**HISTORY 105C: THE MIDDLE EAST, 1500-PRESENT**

MWF 10:00-10:50

Dodd 170

Instructor: James L. Gelvin:

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Regular Office Hours: 8:00-9:00 AM MWF

Zoom Office Hours: Tuesdays, 3:00-4:00

This course traces the history of the Middle East during the modern period—a period which has its roots in the 16th century and continues through the present day.  Among the topics to be considered: gunpowder empires, the integration of the Middle East into the world economy; the nature and impact of imperialism; attempts at restructuring empires undertaken in the nineteenth century; the transformation of society during that century; intellectual, social and political movements; the origins and evolution of the international state system and of Middle Eastern states; nationalism; Zionism and the Palestinian-Zionist conflict; state-building; the effects of the exploitation of oil on the region; varied forms of resistance to imperialism and autocracy; the Middle East in the age of “GWOT” (“Global War on Terror”); the Arab uprisings of 2010-11; and, what some have termed the “New Middle East.”  Although this is the third sequence of the History 105 series, there are no prerequisites for this course.

REQUIREMENTS:

1.  It is expected that students will attend class regularly, having read the readings assigned for that day.

2.  Students are expected to write two five-page papers. Each paper will count for 25% of your grade. Students should submit their papers through the class website on Canvas.

3. There will be a final exam, due 2:30 on June 6, 2022. Students should submit their papers through the class website on Canvas.

4. Students are expected to show up for at least one of my Zoom office hours during the quarter. You don’t have to stay the entire hour, but it is necessary to stay at least 20 minutes. If you cannot come to office hours at the appointed time, you should come to my morning office hours, or arrange a one-on-one Zoom meeting with me.

5.  The following books are required and can be purchased online or through Ackerman:

* James L. Gelvin, *The Modern Middle East: A History*, **5TH edition**.
* Sinan Antoon, *The Baghdad Eucharist*.
* James L. Gelvin, *The New Middle East: What Everyone Needs to Know*.

**Be sure to get the 5th edition of Gelvin, *The Modern Middle East: A History*. It is significantly different from the previous editions, particularly in the chapters on the contemporary Middle East.**

*Note 1: This syllabus is subject to change.  We live in tumultuous times.*

*Note 2: Both written assignments must be posted to Turnitin on the dates they are due. The link to Turnitin will be on Canvas under the week the assignments are due.*

**AN UNPLEASANT SUBJECT:**

PLAGIARISM: “The wages of sin is death”—The Bible

PASSING OFF SOMEONE ELSE'S WORK AS YOUR OWN IS PLAGIARISM. That someone can be a fellow student, a professor, or an author. Words that are not your own must be placed within quotation marks and footnoted; ideas that are not your own must also be footnoted (two exceptions to the rule about footnoting ideas that are not your own: the textbooks and lectures for this class). Changing a few words in a passage copied from a book is plagiarism. Footnoting a passage that is quoted but not placed in quotation marks or attributed in some other way to its source is plagiarism. While I encourage students to study together and (God forbid) discuss the class and the essays/exams among themselves, the moment pen touches paper (or fingers touch keypad) discussion ends and plagiarism begins.

One special reminder: I am a professional historian. I make my living reading and comparing texts. Do not think you can get away with it. I'm better at this than you are, and I’ll fail you in the course and email the undergraduate advisor of your department.

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**I.  THE ORIGINS OF THE MODERN MIDDLE EAST**

1.   March 28: Introduction

2. March 30: The Middle East to the 16th Century

James L. Gelvin, *The Modern Middle East*, 4th edition (hereafter *MME*), Introduction.

  Introduction to Part I, Chapter 1.

3.   April 1: Gunpowder Empires (I)

*MME*, Chapter 2.

4.   April 4: Gunpowder Empires (II)

*MME*, Documents (Evliya Celebi, *Seyahatanamé*, I & II).

5.   April 6: The World System

*MME*, Chapter 3, Documents (“Treaty of Friendship and Amity”; *The Travels of Sir John Chardin into Persia and the East-Indies*, I & II).

6.   April 8: The Shifting Global Balance of Power

*MME*, Chapter 4, Documents (“Treaty of Balta Liman”).

**II. THE GREAT NINETEENTH CENTURY TRANSFORMATION**

7.   April 11: Defensive Developmentalism (I)

*MME*, Introduction to Part II, Chapter 5.

8.   April 13: Defensive Developmentalism (II)

*MME*, Documents (“Hatt-i Sharif of Gulhane”; “Islahat Fermani”; “D’Arcy Concession”).

9.   April 15: Imperialism (I)

*MME*, Chapter 6, Documents (Algeria: Poetry of Loss).

10.  April 18: Imperialism (II)

11.  April 20: The Great Nineteenth-Century Transformation: A Global Public Sphere (I)

*MME*, Chapter 7, Documents (Rifaca Rafic al-Tahtawi, *The Extraction of   Gold*; Huda Shaarawi, “A New Mentor”).

12.  April 22: The Great Nineteenth-Century Transformation: A Global Public Sphere (II)

*MME*, Chapter 8. 9, 10.

**III. WORLD WAR I AND ITS AFTERMATH**

13.  April 25: World War I

*MME*, Introduction to Part III, Documents (An Arab Soldier in the Ottoman Army).

***APRIL 26: FIRST PAPER DUE***

14.  April 27: The Origins of the State System I: State-building by Decree

*MME*, Chapter 11, Chapter 13, Documents (“Final Resolution of the Syrian General Congress”).

15.  April 29: The Origins of the State System II: State-building by Revolution and Conquest

*MME*, Chapter 12.

16.  May 2: The Israel-Palestine Conflict

*MME*, Chapter 14.

Documents (Theodor Herzl, “A Solution of the Jewish Question”; “Balfour Declaration,” Mahmud Darwish, “Eleven Planets in the Last Andalusian Sky”; “United Nations Resolution 242").

17. May 4: The Israel-Palestine Conflict Redux

**IV. THE CONTEMPORARY ERA**

18.  May 6: A Long and Convoluted Explanation of the Origins and Evolution of the Contemporary Middle East (I)

*MME*, Introduction to Part IV

19.  May 9: A Long and Convoluted Explanation of the Origins and Evolution of the Contemporary Middle East (II)

*MME*, Documents pp. 327-330.

Gamal Abd al-Nasser on the Muslim Brotherhood: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TX4RK8bj2W0>.

20. May 11: The Autocratic State

*MME*, Chapter 15.

21.  May 13: Oil

*MME*, Chapter 16

22.  May 16: The United States and the Middle East (I)

*MME*, Chapter 17.

23.  May 18: The United States and the Middle East (II)

***MAY 20: SECOND PAPER DUE***

**V. THE NEW MIDDLE EAST**

24.  May 20: The Arab Uprisings

James L. Gelvin, *The New Middle East: What Everyone Needs to Know (hereafter NME), Chapter 2*.

25. May 23: The Syria Crisis

*NME*, Chapter 3.

26. May 25: Remember ISIS?

*NME, Chapter 4.*

27. May 27: International Relations of the New Middle East, or: How Trump and the Saudis Have Screwed Everything Up, and What Biden is Liable to do as a Result.

*NME*, Chapter 5.

***MAY 30: NO CLASS***

28. June 1: You Ain’t Seen Nothing Yet: Human Insecurity in the New Middle East

*NME*, Chapter 6.

29. June 3: Review