

Title	: HISTORY OF MODERN ISLAMIC SOCIETIES
Course Code	: HST2265
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

Students completing this course will be able to:

1. Recall, describe, discuss and explain the main institutions of Islamic societies, and the general course of the history of Islamic societies;
2. Synthesize information from various sources in order to construct, and evaluate, complex arguments;
3. Present and articulate arguments orally;
4. Analyze different sources of information within their political and cultural contexts;
5. Write effective analytical papers;
6. Connect current political and economic developments in the Islamic world with their historical background.

Indicative Content

- I. The Rise of Islam
 - A. Muhammad and the seventh century Middle East
 - B. The rise of Arab empires
 - C. The internationalization of the religion.
- II. Diversity, Sects, Practices and Division
 - A. Sunnis
 - B. Shi'ites
 - C. Sufis
- III. Islamic Empires
 - A. The characteristics of an empire (comparative)

- B. The Ottomans
- C. The Safavids
- IV. The Decline of Empires
 - A. Theories of decline (comparative)
 - B. Decentralization (comparative)
 - C. European economic penetration
- V. 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
- VI. Colonialism
 - A. Structures
 - B. Forms of control
 - C. The idea of the civilizing mission
- VII. The Importance of Oil
 - A. Iraq
 - B. Saudi Arabia
 - C. Iran
- VIII. Independence
 - A. Anti-colonial movements
 - B. The rise of new classes
 - C. Charismatic leaders
 - D. Post-colonialism
- IX. Issues of modernity
 - A. Secularism
 - B. Gender relations
 - C. Islam in the West
 - D. Globalization
- X. Conflicts and challenges to the status quo
 - A. Palestine
 - B. Bosnia
 - C. Afghanistan
 - D. Kashmir
 - E. Islamism
- XI. 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) Quizzes will assess the degree of understanding of basic facts, timeline, concepts and terminology in the history of Islamic societies, and the ability of connecting the

- historical past with current developments (L.O. 1. and L.O. 6 above);
- (b) Participatory and structured discussions will assess the ability in synthesizing information, in evaluating arguments found in the literature (L.O. 2. above) and in presenting them orally (L.O. 3. above).
- (c) The final paper will assess students' ability in analyzing primary and secondary sources, and using them in their own analytical arguments (L.O. 4. and L.O. 5. above); it will also assess the ability of connecting historical issues and the evolution of specific Islamic institutions with current developments (L.O. 6. above).

Assessment

Midterm Quiz	20%
Final Paper	35%
Readings presentations and discussion	35%
Class Participation	10%

Required Readings

John L. Esposito, *Unholy War: Terror in the Name of Islam*

Blaine Kaltman, *Under the Heel of the Dragon: Islam, Racism, Crime, and the Uighur in China*

Ahmed Rashid, *Taliban*

Supplementary Readings:

Blue, Gregory, Bunton, Martin et al. eds. *Colonialism and the Modern World: Selected Studies*, Armonk NY; London: ME Sharpe, 2002

Burke, Edmund, *Re-thinking World History: Essays on Europe, Islam, and World History*, Cambridge, England: Cambridge University Press, 1993.

Esposito, John, *The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Modern Islamic World*, New York; Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1995.

Halliday, Fred, *Islam and the Myth of Confrontation: Religion and Politics in the Middle East*, London: I.B. Taurus, 1996.

Hourani, Albert, *Arabic Thought in the Liberal Age*, Cambridge, England: Cambridge University Press, 1983.

Israeli, Raphael, *Islam in China: Religion, Ethnicity, Culture and Politics*, Lanham, Md., Lexington, 2002.

Jankowski, James and Gershoni, Israel, eds., *Rethinking Nationalism in the Arab Middle East*, New York: Columbia University Press, 1997.

Lapidus, Ira, *A History of Islamic Societies*, Cambridge; New York: Cambridge University Press, 2002.

Lelyveld, David, *Aligarh's First Generation*, Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1977.

Lewis, Bernard, *The Emergence of Modern Turkey*, 3rd ed., New York, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2002

Lipman, Jonathan, *Family Strangers: A History of Muslims in Northwest China*, Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1997.

Malley, Robert, *The Call for Algeria: Third Worldism, Revolution and the Turn to Islam*, Berkeley: University of California Press, 1996.

Metcalf, Barbara, *A Concise History of Modern India*, New York: Cambridge University Press, 2002.

_____, *Islamic Revival in British India: Deoband, 1860-1900*, Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1982.

Richards, J.F., *The Mughal Empire*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1993.

- Riddell, Peter, *Islam and the Malay-Indonesian World: Transition and Responses*, Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 2001.
- Shaw, Stanford, *History of the Ottoman Empire and Modern Turkey*, Cambridge; New York: Cambridge University Press, 1976-77.
- Simons, Thomas, *Islam in a Globalizing World*, Stanford, Calif.: Stanford University Press, 2003.

Important Notes:

- (1) Students are expected to spend a total of 9 hours (i.e. 3 hours of class contact and 6 hours of personal study) per week to achieve the course learning outcomes.
- (2) Students shall be aware of the University regulations about dishonest practice in course work, tests and examinations, and the possible consequences as stipulated in the Regulations Governing University Examinations. In particular, plagiarism, being a kind of dishonest practice, is “the presentation of another person’s work without proper acknowledgement of the source, including exact phrases, or summarised ideas, or even footnotes/citations, whether protected by copyright or not, as the student’s own work”. Students are required to strictly follow university regulations governing academic integrity and honesty.
- (3) Students are required to submit writing assignment(s) using Turnitin.
- (4) To enhance students’ understanding of plagiarism, a mini-course “Online Tutorial on Plagiarism Awareness” is available on <https://pla.ln.edu.hk/>.