

**History 2608**  
**Introduction to the Modern Middle East**

**Winter 2024**

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Office: **Department of History, Lawson Hall Room 2229**

Office Hours: Thursday 12:30-1:30

This is a **draft** outline. Please see the course site on OWL Brightspace for a final version.

**Course Description**

This survey course is designed to provide a scholarly based introduction to the modern history of the Middle East from 1800 to the present. The course surveys the disintegration of the Ottoman Empire, the transformation of political institutions in the region and the formation of independent Arab states in the 20th century. Ideological trends, socialism, pan-Islamism, nationalism and fundamentalism are covered as well social and economic conditions and development. The challenges faced by the modern Middle East as a whole are discussed in particular issues related to healthcare, education, family, gender and the status of women.

**Course Syllabus**

**1. Introduction to Islam, the Medieval Middle East, institutions and economic performance**

Readings: Cleveland and Bunton, 1-35  
Khater, 1-9. Discussion of paper.

**2. The Ottoman Empire in its glory and decline**

Readings: Cleveland and Bunton, 37-103.  
Khater, 38-39, 48-51.

**3. The Arabic speaking provinces under Ottoman rule**

Readings Cleveland and Bunton, 61-102.  
Khater, 162-170

**4. Westernization in the Ottoman Empire and the *Tanzimat***

Reading: Cleveland and Bunton, 57-102

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Khater, 10-18, 19-21

### **5. French occupation of Egypt, Egypt under Muhammad Ali and British Occupation**

Readings: Cleveland and Bunton, 81—119

Khater, 29-35, 51-57,

### **6. Iran**

Readings: Cleveland and Bunton, 51-56; 109-117, 175-193; 275-301

Khater, 57-64, 252-263, 286-289

### **7. The secret agreements, World War I and the new Middle East**

Readings: Cleveland and Bunton, 133-171

Khater, 128-145.

### **8. Modern Turkey**

Readings: Cleveland and Bunton, 175-193, 275-301.

Khater, 145-152, 271-276

### **9. Ideologies: from Arab Nationalism to Islamic Fundamentalism**

Readings: Cleveland and Bunton, 273-345

Khater, 162-181

### **10. Political regimes in the Modern Islamic and Middle Eastern State**

Readings: Cleveland and Bunton, 193-345, 451-557

Khater, 278-302

### **11. Challenges: Family, gender, Education, Healthcare.**

Readings: Cleveland and Bunton, 369-451.

Khater, 211-218, 263-266, 331-339, 374-379

### **12. Challenges: The Economies of the modern Middle East**

Readings: Cleveland and Bunton, 451-473.

Khater, 384-388, 411-416

### **13. Revision. Preparation for the exam**

#### **Methods of Evaluation**

#### **Breakdown of the grade:**

Participation in Tutorials	10%
Book Review	20%
Research Paper	35%
Final Exam	35%

**Timing of assignments:** *Provide your assignments on time.*

*Remember that students in 1000- and 2000-level courses should receive assessment of work accounting for at least 15% of their final grade at least three days before the deadline for withdrawing from the course without penalty.*

Make-up tests, midterms, and exams can only be approved by Academic Counselling. Please see [https://history.uwo.ca/undergraduate/program\\_module\\_information/policies.html](https://history.uwo.ca/undergraduate/program_module_information/policies.html) for department procedures and requirements involving make-up tests and exams.

#### **Absences and Late Assignments**

*Ccourse policies accord with the advice given by Social Science Academic Counselling on [Absence & Academic Consideration](#), the university's policies on [Academic Consideration for Medical Illness](#), and the Department of History's own [Undergraduate Policies and Statements](#)).*

**Course-specific conditions** to pass the course

Students must attend at least seven of our twelve seminar meetings in order to pass the course, regardless of grades received for other assignments.

Students must complete all course assignments in order to pass the course.

#### **Course Materials**

##### **Textbooks**

William L. Cleveland and Martin Bunton, *A History of the Modern Middle East*. (Westview Press, 2009.) 4<sup>th</sup> edition.

Akram Fouad Khater, *Sources in the History of the Modern Middle East* (Houghton and Mifflin Company, 2004)

Mary Lynn Rampolla, *A Pocket Guide to Writing in History*, (Bedford/St. Martin, 2010) 6<sup>th</sup> edition.

Or

William Kelleher Storey and Towser Jones, *Writing History. A Guide for Canadian Students*, (Oxford, 2011) 3<sup>rd</sup> edition.

### **Additional Statements**

***Communication policies:*** by email and office hours

***Classroom behavior:*** No cell phone and no eating in class

### ***Use of generative artificial intelligence (AI)***

You may not make any use of generative AI tools, such as ChatGPT, for any assignments in this course.

***Include the following statement at the end of your course outline:]***

Please review the Department of History's shared policies and statements for all undergraduate courses at: [https://history.uwo.ca/undergraduate/program\\_module\\_information/policies.html](https://history.uwo.ca/undergraduate/program_module_information/policies.html) for important information regarding accessibility options, make-up exams, medical accommodations, health and wellness, academic integrity, plagiarism, and more.