



University of North Texas
College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences
Department of History
HIST 3460: History of the Modern Middle East
Professor Nancy L. Stockdale
Wintermester 2024

Welcome to HIST 3460, A History of the Modern Middle East! Please download this syllabus and refer to it throughout the semester. It will always be available online on our Canvas site, too.

Professor Contact Information

Office Location: Online only. I will not be holding physical office hours this semester.

Office Hours: I will have Zoom office hours on Tuesdays from 2 PM-3 PM and by appointment. The Zoom link is <https://unt.zoom.us/my/nancystockdale> and they are drop-in. Also, I am happy to make appointments online, using Zoom, which is a free-to-you service provided through the university. We can connect on Zoom using video or audio-only interfaces on your phone, computer, or tablet, at a time that works for both of us. Just email me or message me in Canvas to set up an appointment, or come to my Tuesday hours.

Email: stockdale@unt.edu or message me through Canvas.

Pronouns: She/Her/Hers **Titles:** Dr./Prof.

Communication Expectations: For this online course, I will check my email at least once per day Monday-Friday during regular business hours, so please remember that you will not necessarily receive an instant reply from me, but I will answer your email in a timely manner. When emailing me, please identify yourself by giving me your entire name, the class you are in, and your specific question or request.

Teaching Assistant Contact Information

Our TA is Mr. Peter Sutherland. You may contact him via email at petersutherland@my.unt.edu. Mr. Sutherland will hold virtual email office hours via Zoom on Mondays from 1-2 PM. The link will be announced in advance on Canvas.

Course Description

From the UNT Catalogue: "Historical foundations of contemporary ideologies, conflicts and cultures in the modern Middle East. Explores the role of imperialism in shaping the modern Middle East; explores the impact of religion and political ideologies on contemporary conflicts over space and resources; and examines how popular culture can influence political and social events through modern history."

In this class, students will learn the historical foundations of contemporary ideologies, conflicts, and cultures in the modern Middle East. There will be an emphasis on the histories of Egypt, Israel, Palestine, Iraq, and Iran, although we will also touch on the histories of other nations as well. We will explore the role of imperialism in shaping the modern Middle East, the impact of religion and political ideologies on contemporary

conflicts over space and resources, and examine how popular culture can influence political and social events. This class will be taught primarily from Middle Eastern perspectives, and will include many contrasting Middle Eastern voices, to give students a wider sense of the variety of issues, ideas, and historical conclusions concerning this dynamic and influential region. Students should leave this course having a clear understanding of some of the most important historical events and movements in modern Middle Eastern history, as well as the ways that the region ties into larger political, social, and economic trends in modern World history.

Pre-requisites: None.

Course Objectives

In this course, I have identified some key learning objectives:

- 1) Students will identify and analyze historical foundations of various modern Middle Eastern histories, from the 18th-21st centuries.
- 2) Students will demonstrate their understanding of modern Middle Eastern histories through discussions in the forums, as well as their final paper.
- 3) Students will engage with a variety of primary and secondary source materials, including contrasting Middle Eastern voices, to give them a wider sense of the variety of issues, ideas, and historical conclusions concerning this dynamic and influential region.

Required Materials

There are two books required for this class. There is one recommended book, but it is not a required book. You may purchase the books through the UNT Bookstore, access them from the UNT Library, or find them through other vendors of your choice. There are also some film/videos in our modules, which are all available for streaming through our Canvas site and PPT files. A variety of primary sources are embedded into the course modules as well, complete with links for accessing them directly from Canvas. Alternative text is provided for all PPT images.

Required Books, in reading order:

Joe Sacco, *Footnotes in Gaza*
Riverbend, *Baghdad Burning*

Recommended – but not required – book:

James Gelvin, *The Modern Middle East: A History*. This book provides an excellent narrative history of the region, including crucial histories of countries we will not be able to cover in our Wintermester class.

I cannot stress enough how important it is for you to keep up and complete all of your assigned readings. You will be expected to integrate this information into our Canvas discussions and your final paper. If you have trouble understanding any of the readings, feel free to bring this up with me, my TA, and/or with your peers in the discussion

forums. Assignments for the books are located in the calendar section of this syllabus. Study questions for each of the readings are integrated into the modules.

Technical Support

Student Helpdesk: UIT Helpdesk, Sage Hall 130, 940-565-2324, helpdesk@unt.edu

Technical Skill Requirements

To be successful in this course, students should be proficient in creating Word .doc and/or .docx documents (or other compatible word processing program documents), downloading and uploading files – including .doc, .pdf, .ppt, .jpg, and other common file types, sending and receiving emails, and using the Canvas learning management system. You will need a computer and/or tablet that is capable of smoothly running the UNT Canvas system, watching videos through Canvas and other internet sites, and uploading/downloading files. You will need to be able to view .doc, .pdf, and .ppt files. (Canvas will provide this ability, but it is best if you can access these files from your own device, after downloading them.) Please contact me if you are having trouble with any of these skills or obtaining said technology. **Please turn on notifications for announcements in this class. This will be the primary way that I will communicate with the class.**

Netiquette

In this class, we will be engaging with one another via online communication – using the discussion board, exchanging emails, and using online chat. It is important that everyone be aware of online etiquette – known as ‘Netiquette’ – and treat each other with mutual respect. A helpful site for understanding appropriate online communication is Albion’s “The Core Rules of Netiquette”:

<http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>. Thank you in advance for using respectful and mature online communication skills.

Course Requirements

<i>Assignment</i>	<i>Points Possible</i>	<i>Percentage of Final Grade</i>
<i>Final Paper</i>	<i>250 points</i>	<i>50%</i>
<i>Participation</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>5 Discussion Forums @ 50 points ea.</i>	<i>250 points</i>	<i>50%</i>
<i>Total Points Possible</i>	<i>500 points</i>	<i>100%</i>

Grading

Your grade for the course will be weighted as follows: Discussion forums – 50%, Final Paper – 50%. If you have any questions about your grades once received, please address those concerns with me, but wait at least 24 hours after receiving them. There is no curve in this class.

I will use the following scale for grades:

100-90% = A

89-80% = B

79-70% = C

69-60% = D

59-0% = F

Turning in things late: My general policy is that I do not accept late assignments. However, we live in turbulent times, and I am very aware that things may arise that make deadlines challenging. Please meet our deadlines. If something comes up to prevent you from turning things in on time, reach out to me. ***This class moves very quickly, so make sure you know when things are due and have a plan for meeting your deadlines. Make your plan right now for the entire Wintermester session.***

Course Expectations

As the instructor in this course, I am responsible for:

- providing course materials that will assist and enhance your achievement of the stated course goals, and giving you guidance,
- providing timely and helpful feedback within the stated guidelines,
- assisting in maintaining a positive learning environment for everyone.

As a student in this course, you are responsible for:

- reading and completing all requirements of the course in a timely manner,
- working to remain attentive and engaged in the course and interact with your fellow students,
- assisting in maintaining a positive learning environment for everyone.

Calendar

Because of the condensed nature of this course, I am making everything available to you on the first day – including your final paper assignment. Below you will find the due dates for your work. Please feel free to work ahead, turn things in ahead, and stay on top of things, so that you don't fall behind.

Module 1: Introductions to the Modern Middle East

PPT 1 – Introduction to the Modern Middle East

PPT 2 – Ottoman Hegemony in the Arab Middle East

PPT 3 – Napoleon in Egypt--the beginning and the end for the Modern Middle East

Assignment: Personal Introductions, due 19 December 2023 by 11:59 PM

Assignment: Discussion Board #1, due 20 December 2023 by 11:59 PM

Module 2: European Fantasies and Middle Eastern Realities

PPT 4 – Orientalism

PPT 5 – Nationalism and Imperialism in Iran

Assignment: Discussion Board #2, due 22 December 2023 by 11:59 PM

Module 3: Modernity & its “Isms”

PPT 6 – Zionism and Other Imports

PPT 7 – Competing “Isms” in the Middle East

Assignment: Discussion Board #3, 4 January 2024 by 11:59 PM

Module 4: The 20th Century, Full-Blown

PPT 8: Origins of the Israel-Palestine Conflict

PPT 9: Nasserism

Reading: Joe Sacco, *Footnotes in Gaza*

Assignment: Discussion Board #4, due 9 January 2024 by 11:59 PM

Module 5: Iran, Iraq, and the New World Order

PPT 10: The Islamic Revolution in Iran

PPT 11: Petrochemicals and the Gulf War

Reading: Riverbend, *Baghdad Burning*

Assignment: Discussion Board #5, due 11 January 2024 by 11:59 PM

FINAL PAPER

The final paper is due on 12 January 2024 by 5:00 PM Central Time

Policies**Plagiarism and Cheating**

Plagiarism and cheating take many forms, including, but not limited to: the use of another author's words without citation, cutting and pasting uncited materials from the internet, having someone else do your work and claiming it as your own, and copying from another student's paper or exam. All writing is the intellectual property of the person who came up with it; just think about what would happen if you suddenly starting marketing Microsoft Word as your own software, or released downloads of Billie Eilish songs claiming to be her --this is plagiarism. If you are caught cheating or plagiarizing, you may be expelled from UNT. Trust me, I will catch you and I will submit your files for review by the university. If you are still unsure at any time during the semester as to what plagiarism is, please come and talk to me. You may read more the UNT academic integrity policy here: <https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003>

ADA Policy

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking reasonable accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with a reasonable accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request reasonable accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of reasonable accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of reasonable accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. (For our online course, “meet

with” can be accomplished virtually.) Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of reasonable accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information see the Office of Disability Access website at <http://disability.unt.edu/>. You may also contact them by phone at [940.565.4323](tel:940.565.4323).

Important Notice for F-1 Students taking Distance Education Courses

Federal Regulation

To read detailed Immigration and Customs Enforcement regulations for F-1 students taking online courses, please go to the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations website at <http://www.ecfr.gov/>. The specific portion concerning distance education courses is located at Title 8 CFR 214.2 Paragraph (f)(6)(i)(G).

The paragraph reads:

(G) For F-1 students enrolled in classes for credit or classroom hours, no more than the equivalent of one class or three credits per session, term, semester, trimester, or quarter may be counted toward the full course of study requirement if the class is taken on-line or through distance education and does not require the student's physical attendance for classes, examination or other purposes integral to completion of the class. An on-line or distance education course is a course that is offered principally through the use of television, audio, or computer transmission including open broadcast, closed circuit, cable, microwave, or satellite, audio conferencing, or computer conferencing. If the F-1 student's course of study is in a language study program, no on-line or distance education classes may be considered to count toward a student's full course of study requirement.

University of North Texas Compliance

To comply with immigration regulations, an F-1 visa holder within the United States may need to engage in an on-campus experiential component for this course. This component (which must be approved in advance by the instructor) can include activities such as taking an on-campus exam, participating in an on-campus lecture or lab activity, or other on-campus experience integral to the completion of this course.

If such an on-campus activity is required, it is the student's responsibility to do the following:

- (1) Submit a written request to the instructor for an on-campus experiential component within one week of the start of the course.
- (2) Ensure that the activity on campus takes place and the instructor documents it in writing with a notice sent to the International Student and Scholar Services Office. ISSS has a form available that you may use for this purpose.

Because the decision may have serious immigration consequences, if an F-1 student is unsure about his or her need to participate in an on-campus experiential component for this course, s/he should contact the UNT International Student and Scholar Services Office (telephone 940-565-2195 or email internationaladvising@unt.edu) to get clarification before the one-week deadline.

Please note: Dr. Stockdale reserves the right to change this syllabus.