

MIDDLE EASTERN CIVILIZATION

HIST/RELS 177 – FALL 2019

130 SCIENCE & ENGINEERING SOUTH – MW 3:00-3:50

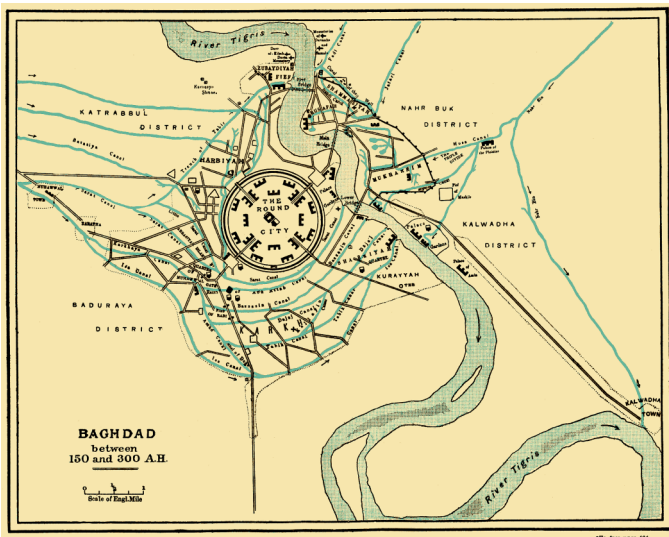
DISCUSSIONS: FRIDAYS 3:00-3:50 & 4:00-4:50
(ETMSW 2219 & 2419)

This course surveys the history of the Middle East from the pre-Islamic era to recent events and debates. You will study the culture and milieu in which Islam emerged, its remarkably quick expansion, the new cultural syntheses these early conquests produced, and the political and religious forms they engendered.



As we move into the more stable middle period, you will learn about the similarities and differences between the various empires that ruled the areas now known as the Middle East, and how they produced distinctive identities while drawing on a common heritage. Towards the end of the

semester, we will examine the impact of European colonialism, attempts at modernization in the turbulent nineteenth and twentieth centuries, and the particular challenges that face the Middle East today. Throughout, we pay attention to the various political, religious, economic and social components of the historical moments we study, as well as the various sectors of Middle Eastern society.



COURSE PERSONNEL

Instructor:

Junaid Quadri

email: jquadri@uic.edu

925 University Hall

Office Hours: T 2:00-3:00, W
2:00-3:00, or by appointment

Teaching Assistant:

Zukhra Kasimova

email: zkasim2@uic.edu

1031 University Hall

Office Hours: W, Th, F 1:00-
3:00 pm, or by appointment

Teaching Assistant:

Hashim Ali

email: hali25@uic.edu

1002 University Hall

Office Hours: F 10:00-12:00, or
by appointment

COURSE EVALUATION

Attendance & Participation (15%) — See Attendance Policy below. Please also note that lectures are intended to **supplement** the readings. Neither is a substitute for the other.

Tests (15% each) — These tests will take place in class on **Monday, September 30** and **Monday, October 28**. You will be asked to respond to questions in multiple-choice, short answer and essay form. This test is meant to test your comprehension of the material from both the readings and lectures, as well as your ability to synthesize, compare, analyze, and respond to that material.

Research Paper (25%) — The research paper is your chance to explore a topic related to the course in greater depth. The purpose of this assignment is to provide you with an opportunity to develop your research skills and to give you experience writing **an extended essay** on a topic of your choosing. You will be provided a list of topics, and an article associated with each from which to begin your research. Choose one topic/article. Alternatively, you may choose to research a topic not provided on our list, in which case the topic (and associated base article) will have to first be approved by me or the TAs. You are strongly encouraged to **start early** and **work consistently** throughout the semester (Research and writing take time!!). The evaluation for your research paper will proceed in three stages. By **Friday, September 20 (stage 1)**, you must choose your topic and submit your choice on Blackboard. On **Friday, October 11 (stage 2)**, we will expect a summary of the base article (**500 words**), and a list of **3-5 sources** on which you intend to rely upon for further research. This portion will account for 10% of your final grade. On **Friday, November 22 (stage 3)**, we will expect your final paper (**2000 words**), which builds upon your summary of the base article by incorporating it with your other sources (the 3-5 sources identified in stage 2). You may choose to compare or contrast the base article to your other sources, or expand upon the themes of your base article by reference to your other sources. This will account for 15% of your final grade. Course personnel are available any time before **November 15** to discuss the progress of your paper, and even to read drafts of what you have written. **Please take advantage of this!** A good paper is one that takes time to write. **Please start early!** More details will follow in the coming weeks.

Final Exam (30%) — The University will schedule a final exam during the final exam period (**December 9-13**). You will be tested on your comprehension of, and ability to analyze, the material covered throughout the semester (readings and lectures) in the form of multiple-choice, short-answer and essay questions.

COURSE MATERIALS

There are two required texts for this course:

Albert Hourani, *A History of the Arab Peoples: With a New Afterword* (Cambridge, MA: Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 2010)

James L. Gelvin, *The Modern Middle East: A History* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2015), 4th edition

Both are available at the UIC Bookstore and on reserve at Daley Library:

In addition, there will occasionally be other readings to which you will be provided access. I will post links (or complete citations) to these on the course Blackboard page (uic.blackboard.com).

CALENDAR OF IMPORTANT COURSE DEADLINES

September 20 (Friday)	Stage 1 of Paper Due
September 30 (Monday)	Test 1 (In-class)
October 11 (Friday)	Stage 2 of Paper Due (Summary & Sources)
October 28 (Monday)	Test 2 (In-class)
November 22 (Friday)	Research Paper (Final Draft) Due
December 9-13	Final Exam Period

GRADING SCALE

A	85% - 100%
B	75% - 84%
C	65% - 74%
D	50% - 64%
F	< 50%

COURSE POLICIES

Attendance Policy: Students are expected to attend class and be prepared to discuss the assigned readings. Both attending class and participating in class discussions are **vital** to your success in this course. To reflect the importance of this component of the class, a significant portion of your grade (15%) has been reserved for attendance and participation. Students may miss up to three (3) classes throughout the semester. These are meant for dealing with life's many (and often unexpected) contingencies. Subsequent absences, however, will adversely affect your grade, unless you can provide acceptable documentation for **all** your absences. Please note that, because one cannot participate when one is absent, missing many classes will affect **both** portions of the grade.

Religious Holidays: Students who wish to observe religious holidays should notify me of the date they will be absent by the end of the second week of the semester.

Missed or Late Work Policy: A large part of your success at UIC and beyond will depend on your meeting deadlines. The deadlines for all evaluations in this course are listed in the calendar in this syllabus. In order to ensure that you are eligible for the maximum possible grade, you are expected to submit all work by the due date given. **Late submissions will be penalized 5% per day up to a maximum of five days. After five days, I will be unable to accept your submission.** Those who miss a test or an exam will be asked to provide relevant documentation (e.g., a doctor's note in case of illness). In cases of extenuating circumstances, please let me know well in advance.

Student Courtesy Policy: Please ensure that your time in class is well-spent, and that your behavior is not disruptive to your classmates. This means refraining from private conversations in class, as well as online distractions such as social media, text messaging, web browsing, or anything else that will hinder your participation in class. **Improper use of the internet during class time will result in that session being recorded as an absence and will adversely affect your participation grade.**

Academic Integrity Policy: As an academic community, UIC is committed to providing an environment in which learning, research, and scholarship can flourish and in which all endeavors are guided by academic and professional integrity. All members of the campus community—students, staff, faculty, and administrators—share the responsibility of insuring that these standards are upheld so that such an environment exists. Instances of academic misconduct are taken very seriously at UIC, and the associated penalties can be serious; they will be handled pursuant to the Student Disciplinary Policy available at: <https://dos.uic.edu/community-standards/academic-integrity/>. In particular, **please review the FAQ at https://edelberg.people.uic.edu/crediting_others/index.htm to ensure that your work steers well clear of anything that could be construed as plagiarism.**

Disability Accommodation: UIC is committed to maintaining a barrier-free environment so that students with disabilities can fully access the programs, courses, services, and activities on offer. Students with disabilities who require accommodations for access to and/or participation in this course are welcome, but must be registered with the Disability Resource Center (DRC). You may contact DRC at 312-413-2183 (and/or consult the following link: <https://drc.uic.edu>).

Grievance Procedures: UIC is committed to the most fundamental principles of academic freedom, equality of opportunity, and human dignity involving students and employees. Freedom from discrimination is a foundation for all decision making at UIC. Students are encouraged to study the University's "[Nondiscrimination Statement](#)". Students are also urged to read the document "[Public Formal Grievance Procedures](#)".

READING AND ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE

Monday 8/26	Introduction to Class	Wednesday 8/28	What is the Middle East? <i>(NB: No sections on Friday 8/30)</i>
Monday 9/2	Labor Day (No class)	Wednesday 9/4	Thinking about History <u>Readings:</u> - Ira Lapidus, pp. 26-30 (Blackboard); - Patricia Crone, "What do we actually know about Mohammed?" (link)
Monday 9/9	Thinking about History (cont'd) No additional readings	Wednesday 9/11	The Pre-Islamic Milieu <u>Readings:</u> Hourani, pp. 1-14
Monday 9/16	The Pre-Islamic Milieu (cont'd) No additional readings	Wednesday 9/18	The Prophetic Mission: "What Muhammad came with..." <u>Readings:</u> - Hourani, pp. 14-21 - Izutsu, pp. 45-54 & 28-31 (Blackboard)
Monday 9/23	The Arab-Muslim Conquests & The "Trials" of Succession <u>Readings:</u> - Hourani, pp. 22-25 - L. Hazelton, pp. 83-90, 98-100, 125-143 (Blackboard)	Wednesday 9/25	The Umayyad Empire <u>Readings:</u> Hourani, pp. 25-32
Monday 9/30	TEST 1	Wednesday 10/2	The Abbasid Revolution <u>Readings:</u> Hourani, pp. 32-37
Monday 10/7	The Abbasid Decline & Islamic Society <u>Readings:</u> Hourani, pp. 38-58	Wednesday 10/9	The Mongol Terror <u>Readings:</u> "Invaders: Destroying Baghdad" in <i>The New Yorker</i> (link)
Monday 10/14	The Post-Abbasid World <u>Readings:</u> Hourani, pp. 83-97 AND pp.113-125	Wednesday 10/16	Post-Abbasid Governance & the Mamluks <u>Readings:</u> Hourani, pp. 130-146
Monday 10/21	The Gunpowder Empires <u>Readings:</u> - Gelvin, pp. 21-31 - Hourani, pp. 209-214	Wednesday 10/23	The Changing Balance of Power <u>Readings:</u> Hourani, pp. 249-262
Monday 10/28	TEST 2	Wednesday 10/30	The Age of European Empire <u>Readings:</u> Hourani, 258-270

Monday 11/4	The Age of European Empire (cont'd) <u>Readings:</u> Gelvin, pp. 90-105	Wednesday 11/6	The Age of European Empire (cont'd) <u>Readings:</u> Gelvin, pp. 106-116 & 117-139 (photo essay)
Monday 11/11	WWI and the Nation-state System <u>Readings:</u> Gelvin, 189-219	Wednesday 11/13	The Emergence of Nationalisms <u>Readings:</u> Gelvin, 220-229
Monday 11/18	Israel-Palestine <u>Readings:</u> Gelvin, 230-247	Wednesday 11/20	The Iranian Revolution <u>Readings:</u> - "Iranian Revolution of 1978-79" in <i>Encyclopaedia Britannica</i> (link) - "Iran 1979: The Islamic Revolution that shook the world," <i>Al Jazeera</i> (link)
Monday 11/25	American Foreign Policy <u>Readings:</u> Gelvin, "The United States and the Middle East", pp. 300-316	Wednesday 11/27	The Return of Islam(ism): Is Islam Exceptional? <u>Readings:</u> Shadi Hamid, <i>Islamic Exceptionalism</i> , Chapter 1 & pp. 42-49 (Blackboard)
Monday 12/2	<i>Review Day</i>	Wednesday 12/4	<i>Review Day</i>

UIC RESOURCES

If you find yourself having difficulty with the course material or any other difficulties in your student life, **don't hesitate to ask for help!** Come to me, and I will make every effort to help. For issues beyond this class, you may wish to contact your college advisors, or get help from any number of other support services on campus. For tips and questions about advising, please visit <https://advising.uic.edu/programs/students/>.

For help with your writing, you may wish to visit **The Writing Center**, located in 105 Grant Hall. The Writing Center offers one-on-one consultation with student writers who need help developing ideas, or need advice, guidance or additional instruction on any aspects of writing in any class. Tutors are prepared to spend fifty minutes per appointment, and there is no limit to the number of tutoring sessions you can have each semester. Make an appointment and be on time! Bring the paper on which you're working, as well as any related drafts or notes, and information about the assignment. For an appointment, call the Writing Center at (312) 413-2206, or stop by room 105 of Grant Hall. Visit the Writing Center website at writingcenter.uic.edu for more information.

Public Computer Labs are available throughout campus where you may write and/or print out your work. For a list of labs and the hours they're open, go to <https://accu.uic.edu/lab/all> . NOTE: Do not wait until the last minute to print out papers. Sometimes labs have long lines of students waiting for access.

The Academic Center for Excellence can help if you feel you need more individualized instruction in reading and/or writing, study skills, time management, etc. They are at ace.uic.edu, or (312) 413-0031.

Counseling Services are available for all UIC students. You may seek free and confidential services from the Counseling Center, counseling.uic.edu. The Counseling Center is located in the Student Services Building (1200 W Harrison St., Suite 2010); you may contact them at (312) 996-3490. In addition to offering counseling services, the Counseling Center also operates the InTouch Crisis and Support Hotline from 6:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m. They offer support and referrals to callers, as well as telephone crisis interventions; please call (312) 996-5535.

CAMPUS SECURITY

At UIC, we are strongly committed to our public safety programs, and we encourage students to be proactive in learning what programs and services are available in case of an emergency. Please visit <http://www.uic.edu/life-at-uic/campus-resources>. You are DISCOURAGED from staying in university buildings, including lab rooms, alone after hours and are ENCOURAGED to use the POLICE/STUDENT patrol escort if you are uncomfortable traveling anywhere on campus. You may request an escort to accompany you to your campus destination on foot by calling 312-996-2830; and between 11:00 pm and 7:00 am you can dial the **NightRide service (312-996-6800)** if you are alone and need to leave the building. Through NightRide, the university has established a safe evening transportation service for university employees, students, visitors, and other authorized individuals. The car travels between university facilities within the [following general boundaries](#): Halsted Street on the east; Western Avenue on the west; Congress Parkway/Harrison St. and Van Buren on the north; and, Roosevelt Rd./16th St. on the south. This service is available only to individuals possessing a valid UIC i-card. The i-card is required to ensure the safety of the driver and other passengers. Consult the following for more information: <https://transportation.uic.edu/night-ride/>

You can also subscribe your cell phone to receive text message alerts in cases of emergencies. Please register your cell phone numbers here: <http://www.uic.edu/life-at-uic/campus-resources>.) Finally, by dialing 5-5555 from a campus phone, you can summon Police or Fire for any on-campus emergency. You may also set up the complete number, 1-312-355-5555, on speed-dial on your cell phone. For more information, see emergency.uic.edu.