vital for active participation. You can orally participate in the class by discussing the assigned readings, raising probing questions, making comments, and engaging in discussions with your peers. You can also participate in class by completing written assignments on time. Your participation should reflect that you have carefully read the assigned pages and thought about the information provided in those pages.

Alternative ways of participation: If you feel that you did not have a chance to participate in a class, consider the optional alternative ways of participation. You can also participate in the class through three types of written accounts: reading logs, reflection logs, and online submissions. Turning in reading/ reflection logs, or making online submissions are **optional**.

##### 1. **OPTIONAL** Reading Logs:

A reading log is a written account of your understanding of the reading assignment. You should turn in your log at the beginning of the specific class that the reading assignment was scheduled. You should also be present in this particular class. **Late or early reading logs will not be accepted.** The length of a log is one page and it should contain:

- i. A short summary of the main points presented in the reading assignment
- ii. One or more probing question about the text or passages, terms, and concepts that needs clarification.

##### 2. **OPTIONAL** Reflection Logs:

A reflection log is a written account of your afterthoughts about the class lectures and discussions. In a reflection log, you are expected to make your comments and ask your questions that you did not have a chance to do in class. You should turn in your log at the beginning of the next class. **Late logs will not be accepted.** The length of a log is one page.

##### 3. **OPTIONAL** Online Discussion/Submissions:

I will post discussion topics and questions on Georgia View. You are **encouraged** to post your comments/answers/probing questions and engage into a dialogue with your peers.

**VI. Extra credit**

There are no extra credit opportunities.

**VII. Make-Ups and late assignments**

Make-ups are only available for the students with documented excuses, e.g. doctor's note. Late assignments are not accepted.

**VIII. Attendance**

Students are solely responsible for managing their enrollment status in a class; nonattendance does not constitute a withdrawal.

Regular attendance is required and a prerequisite of active participation.

**IX. Readings**

Completion of assigned readings in a timely manner is essential for informed participation in class. Students are strongly encouraged to keep up with the assigned readings.

**X. Updates and announcements**

Changes to the syllabus may occur throughout the semester and will be announced in class. Students are responsible for announcements made in class whether absent or present.

**XI. Class Etiquette**

An atmosphere of mutual trust is essential to the success of this course. We strongly encourage lively debates and urge students to respect each other's opinions. Expressions of intolerance are discouraged. Disagreeing with others intelligently and politely is a skill, one that we will all strive for during the semester.

Students are expected to behave properly and respect the class decorum both in the classroom and in our virtual classroom environment including but not limited to the discussion board, and the chat room. Abusive, profane, and threatening language will be reported to the [Department of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity](#) (SCAI).

No electronic devices, e.g. smart phones, tablets, laptops, are allowed in the classroom.

**XII. Writing Center**

The KSU Writing Center is a free service offered to all KSU students. Experienced, friendly Writing Assistants will work with you to become a better writer--regardless of your strengths or weaknesses. Commonly covered writing strategies include topic development, organization, revision, research, source documentation, and grammar, but the Writing Center listens to and works with each writer individually. For more information or to schedule an appointment, please visit <http://www.kennesaw.edu/writingcenter/>, or stop by Room 242 in the English Building.

### **XIII. ADA Compliance**

Students with qualifying disabilities under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and/or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act who require “reasonable accommodation(s)” to complete the course may request those from Department of Student Success Services. Students requiring such accommodations are required to work with the University’s Department of Student Success Services rather than engaging in this discussion with individual faculty members or academic departments. If, after reviewing the course syllabus, a student anticipates or should have anticipated a need for accommodation, he or she must submit documentation requesting an accommodation and permitting time for a determination prior to submitting assignments or taking course quizzes or exams. Students may not request retroactive accommodation for needs that were or should have been foreseeable. Students should contact the office as soon as possible in the term for which they are seeking accommodations. For more information please visit their website, [sss.kennesaw.edu/sds](http://sss.kennesaw.edu/sds).

Contact information is as follows:

SDS Email: [sds@kennesaw.edu](mailto:sds@kennesaw.edu)

Primary number for Kennesaw campus: 470-578-2666

Primary number for Marietta campus: 678-915-7244

### **XIV. Academic Integrity Statement**

Every KSU student is responsible for upholding the provisions of the Student Code of Conduct, as published in the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs. Section 5. C of the Student Code of Conduct addresses the university’s policy on academic honesty, including provisions regarding plagiarism and cheating, unauthorized access to university materials, misrepresentation/falsification of university records or academic work, malicious removal, retention, or destruction of library materials, malicious/intentional misuse of computer facilities and/or services, and misuse of student identification cards. Incidents of alleged academic misconduct will be handled through the established procedures of the Department of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity (SCAI), which includes either an “informal” resolution by a faculty member, resulting in a grade adjustment, or a formal hearing procedure, which may subject a student to the Code of Conduct’s minimum one semester suspension requirement. See also <https://web.kennesaw.edu/scai/content/ksu-student-code-conduct>.

Any violation of the above code will be reported to the Department of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity (SCAI) and the student who violates the above code will receive a failing grade for the course.

Examples of Plagiarism Avoidance websites:

<http://plagiarism.org/>

<http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml>

<http://www.library.arizona.edu/help/tutorials/plagiarism/index.html>

## Course Schedule (Tentative)

### Week 1

August 19: Syllabus Overview & Introduction

Reading assignment: Course syllabus

August 21: Physical geography and cultural landscape

Reading assignment: <http://www.cotf.edu/earthinfo/meast/MEgeo.html>

### Week 2

August 26: The Rise and Expansion of Islam

Reading assignment: Cleveland and Bunton 1-34; **Map Quiz**

August 28: The Ottoman and Safavid Empires

Reading assignment: Cleveland and Bunton 34-52

### Week 3

September 02: NO CLASS (Labor Day)

September 04: The era of Transformations

Reading assignment: Cleveland and Bunton 53-75

### Week 4

September 09: The era of Transformations: Tanzimat

Reading assignment: Cleveland and Bunton 76-95

September 11: The era of Transformations: Egypt, Iran

Reading assignment: Cleveland and Bunton 96-110, TBA

### Week 5

September 16: European Colonialism in North Africa

Reading assignment: Phillip C. Naylor 141-168

September 18: The era of Transformations: Islamic Responses

Reading assignment: Cleveland and Bunton 111-123, TBA

### Week 6

September 23: The aftermath and the beforehand of the WWI

Reading assignment: Cleveland and Bunton 124-159

September 25: Movie discussion (Ararat by Atom Egoyan)

Reading assignment: Robert Melson, 141-171

### Week 7

September 30: Review and question session; **Film paper on Ararat is due**

October 02: **Midterm Exam**

### Week 8

October 07: Interwar Era and the WWII: Turkey, Iran, Iraq, Egypt

Reading assignment: Cleveland and Bunton 161-184;

October 09: Interwar Era and the WWII: Mesopotamia and the Levant  
 Reading assignment: Cleveland and Bunton 185- 218

### **Week 9**

October 14: Interwar Era and the WWII: Palestine Mandate to Israel  
 Reading assignment: Cleveland and Bunton 226-256  
 October 16: Post-Colonial and contemporary North Africa  
 Reading assignment: Naylor 169-214

### **Week 10**

October 21: Post-Colonial and contemporary North Africa  
 Reading assignment: Naylor 215-246; Frantz Fanon, 249-279  
 Movie: The Battle of Algiers  
 October 23: Post-WWII Turkey and Iran  
 Reading assignment: Cleveland and Bunton 257-285

### **Week 11**

October 28: Post-WWII Egypt and the Levant  
 Reading assignment: Cleveland and Bunton 286-327; **The Battle of Algiers paper is due**  
 October 30: WWII to 70's: Israel and Palestinians  
 Reading Assignment: Cleveland and Bunton 328-349

### **Week 12**

November 04: Iranian Revolution  
 Reading assignment: Cleveland and Bunton 355-377  
 November 06: Iran-Iraq War and consolidation of Islamic State  
 Reading assignment: TBA

### **Week 13**

November 11: Egypt and Lebanon, 70s and 80s  
 Reading assignment: Cleveland and Bunton 378-401  
 November 13: Arab Oil  
 Reading assignment: Cleveland and Bunton 219-222,402-422

### **Week 14**

November 18: Challenges to the existing order  
 Reading assignment: Cleveland and Bunton 447-473  
 November 20: Change and Continuity: Turkey, Iran, Lebanon  
 Reading assignment: Cleveland and Bunton 499-518

November 25-29: NO CLASSES

### **Week 15**

November 02: The US and the Middle East  
 Reading assignment: Cleveland and Bunton, 519-536  
 November 04: The Arab Uprisings

Reading assignment: Cleveland and Bunton, 537-556  
December 09: Review and conclusion  
**Final Exam:** Monday, December 16, 3:30-5:30PM