An Introduction to the History of the Middle East in the Modern Period

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Course Description:

This course aims to introduce students to critical historical processes and themes that have shaped the development of the Middle East from the late Ottoman period until the present. The course will cover some of the major political, social, economic, and cultural transformations, including but not limited to: the transition from Ottoman to colonial rule, the rise of territorial states, various forms of nationalism, inter-Arab politics, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and the Islamic revival and the jihadi phenomenon.

Grading:
Class preparation, attendance, and participation – 15%
Early Term essay – 15%
Final Paper – 70%

1-2. Beginnings of the Modern Period and Middle Eastern Encounters with Europe

Asher Susser and Duygu Atlas, The Emergence of the Modern Middle East (Tel Aviv: The Moshe Dayan Center, Tel Aviv University, 2017), pp. 1-20.


3. Modernity, Tradition, and the Age of Reform

Asher Susser and Duygu Atlas, The Emergence of the Modern Middle East (Tel Aviv: The Moshe Dayan Center, Tel Aviv University, 2017), pp. 21-38.

4. Islamic Modernism: al-Afghani and ‘Abduh


5-6. Rise of Nationalism; the Decline of Empire

Asher Susser and Duygu Atlas, *The Emergence of the Modern Middle East* (Tel Aviv: The Moshe Dayan Center, Tel Aviv University, 2017), pp. 47-64.


6-7. World War I and New States


Asher Susser and Duygu Atlas, *The Emergence of the Modern Middle East* (Tel Aviv: The Moshe Dayan Center, Tel Aviv University, 2017), pp. 77-114.


8. Ataturk and Turkey after World War I


9. Reza Shah and Iran after World War I


10. Mossadegh: Iran and Oil Nationalization


11. The Rise of the Ba'ath Party and Arab Nationalism


12-13. Nasser and Politics of Arab Nationalism


14. The June 1967 Six Day War


15. The Post-1967 Reckoning


**16. Kurdish Nationalism**


**17. The Iranian Revolution of 1978-1979**


**18. Islamism**


**19-20. Israel, Jordan, and Palestine**


**21. The 2011 Arab Uprisings**


22. Iraq and Syria: The Islamic State and the Kurds


Michael Weiss and Hassan Hassan, ISIS: Inside the Army of Terror (New York: Regan Arts, 2015.)


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TAU International Course Guidelines

Rules and Respectful Behavior

- No cell phones or laptops permitted in class unless approved by instructor for use
- Tardiness to class is not permitted
- As our courses bring together students from many different styles of learning and from a wide variety of home institutions, we ask that students remain respectful to and patient with fellow classmates at all time as some students may be more familiar with certain course material or procedures than others.

Learning Accommodations

In accordance to University guidelines, students with learning disabilities or accommodation requests must submit official documentation from their home country / university (translated into English by notary if not already in English) to TAU International (tauiacademic@tauex.tau.ac.il) in advance of arrival describing in detail any specific needs they have. Students must also bring a copy of this documentation with them on-site and give it to their faculty on the first day of class while introducing themselves so that the faculty know who they are and what sorts of needs they may have. TAU International and its faculty cannot guarantee that all accommodations received at the home school can be similarly met at TAU but certainly does the best it can to make any suitable accommodations possible that are needed.
In-class Exams
TAU does not permit, under any circumstances, taking any in-class (including mid or final) exams early or later than the scheduled exam day. When selecting courses, it is thus very important to note below if there is an in-class midterm or final exam as this date/exam cannot be changed. Early departures from the program are not approved, nor are early or exception in-class exams.

TAU International Absence Policy
Attendance is mandatory in all of the courses. Missing classes will be reflected in the final grade of the course. Up to three justified absences from classes will be accepted (for example: emergency matter or illness, both of which will require an official doctor's note sent to the faculty on the day of the absence). Such cases of absence should be reported to your lecturer immediately and again, a doctor’s note is required. Students are required to arrive on time for classes. Teachers are entitled to treat any single case of lateness and/or repeated lateness as an unjustified absence. Please note that according to TAU Academic Policy, if a student's behavior or attendance during the semester is disagreeable his/her course participation may be cancelled at the discretion of TAU.

Students are responsible for reading and adhering to the policies and procedures in the TAU International Academic Handbook posted here at all times.