

HSTR 366: Middle East in the 20th Century

Spring 2014

Mon Wed Fri 9:00-9:50 Cheever Hall 213

Dale Martin, instructor dlmartin@montana.edu

Office Wilson Hall 2-163, 994-5204, hours 10:00-11:00, and by appointment

Occasional email messages to entire class by @sympa.montana.edu.

The course will examine the Middle East from the late 19th century. Themes and topics will include:

- the "long decade" of the First World War and its aftermath, 1914-1925, that shaped the following century
- political, military, and economic intervention of foreign powers
- regional responses to intervention from outside, including the development of nationalism and Islamic revival
- Zionism and Israel
- petroleum and its implications
- the role of the United States in the region,
- the presence of history evident in current issues and daily news

Required texts:

- Fromkin, *A Peace to End All Peace: The Fall of the Ottoman Empire and the Creation of the Modern Middle East*
- Gelvin, *The Israel-Palestine Conflict: One Hundred Years of War*, 3d ed.
- Trofimov, *The Siege of Mecca: The 1979 Uprising at Islam's Holiest Shrine*
- There will be also be assigned readings on the internet in the latter part of the course.

WORK AND EVALUATION:

The course's graded work will consist of 5 equal parts, each worth 20% of the final course grade: 2 short papers, 2 exams, and the 5th portion based on the cumulative scores of the best 5 of 7 unannounced Friday quizzes.

For each book and associated lectures, a study guide will list several topics and themes, from which the topics of the papers and exams will be derived. Note appropriate sections or passages in the book and related lecture references. The papers and exams will require specific citations and documentation. You will be encouraged to write and explain with accuracy, clarity, and brevity.

In the case of borderline final course grades, attendance and improvement will be considered.

MISSED, LATE WORK:

To avoid a penalty, **keep me informed**. For anticipated absences, make arrangements before. For unexpected absences, leave a message on day of exam or paper due. No make-up quizzes for absences without prompt notification.

