164-01-02 Historical Perspectives: Middle East, 1800 to Today

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Xavier University

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 Elie Wiesel, *Dawn*

**Description:** This course is a one-semester survey of the Middle East from approximately 1800 until the present time. Content will include the following: Brief look at the origins of Islam and the Arab Empires; Analysis of the rise, structure and decline of the Ottoman Empire; World War I and its aftermath as it affected politics and society in the Middle East; historical surveys in the 20th and 21st centuries of Turkey, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan, Syria, Lebanon, and Jordan; and the course will conclude with a very detailed analysis and background of the Palestinian/Israeli conflict. This course fulfills a critical need within the History Dept., as well as in our society. The historical topics presented and analyzed in this course are crucial for understanding the important issues facing our society and the world today. The Middle East is at the epicenter of 21st century world events, and the political, religious, social, and economic problems that this region presents will affect humanity for the foreseeable future. Students of history, as well as the general population, must be able to grasp the essential origins and background of the events that have created tumult and upheaval not only in those lands, but in our modern world as well.

**Student Learning Objectives:**

1. Students will be able to articulate and grasp the basic events, major themes, and important people in Modern Middle Eastern History from the decline of the Ottoman Turks to the current time.
2. Students will be able to analyze and criticize primary source documents from a wide variety of sources pertaining to the Modern Middle East.
3. Students will become familiar with map work and geographical settings that constitute the region of the Modern Middle East.
4. Students will be able to identify the roles of politics, economics, gender and family, technology, cultural expression, and religion as these topics impact Modern Middle Eastern history.
5. Students will be able to perceive the connections of Modern Middle Eastern history with their current society and their daily lives.

**Dates for Topics and Assignments:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
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<tr>
<td>Aug. 21</td>
<td>T – Course Introduction</td>
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<td>Aug. 23</td>
<td>Th – Tucker, Ch. 1, 1-16</td>
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<td>Aug. 28</td>
<td>T – Tucker, Ch. 2, 17-30 (Map Quiz)</td>
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<td>Aug. 30</td>
<td>Th – Tucker, Ch. 3, 31-53</td>
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<td>Sept. 4</td>
<td>T – Tucker, Ch. 4, 54-70</td>
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<td>Sept. 6</td>
<td>Th – Test</td>
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Sept. 11, T – Tucker, Ch. 5, 71-90
Sept. 18, T – Tucker, Ch. 8, 112-127
Sept. 25, T – Tucker, Ch. 10, 144-161

Sept. 13, Th – Tucker, Ch. 6 & 7, 91-110
Sept. 20, Th – Tucker, Ch. 9, 128-143
Sept. 27, Th – Test

Oct. 2, T – Fall Break, No Class
Oct. 9, T – Modern Turkey 162-66, 192-93
Oct. 16, T – Saudi Arabia 170-73, 193-94
Oct. 23, T – Finish Study Guide, Ch. 11-15
Nov. 1, Thurs. Lebanon & Syria since W.W. I Tucker, 184-88, 199-200, 228, 237-38, 265-70
Nov. 6, Tues. Jordan since World War I Tucker, 183-84, 198, 234-237, 258-262
Nov. 8, Thurs. Iran since World War I Tucker, 166-70, 190-92, 249-256, 287-295
Nov. 15, Thurs. Test
Nov. 20, Tuesday Thanksgiving Break, No class
Tucker, 157-160, 178-81, 196-98, 202-212
No. 22, Thursday Thanksgiving Break, No class
232-241
Chapters 1,2,3 – pp. 3-63
Nov. 27, Tues. Palestine-Israeli Conflict (1) Tucker, 258-262, 315-17, 327-335, 350-55
Nov. 29, Thurs. Palestine-Israeli Conflict (2) Begin reading and taking notes from Sherbok & Alami, The Palestine-Israeli Conflict
The novel Dawn, by Elie Wiesel, is due
Dec. 4, Tues Palestine-Israeli Conflict (3) Chapters 8,9,10 – pp. 137-193 plus
Dec. 6, Thurs. Palestine-Israeli Conflict (4) “Debate” pp. 259-282
Dec. 10-14 Final Exam
Additional Information:

Office Hours:  Tuesday & Thursday, 11:30 – 1:00, or by Appointment  
Office: 604, Schott Hall

Cell Phone: 513-284-2754  
Mailbox: 505 Schott (History Dept. Office) or in plastic box on my door at 604 Schott

Email: uhrigj@xavier.edu

Poor attendance (more than 3 absences) will have a negative impact on the final grade (your grade will be lowered, unless you have a serious excuse.)  Makeup tests need a doctor’s note.  They should be made up prior to the next scheduled class.  No makeups for quizzes.  Extra credit is available in the form of book reviews upon request.  Any book project will raise a major test grade one letter grade.  These must be written according to an assigned format.  READ ALL ASSIGNMENTS WHEN THEY ARE DUE!  This facilitates discussion!  No texting nor cell phone use during class.  Turn the phone off and put it away until class is over.  Laptops for notetaking will be permitted by request of student and permission of instructor.  All tests, the final exam and any projects will count equally for the final grade.  Quiz scores for the semester will be tabulated and given a curved test grade equal to the other tests.