Title : HISTORY OF MODERN ISLAMIC SOCIETIES

Course Code : HST265

No. of Credits/Term : 3

Mode of Tuition : Sectional

Class Contact Hours : 3 hours per week

Category in Major Prog. : Elective

Pre-requisites : None

Co-requisites : None

Exclusions : None

Brief Course Description : This course will introduce students to the modern history of the Islamic world. The class will take a broad approach and place the history of the Islamic world within a framework to discuss the diversity of Islamic peoples, the nature of Islamic empires, the encroachment of the West, the emergence of nationalism and the rise of Islamism. Places central to Islamic history such as Egypt, Turkey, Iran, India and Indonesia will receive a significant amount of attention and will be studied from a comparative perspective. Islam in China will also be covered and background will be given on early Islamic civilization.

Aims : The objective of this course will be to give students a fundamental understanding of the history of the modern Islamic world, while also placing developments in the Islamic world within a global context.

Learning Outcomes : a) to develop analytical and critical thinking by exploring long-term historical causation and change

b) to increase students’ awareness of interconnectivity between Islamic cultures through time.

c) to understand the development of Islamic cultures, ideologies and value systems from a historical perspective

d) to increase political and cultural awareness of Islam, thereby heightening the students’ adaptability within the socio-economic and political climate
Indicative Content

1) The Rise of Islam
   A) Muhammad and the seventh century Middle East
   B) The rise of Arab empires
   C) The internationalization of the religion.

2) Diversity, Sects, Practices and Division
   A) Sunnis
   B) Shi’ites
   C) Sufis

3) Islamic Empires
   A) The characteristics of an empire (comparative)
   B) The Ottomans
   C) The Safavids

4) The Decline of Empires
   A) Theories of decline (comparative)
   B) Decentralization (comparative)
   C) European economic penetration

5) Islamic thinkers in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries
   A) Jamal Al-Din Al-Afghani
   B) Muhammad Abduh
   C) Sayyid Mawdudi
   D) Syed Ahmed Khan
   E) Deobandi movement
   F) Sayyid Qutb

6) Colonialism
   A) Structures
   B) Forms of control
   C) The idea of the civilizing mission

7) The Importance of Oil
   A) Iraq
   B) Saudi Arabia
   C) Iran

8) Independence
   A) Anti-colonial movements
   B) The rise of new classes
   C) Charismatic leaders

e) to develop students’ written English
D) Post-colonialism

9) Issues of modernity
   A) Secularism
   B) Gender relations
   C) Islam in the West
   D) Globalization

10) Conflicts and challenges to the status quo
    A) Palestine
    B) Bosnia
    C) Afghanistan
    D) Kashmir
    E) Islamism

11) Islam in China
    A) Islam on the periphery
    B) Connections to the Islamic world
    C) Comparisons: Other Muslim minority communities

Teaching Method
   Lectures will be designed to give students a basic background in the modern history of the Islamic world. Primary source readings, methodological issues and comparative approaches will be discussed in class.

Measurement of Learning Outcomes
   a) integrative essay examinations
   b) class discussions using group work and Socratic Method
   c) written assignments such as term papers and book reviews

Assessment
   Continuous Assessment 100%

Required Reading:

Supplementary Readings:


