

The United States and the Middle East, 1919-Present

University of Evansville
History 323
MWF 9:00-9:50 HH 118

Office Hours: MWF 10:00-NOON
MWF 2:00-3:00 PM
TH 11:00-NOON

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This course will examine the legacy of Wilson's vision for the Middle East and how it shaped United States decolonization policy following World War Two. Students will learn about the emergence of independent states including Israel and the emerging conflicts between various nations and non-state actors since 1945. The United States role in the Middle East and its specific actions towards various states will be examined and students will gain an understanding of how these policies have helped to shape the current state of affairs in the area.

Course Requirements:

Two Midterm Exams	30%
Final Exam	20%
Reaction Paper	10%
Book Review	10%
Research Paper	20%
Class Participation	10%

Grading Scale:	A	93-100	B-	80-82	D+	67-69
	A-	90-92	C+	77-79	D	64-66
	B+	87-89	C	73-77	F	Below 64
	B	83-86	C-	70-72		

Explanation of Course Requirements:

The course is structured lectures and class discussion focused on the assigned readings. Attendance at lectures and discussions are both mandatory and necessary to successfully complete the course. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class. Excessive absences (4 classes) will lead to a diminution of the student's participation grade. Reading assignments must be done before class discussion. Students must also come to class prepared to answer questions and participate in discussions. Students will be graded on their preparation and participation in class discussions. The instructor reserves the right to administer quizzes on discussion days. Students performing university service should be sure to advise the professor in advance and insure proper supporting evidence is provided. Students who experience family or health emergencies should inform the Dean of Students and provide proper documentation.

In class examinations will consist of three (3) short answers followed by an essay question. Students will be given ten (10) possible items for the short answers and three (3) possible essays during the prior class meeting. Students should be prepared to answer any of these questions presented on the day of the examination. The final examination will be an expanded form of the in class examinations. The final examination will be cumulative and the possible short answers and essay questions will be handed out on the final day of class. Exams must be taken on the day that they are scheduled unless prior arrangements are made with the professor. Students with disabilities should register with the Office of Student Life and inform the professor in advance of any special needs which they require.

Students will be asked to write one book review of the monographs by Heiss or Citino. Students will sign up in advance to indicate which book they will review. The professor will give guidelines for the construction of this review. A reaction paper will be written by mid-semester based on any of the several topics of discussion during the course. The students will be asked to engage both the primary and

secondary sources presented for the topic. The student should present a brief summary of these positions and organize an opinion based on the available materials. This paper will be five (5) pages in length (roughly 1,500 words), double-spaced, with proper citations (use the Chicago Manual of Style or MLA). All the papers are to be presented in **Times New Roman 12-point** font. Papers are due on March 1, 2007 and will not be accepted after that date. Finally, students will be asked to write a 10-12 page research paper on a topic approved by the professor. The student will organize primary and secondary material around a focused thesis and produce a well-crafted analysis of the subject. Research papers are due on April 26, 2007 and will not be accepted after that date.

Honor Requirements and Plagiarism:

Due to the unfortunate expansion of plagiarism and academic dishonesty, students will be reminded of their adherence to the University of Evansville's honor system and sign the following honor statement on all work submitted.

I understand that any work which I submit for course credit will imply that I have adhered to this Academic Honor Code: I will neither give nor receive unauthorized aid, nor will I tolerate an environment which condones the use of unauthorized aid.

In addition, students will submit their writing assignments to turnitin.com for evaluation of their papers contents against known sources. Failure to send in the paper to turnitin.com within in three days of the paper's due date will result in the paper not being read and a zero being assigned. Students caught plagiarizing material face the loss of the assignment grade and possible referral to the Honor Council.

To submit papers, go to turnitin.com and register yourself for the course **HIST323MiddleEast**. The class ID number is **1768144**. The class password is **MiddleEast**. (**The password is case sensitive**). Any problems with enrollment should be brought to the instructor's attention immediately.

All papers should use the previously discussed citation formats and students should insure that all work is either properly cited or remains original. Any questions regarding citations should be presented to the instructor prior to submitting work either in class or to turnitin.com.

The instructor encourages collaboration of students during preparation for exams. However, no notes or outlines are to be used during the exam period. Students are to come to each exam with a blue book and the exam sheet. All other materials will be properly stowed and will not be retrieved until the exam is completed.

Class Readings:

Nathan Citino, From Arab Nationalism to OPEC: Eisenhower, King Sa'ud, and the Making of U.S.-Saudi Relations
Peter Hahn, Crisis and Crossfire: The United States and the Middle East Since 1945
Mary Ann Heiss, Empire and Nationhood
Douglas Little, American Orientalism: The United States and the Middle East Since 1945

Class Schedule:

DUE TO DR. BYRNE'S TRIP TO JORDAN TO STUDY ISLAM AND THE MIDDLE EAST, CLASSES WITH DR. BYRNE WILL NOT BEGIN UNTIL JANUARY 22.

READINGS SHOULD BE DONE PRIOR TO CLASS MEETINGS FOR THE WEEK ASSIGNED

Week One: Wilson's Ghost World War Two and Oil

Douglas Little, Introduction and Chapter 1

Peter Hahn, Chapter 1

Tue. Jan. 23

Thur. Jan. 25

Week Two Cold War and the Middle East

Douglas Little, Chapter 2

Tues. Jan. 30

Thur. Feb. 1

Week Three The Rise of Israel and the Arab-Israeli Conflict

Peter Hahn, Chapter 2

Douglas Little, Chapter 3

Tues. Feb. 6

Thur. Feb. 8

Week Four Oil and the Challenge of Nationalism

Peter Hahn, Chapter 3

Mary Ann Heiss, Empire and Nationhood

Tues. Feb. 13 **Heiss Book Review Due**

Thur. Feb. 15 **Exam#1**

Week Five The Rise of Nasser and Pan-Arabism

Douglas Little, Chapter 5

Tues. Feb. 20

Thur. Feb. 22

Week Six Searching for "Moderate Arabs" and Oil Security

Nathan Citino, From Arab Nationalism to OPEC

Tues. Feb. 27 **Citino Book Review Due**

Thur. Mar. 1 **REACTION PAPER DUE**

Mar. 3-Mar. 11 SPRING BREAK

Week Seven Divide and Conquer: The Continual Role of Israel in United States Policy

Peter Hahn, Chapter 4

Tues. Mar. 13

Thur. Mar. 15

Week Eight Pulling Power from Defeat

Douglas Little, Chapter Six

Tues. Mar. 20

Thur. Mar. 22

Week Nine Shuttle Diplomacy and the Camp David Accords

Douglas Little, Chapter Eight

Peter Hahn, Chapter 5

Tues. Mar. 27

Thur. Mar. 29

Week Ten The Collapse of the Shah

Tues. Apr. 3

Thur. Apr. 5 **Exam#2**

Week Eleven **Beirut and Other Legacies**
Douglas Little, Chapter Seven
Peter Hahn, Chapter 6

Tues. Apr. 10
Thur. Apr. 12

Week Twelve **The Mother of All Wars**
Peter Hahn, Chapter 7

Tues. Apr. 17
Thur. Apr. 19

Week Thirteen **What Happened to the “Moderates”?**

Tues. Apr. 24
Thur. Apr. 26 **RESEARCH PAPER DUE**

Week Fourteen **September 11 and Its Long-term Consequences**

Douglas Little, Conclusion
Peter Hahn, Chapter 8

Tues. May. 1

Wed, May 9 **Final Examination 8:00 AM.**