

Fall Semester 2010

Prof. Hoffmann

**GO 239 - THE MIDDLE EAST**

Books for Purchase:

Ellen Lust, ed., The Middle East, 12th edition

Bickerton and Klausner, A History of the Arab-Israel Conflict, 6<sup>th</sup> edition

Abdel Bari Atwan, The Secret History of al Qaeda

Tariq Ramadan, In the Footsteps of the Prophet

**Section A. The American Role in the Middle East**

Sept. 7-23 The British Empire, the Middle East and the U.S.

In The Middle East textbook, please read:

Amaney Jamal, "Actors, Public Opinion, and Participation," pp. 193-198, 208-209.

Mark Tessler, "The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict," pp. 264-276, 302-313.

Marc Lynch, "Regional Interational Relations," pp. 334-340

Francesco Cavatorta, "International Politics of the Middle East," pp. 460-485.

James Barr, Setting the Desert on Fire, pp. 9-33, 137-145 (on Skidmore's "Blackboard" website).

Bickerton and Klausner, History of the Arab Israeli Conflict 4-14, 15-54, 65-88, 96-108, 132-149, 384-387.

Pres. Barak Obama, Speech in Cairo, Egypt, "Remarks by the President on a New Beginning," June 4, 2009 (Blackboard website).

Sept. 28-30 The U.S., Israel, and the Middle East

Bickerton and Klausner, History of the Arab Israeli Conflict, pp. 390-400.

Dennis Ross and David Makovsky, Myths, Illusions and Peace, pp. 269-288 (Blackboard).

Asher Arian, "Israel" in The Middle East, pp. 461-485.

Benoit Challand, "Palestinian Authority," in The Middle East pp. 603-631.

More from current press...

**Oct. 4 (Monday) - - - - - First Take Home Exam Due**

**Section B. The American Supported "State System" in the Middle East**

Oct. 7-12 Turkey and Egypt Compared

Mine Eder, "Turkey," in The Middle East, pp. 730-760,  
and Tarek Masoud, "Egypt," in The Middle East. pp. 387-410.

Oct. 14-19 Syria and Lebanon

Raymond Hinnebusch, "Syria, in The Middle East, pp. 675-700,  
and Paul Salem, "Lebanon," in The Middle East, pp. 530-550.

Oct. 21 Iraq

Eric Davis, "Iraq," in The Middle East, pp. 437-459.

Oct. 26-30 Saudi Arabia and Jordan

Pascal Menoret, "Saudi Arabia," pp. 659-673, and Laurie Brand,  
"Jordan," in The Middle East, pp. 486-510.

**Nov. 1 (Monday) - - - - - Second Take Home Examination Due**

**Section C. Opposition to the U.S-Middle East System**

Nov. 2-11 Islam and Islamism

Ramadan, In the Footsteps of the Prophet, pp. ix-xii, 1-7, 29-49,  
70-79, 89-93, 99-100, 107-109, 122-127, 129-146, 162-163.

187-190.

Paul Berman, The Flight of the Intellectuals, pp. 158-204  
(Blackboard).

Nov. 16-18

Hamas and Hezbollah

Hamas Covenant (Blackboard)

Berman, The Flight...(see above), pp. 55-97 (Blackboard).

Ross and Makovsky, Myths, Illusions, and Peace, pp. 251-267  
(Blackboard).

Nov. 30 –  
Dec. 2

Al-Qaeda

Seyyid Qutb, “Milestones,” pp. 17-86. (Blackboard website).

Transcript of Bin Laden's October Interview, February 5, 2002;  
CNN. Com/world. (Blackboard website).

Abdul Bari Atwan, Secret History of Al Qaeda, pp. 9-119.

Dec. 7-9

Iran and Ahmedinejad

Vali Nasr, The Shia Revival, pp. 147-158, 211-226  
(Blackboard)

Mehrad Boroujerdi, “Iran,” in The Middle East, pp. 411-436.

There will be a take-home final exam, on Section C, to come in during exam week.

**Some information that students usually find useful during the semester:**

The dates listed above show each time-period during which we shall be reading certain material. There is no need to do all of the reading for that section of the course before the start of that time-period, but all of that reading should be finished during that time so that we can go on to the next section. At the end of some of the classes, the most pertinent readings for the next class will be announced. To keep up to date on the Middle East affairs, the class will also be assigned articles from newspapers, magazines, journals,

etc., when they become available, and shall be used for class discussions. Students will then be responsible for those articles on the next exam along with the other assigned readings.

The written work of the class will include two take-home tests and a final examination that sums up the last portion of the course, and should be turned in during the scheduled final exam week.

The notes you take from lectures should be detailed, but should not focus on factual material alone. Instead they should cover important concepts, abstractions, nuances, exceptions to rules, non-common sense reasoning, and the great variety of ‘is, ands, or buts’ that are so important in political life. Important and accurate points made in class by your fellow students should be in your notes too, and not just points made by the professor.

The “cut policy” here will be as follows. One or two missed classes will incur no questions or penalties, and will be regarded as your own private matter. But a pattern of cutting will result in loss of credit on the course grade. If you must miss a class for reasons such as illness, a family emergency, a job interview, or an athletic team commitment, please let me know, preferably in advance.

If you find that you are going to be slightly late to a class, please come anyway rather than miss it. People will be glad to see you, although they will want you to slip in unobtrusively.

All private business should be taken care of before or after class. When a class is in session, no one should leave the room for any reason except a genuine emergency. If you think you will have to leave class early on any given day, please let me know before the class starts.