

Course Syllabus: A History of the Modern Middle East: 1789-present

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**Course Objectives:** The objective of this course is to examine the history of the Middle East with particular emphasis on the century involving the First World War and the century thereafter (1914-2020).

### Course Requirements

There are a number of requirements for the successful completion of this course.

1. In the first week of class—or before—send me an email through the Sul Ross email server and let me know that you have read the syllabus and that you understand the requirements for the course and have obtained the books or are in the process of obtaining the books. You will also agree to maintain semi-regular contact with me, when I do not hear from a student in a number of weeks I cannot be expected to figure out what the problem is, it is up to you to maintain contact with me, I can only meet you half-way.
2. You are required to read the books, and write weekly summaries of the readings and submit those reviews through Blackboard. The reviews should be five pages per assignment, and provide a summary of the readings as well as an analysis of why it is important to the history of the Modern Middle East
3. Each assignment is worth 100 points; therefore, your total grades for the written weekly assignments is potentially 1,100 points. For each assignment; 90-100=A; 80-89=B; 70-79=C; 60-69=D; 0-59=F.
4. At the end of the course, you will be required to write a fifteen to twenty page research paper on a topic of Middle Eastern history (a topic that I must approve). The paper must be formatted according to the MLA handbook, properly cited (I prefer footnotes but endnotes are acceptable) and a proper bibliography. Potential topics could include a wide range of subjects—
5. The total number of points for the paper will be 900 points. 810-900=A; 720-809=B; 630-719=C; 540-629=D; 0-539=F.

At the end of the course, you will have a potential of 2000 points; 1,800-2000=A; 1,600-1799=B; 1,400-1,599=C; 1,200-1,399=D; 0-1,199=F.

### Course Required Readings

1. *A History of the Modern Middle East* by William L. Cleveland and Martin Bunton; 6<sup>th</sup> edition, 2016. Westview Press, ISBN # 978-0813349800

This is a great textbook, the best I have used on 30 years of teaching this subject. Textbooks may seem to be a bit tedious to read, but the core information is essential to gaining an understanding of the complexities of the Modern Middle East.

2. *All the Shah's Men: An American Coup and the Roots of Middle East Terror* by Stephen Kinzer; Wiley Press, ISBN # 0-471-67878-3

3. Children of the Alley: A Novel by Naguib Mahfouz, 1995, Anchor Press, ISBN # 978-0385264730

### **DIS TANCE EDUCATION STATEMENT**

Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, library resources, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources, visit the SRSU website. Students should submit online assignments through Blackboard or SRSU email, which require secure login information to verify students' identities and to protect students' information. The procedures for filing a student complaint are included in the student handbook. Students enrolled in distance education courses at Sul Ross are expected to adhere to all policies pertaining to academic honesty and appropriate student conduct, as described in the student handbook. Students in web-based courses must maintain appropriate equipment and software, according to the needs and requirements of the course, as outlined on the SRSU website.

### **Course Outline**

**Jan. 13—email me and let me know that you have read the syllabus and have obtained or are in the process of obtaining the required books**

**Jan. 20-Cleveland chapters one, two, and three.**

**Jan. 27-Cleveland--chapters four, five, and six.**

**Feb. 03-Cleveland-chapters seven, eight, and nine.**

**Feb. 10-Cleveland-chapters ten, eleven, twelve, and thirteen**

**Feb. 17-Cleveland-chapters thirteen, fourteen, and fifteen**

**Feb. 24-Cleveland chapters 14 and *All the Shah's Men* by Kinzer**

**Mar. 02-Cleveland chapters fifteen, sixteen, and seventeen.**

**Mar. 09-spring break**

**Mar. 16-Cleveland chapters eighteen, nineteen, and twenty**

**Mar. 23-Cleveland chapters twenty-one, twenty-two, and twenty-three**

**Mar 30-Cleveland chapters twenty-four, twenty-five, and twenty-six**

**Apr. 03---last day to withdraw from course with a grade of a "W"**

**April 13—Children of the Alley due**

**May 01-final papers due Friday at 12 noon.**

**Marketable Skills for History Degree**

SLO 1—The history student will demonstrate historical research skills in a logically organized, written paper that is mechanically correct and supported by relevant documentation of historical content.

Marketable skills---Students can identify useful resources from a pool of data.  
Students can select and organize data in a relevant manner.  
Students can make written presentations to various audiences.

SLO 2—The history student will demonstrate the ability to write about topics in historiography and how those topics are interpreted.

Marketable skills---Students can utilize data to persuade various audiences.  
Students can utilize data to generate and strengthen ideas.  
Students can decipher stances adopted by various individuals.

SLO 3—The history student will demonstrate knowledge of American History, World History, and Non-American History.

Marketable Skills---Students can meet deadlines in a successful manner.  
Students can discharge responsibilities in an adequate manner.  
Students can manage the absorption of data.