

University of Mississippi  
Fall 2012  
MWF 10-10.50am Croft 209

**INST 209:  
MIDDLE EASTERN STUDIES**

Dr. Vivian Ibrahim

Office Hours: Monday 2-3 pm or by appointment  
Bishop 317  
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**Description:** This course looks at the historical, social and political development of the Middle East from the end of the Ottoman Empire to the present day. This course aims to contextualize contemporary debates within a historical overview of the Middle East, as well as provide the conceptual tools to understand the workings of regional and international powers.

**Learning and teaching methods:** A lecture during the Monday session will be followed by a mixture of class discussions, presentation and informal lectures on Wednesday and Friday. It is expected that all students participate actively in the discussions which is a crucial element of the course. Students are expected to make their contribution through regular class participation critically assessing the reading assignments, responding to peer comments and presentations, and discussing the ideas and arguments presented in class.

Each student will make at least one oral presentation based on topics and readings with the aim to encourage and facilitate debate. The oral presentation will be assigned in advance, and students are expected to make use of the required readings for that week. The presentation has to maintain a clear focus on the selected topic and offer a discussion of the relevant literature.

**Marking/ Assessment/ Attendance:** The semester grade will be based on the following parts:

1. **Map Quiz**, given on Monday 27 August. You will name major countries and cities in the Middle East on a bordered map. **(5%)**
2. **500-word review of readings** to be submitted at beginning of the Monday class based. Reviews to be based on the readings of the week and should be an analysis and not a summary of the text. In total, students must complete **5 reviews** of the readings. **(25%)**
3. **Oral presentation**, as described above. **(5%)**
4. **Class Participation (5%)**
5. **TWO 1,500 word essays**. Titles will be provided on blackboard. **(20% EACH)**
  - a. First essay due Wednesday 19 September
  - b. Second essay due Wednesday 31 October
6. **Final Exam (20%)**

Any submitted work that contains plagiarized material will receive an automatic 0% Any work not submitted at the beginning of class will have 5 points deducted up to midnight of that day. Each subsequent day will result in a deduction of 5 points. Any work not fully spell checked and written proofread will be penalized.

A final average will be calculated and converted as follows:

Final Average	Semester Grade
93-100	A
90-92	A-
87-89	B+
83-86	B
80-82	B-
77-79	C+
73-76	C
70-72	C-
60-69	D
0-60	F

A grade lower than "C" toward will not count towards the international studies major.

Attendance is mandatory. All absences must be authorized or the student will automatically drop a full letter grade.

#### **Required Purchases:**

W. Cleveland, *A History of the Modern Middle East* (Various editions)

All other readings will be available on the Blackboard –indicated by **BB** on the syllabus—or in the library.

- 1. Introduction: Empires: From Ottomans to....?**
- 2. World War 1 and the end of the Ottoman Order**
- 3. Democracy and Authoritarianism: Struggles for Reform-Turkey**
- 4. Democracy and Authoritarianism: Struggles for Reform -Iran**
- 5. Palestinian Mandate and the Birth of Israel**
- 6. Arab Nationalism: Nasserism**
- 7. Arab Nationalism: Ba'athism**
- 8. The Six Day War and the rise of Oil in the Middle East**
- 9. October War and Camp David**
- 10. Iranian Revolution**
- 11. Lebanon**
- 12. September 2001 in context**
- 13. Revolts and Uprisings**
- 14. Review of Semester**

**\*\*Syllabus subject to change\*\***