

SOC532
Sociology of the Middle East
Fall 2010, University of Kansas
Mon Weds 11:00-12:15 FRA 106

Professor: Elif Andaç Office: 751 Fraser Hall E-mail: andac@ku.edu Office Hours: Mon Wed 3:00-4:00 and by appointment
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Course Objectives

This course is an introduction to the sociological analysis of historical and contemporary political issues pertaining to the Middle East and to the relations between the Middle East and the West. The focus of the course will be on the political changes and state-society relations in the region from the late 18th century on and considerable attention will be devoted to the problems and promises of the present day. Some of the topics we will cover include the nature of the pre-modern states of the Middle East and the impact of their legacy, the role of European powers in changing the region, the emergence and persistence of authoritarian regimes, Arab and Turkish nationalism, the role of oil in politics, Islamic movements, the impact of globalization, the process and problems of democratization and secularism, Arab-Israeli conflict, and American involvement in the Middle East. No prior background of the region will be assumed or expected, however students enrolled in this class will be expected to follow the news related to the Middle East on a daily basis.

Readings

We will use the following books and several additional readings posted online on the course website during the semester. The books are required, and available for purchase at the University Bookstore. All other additional materials will be available on Blackboard.

You are expected to come to class having completed the assigned readings for that particular day.

- Ernst, Carl W. 2004. *Following Muhammad: Rethinking Islam in the Contemporary World*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press.
- Jones, Jeremy. 2007. *Negotiating Change: the New Politics of the Middle East*. London and New York: I.B. Tauris.
- Kamrava, Mehran. 2005. *The Modern Middle East: A Political History Since the First World War*. Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press.
- Kurzman, Charles. 2004. *The Unthinkable Revolution in Iran*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.

- Roy, Olivier. 2008. *The Politics of Chaos in the Middle East*. NY: Columbia University Press.
- Roy, Sara. 2007. *Failing Peace: Gaza and the Palestinian-Israeli Conflict*. London and Ann Arbor, MI: Pluto Press.
- Smith, Dan. 2008. *The State of the Middle East: An Atlas of Conflict And Resolution, revised edition*. Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press.

I know, and you should also realize very quickly, that this course has a lot of reading. I may not always have the time nor feel the necessity to go over every single reading you have for a particular class. Hence I will assume that unless there are questions in a given class session regarding the readings for that class, that the readings have been read and understood, and that we may safely proceed from there.

There will also be some videos shown in class. Consider these as readings, and remember you are equally responsible for the material in them.

Attendance

One of the most important requirements to be successful in this class is regular attendance. In order to keep up with the assignments and lectures and get the maximum out of this class, you will need to attend all of our meetings. I will take attendance on at least 10 days, and I will take them into consideration when I assign your participation grade.

Examinations

There will be two take-home exams for this course. The final exam will focus on material since the mid-term exam; however, you will still be responsible of the material that is pertinent to the current topics.

The midterm take-home questions will be handed out on **Monday, September 27th**, and it will be due at the beginning of the class on **Monday, October 11th**. The final questions will be handed out in class on **Wednesday, December 1st**, and will be due in my office on **Monday, December 13th by 1pm**. More details regarding the exams will be discussed later in class.

No make-up exams will be given (unless you have an **official** excuse with proof- i.e. a doctor's note detailing your visit, or a note from your academic advisor). **If you miss any of these two exams, you will automatically fail the class, even if you total a passing score with other assignments.**

Reading Discussions

At the beginning of the semester, I'll ask you to sign up to write a brief reaction essay to the readings on three of the weeks. Your essay should be about 800-1000 words, focus on linking the readings together when there are multiple essays, engage in a detailed discussion of the book when there is a major book assigned, and ask a few discussion questions. These essays should be posted on Blackboard at least 24 hours before the allocated class time, by Monday 1pm of that week. You'll also need to post reactions to these essays and/or discussion questions on at least 2 additional weeks you

are not responsible for. You will not be assigned a final reading discussion grade until all five weeks postings are complete.

Reaction Paper

You are responsible to choose one of the following novels, and write a short (4-5 pages) reaction paper. This paper should reflect the new knowledge you acquired in this class, as well as your own take on the issues addressed in the novel, and it is due at the beginning of the class on **Wednesday, December 1st**.

More details on the reaction paper will be discussed later in class.

- Abderrahim Mounif: Cities of salt
- Ahmed Hamdi Tanpinar: A Mind at Peace
- Ahdaf Soueif: The Map of Love
- Amin Maalouf: Ports of Call
- Driss Chraïbi: The Simple Past
- Elias Khouri: Journey of Little Ghandi
The Kingdom of Strangers
Gate of the Sun
- Elif Safak: The Bastard of Istanbul
- Kateb Yacine. Nedjma
- Louis deBerniere Birds Without Wings
- Naguib Mahfouz. The Cairo Trilogy (Palace Walk, Palace of Desire
Sugar Street) (either one would work)
Midaq Alley
- Orhan Pamuk. My Name is Red
The White Castle
Snow
- Simin Daneshvar. A Persian Requiem
- Tayeb Salih. Season of Migration to the North
- Yusuf Idris. City of Love and Ashes
- Yusuf Al-Qa'Id. War in the Land of Egypt

Keeping up with the News

Many timely and relevant things will probably be happening in the Middle East this semester! You are expected to keep up with them. All students will be asked to read the *New York Times* and to listen to National Public Radio news, and follow other Middle East news sources of their choice. I obviously do not expect you to read the whole newspaper cover to cover, neither to listen to every single broadcast. However, I do expect you to keep up with major events going on in the world (particularly in relation to the Middle East), and have a broad idea on the major debates, and contribute to the class discussions with your knowledge.

Map Quiz

There will be a map quiz for this course, on **Wednesday, September 8th**. You are not allowed to fail this test-so if you don't get a 70/100 or higher grade, you will have to take them again later in the semester until you get a passing grade.

Course Grade

Your final grade for this class will be based on the following distribution:

Midterm	25%
Final	30%
Reading Discussions	15%
Fiction Review	15%
Map Quiz	5%
Participation	10%

Grading Scale

I use the new KU CLAS standard grading scale (a minus/plus system shown below):

A	4.0	93-100
A-	3.7	90-92
B+	3.3	87-89
B	3.0	83-86
B-	2.7	80-82
C+	2.3	77-79
C	2.0	73-76
C-	1.7	70-72
D+	1.3	67-69
D	1.0	63-66
D-	0.7	60-62
F	0.0	59 and below

Academic Misconduct

You are expected to practice academic honesty in every aspect of this course and all other courses. Make sure you are familiar with the University of Kansas Student Handbook, especially the section on academic misconduct. Students who engage in academic misconduct are subject to university disciplinary procedures, as well as consequences with regard to this course.

The following is Article II, Section 6 of the Rules and Regulations of the University Senate, revised as of August 2006:

Academic misconduct by a student shall include, but not be limited to, disruption of classes; threatening an instructor or fellow student in an academic setting; giving or receiving of unauthorized aid on examinations or in the preparation of notebooks, themes, reports or other assignments; **knowingly misrepresenting the source of any academic**

work; unauthorized changing of grades; unauthorized use of University approvals or forging of signatures; falsification of research results; **plagiarizing of another's work**; violation of regulations or ethical codes for the treatment of human and animal subjects; or otherwise acting dishonestly in research.

For more on this issue, please check :

http://www.writing.ku.edu/~writing/instructors/guides/academic_misconduct.shtml

Other issues

- I. It is your responsibility to educate yourself regarding important deadlines, college policies, and academic requirements. Please note the following important deadlines regarding add/drop for courses at KU:
 - Last day to drop online is **September 9**.
 - Last day to add, swap or change sections is **September 16**.
 - Last day to drop/withdraw is **November 15**. It is your responsibility to maintain awareness of your grade and status in this course, and to collect the necessary paperwork and signatures should you need to use this policy. ***I will not vary office hours to accommodate last minute requests for signature. Please plan accordingly.***

If you have further questions about these deadlines and policies, I urge you to contact Owen Marciano, Advising Specialist, at ohmarciano@ku.edu or call 864-9425.

- II. If you have a condition that requires special attention or resources, please inform me as soon as possible, so that I may take appropriate measures. Please remember that I will need a documentation from “Services for Students with Disabilities” when appropriate.
- III. If any class-related activity, including exams, conflict with religious observances of a generally recognized nature that you are under obligation to participate in, you may complete the activity at an alternate time that is mutually agreed upon. In such cases you must contact me at least one week in advance to arrange for an alternate date. Students are expected to complete any work assigned for any class missed due to a religious holiday.

COURSE SCHEDULE

(Note: This is a tentative schedule and the instructor reserves the right to make changes on the syllabus and/or schedule if needed)

Week	Topics and Readings
Week 1 <i>Aug 23-25</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to the course • Defining the Middle East •
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Smith, <i>An Atlas of Conflict and Resolution</i>, pp7-13. ○ Kamrava, <i>The Modern Middle East</i>, pp1-22.
Week 2 <i>Aug 30-Sep 1</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orientalism: The perceptions of the Middle East in the West • Understanding Islam
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Said, Edward W. 1978. <i>Orientalism: Western Conceptions of the Orient</i>, pp1-28. ○ <i>Video: Edward Said on Orientalism (Media Education Foundation)</i>Ernst, <i>Following Muhammad</i>. ○ <i>Video: Muslims (Frontline, Independent Production Fund)</i>
Week 3 <i>Sep 6-Labor Day, NO CLASS</i> <i>Sep 8</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Ottoman Imperial Style and its Legacy on the Middle East. • Sep 8: Middle East Map quiz
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Smith, <i>An Atlas of Conflict and Resolution</i>, pp16-19. ○ Kamrava, <i>The Modern Middle East</i>, pp22-34. ○ Quataert, Donald. 2000. <i>The Ottoman Empire: 1700-1922</i>, pp1-11, 192-197. ○ Toynbee, Arnold Joseph. 1955. "The Ottoman Empire in World History" <i>Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society</i>, Vol. 99, No. 3 (Jun. 15, 1955), pp. 119-126. ○ <i>Video: Islam: Empire of Faith (PBS Home Video)</i>
Week 4 <i>Sep 13-15</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Western involvement in the Middle East, WWI and beyond • Transformations in Society and Economy
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Smith, <i>An Atlas of Conflict and Resolution</i>, pp 20-27. ○ Kamrava, <i>The Modern Middle East</i>, pp 35-50. ○ Fromkin, David. 1989. <i>A Peace to End All Peace</i>, pp. 15-20, 558-567. ○ Charles Issawi, "Middle East Economic Development, 1815-1914: The General and the Specific," pp. 177-193. ○ Adanir, Fikret. 2001. <i>Armenian Deportations and Massacres in 1915</i>. ○ <i>Video: Lawrence of Arabia; The First World War</i>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Video: Blood and Oil: the Middle East in World War I</i> <p><i>Optional Readings:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Roger Owen, "Egypt and Europe: From French Expedition to British Occupation," pp. 111-124. ○ P. Dumont, "Said Bey—The Everyday Life of an Istanbul Townsman at the Beginning of the Twentieth Century," pp. 271-287.
<p>Week 5 <i>Sep 20-22</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● End of WWI and the Creation of the Modern Middle East ● Nationalism ● State, Religion and Secularism
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Smith, <i>An Atlas of Conflict and Resolution</i>, pp 28-35. ○ Kamrava, <i>The Modern Middle East</i>, pp 50-72. ○ Serif Mardin, "Religion and Secularism in Turkey," pp. 347-374
<p>Week 6 <i>Sep 27-29</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Arab-Israeli Conflict-Part 1 ● Sep 27nd: Mid-term take-home questions handed out in class
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sara Roy, <i>Failing Peace</i>. ○ Smith, <i>An Atlas of Conflict and Resolution</i>, pp 36-41, 52-55. ○ Kamrava, <i>The Modern Middle East</i>, pp 72-137. ○ <i>Video: Gaza Strip (Typecast Releasing)</i>
<p>Week 7 <i>Oct 4-6</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Arab-Israeli Conflict-Part 2
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Smith, <i>An Atlas of Conflict and Resolution</i>, pp 56-61. ○ Kamrava, <i>The Modern Middle East</i>, pp 215-256. ○ Jones, <i>Negotiating Change</i>, Ch.3, pp 58-81. ○ <i>Video: Promises (New Yorker Video)</i> <p><i>Optional Readings:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Smith, Charles. 2007. <i>Palestine and The Arab-Israeli Conflict</i>, pp. 499-536.
<p>Week 8 <i>Oct 11-13</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Iranian Revolution-Part 1 ● Oct 11th: Midterm exam is due at the beginning of the class <i>Fall Break!</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Smith, <i>An Atlas of Conflict and Resolution</i>, pp 80-85. ○ Kamrava, <i>The Modern Middle East</i>, pp 138-168. ○ Kurzman, Charles. 2004. <i>The Unthinkable Revolution in Iran</i>. Chapters 1-3. ○ <i>Video: History Channel on Iranian Revolution</i>
<p>Week 9 <i>Oct 18-20</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Iranian Revolution and beyond-Part 2
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Kurzman, Charles. 2004. <i>The Unthinkable Revolution in Iran</i>. Chapters 4-8. ○ Keddie, Nikki R. "Iranian Revolutions in Comparative Perspective," pp. 601-623

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Jones, Negotiating Change, Ch. 2, pp 28-57. ○ <i>Video: Persepolis</i>
<p>Week 10 Oct 25-27</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Gender Relations in the Middle East
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Moghadam, Valentine M. 2004. "Patriarchy in Transition: Women and the Changing Family in the Middle East". <i>Journal of Comparative Family Studies</i>, 35(2), 137-162. ○ Moghadam, Valentine M. 2004. "A Tale of Two Countries: State, Society, and Gender Politics in Iran and Afghanistan". <i>The Muslim World</i>, 94(4), 449-467. ○ White, Jenny B. 2006. "The Paradox of New Islamic Women in Turkey" in <i>Gender, Religion and Change in the Middle East</i>, Inger Marie Okkenhaug and Ingvild Flaskerud eds, pp123-136. Oxford and New York: Berg. ○ Najmabadi, Afsaneh. "Gender and Secularism of Modernity: How Can a Muslim Woman Be French?" <i>Feminist Studies</i>; Summer 2006; 32, 2; Research Library pg. 239-255. ○ <i>Video: My Head is Mine</i>
<p>Week 11 Nov 1-3</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Economic Development and States in the Middle East
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Smith, An Atlas of Conflict and Resolution, pp 42-45, 118-137 ○ Kamrava, The Modern Middle East, pp 257-330. ○ Owen and Pamuk, A History of Middle East Economies in the Twentieth Century, 229-243. ○ Jones, Negotiating Change, ch. 7: Dubai, pp 180-205.
<p>Week 12 Nov 8-10</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Political Islam and Islamic Movements
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Brown, Religion and State, pp 123-180. ○ White, Jenny. 2008. Islam and Politics in Turkey, in Cambridge History of Turkey, volume 4. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. ○ Hashemi, Nader A. 2004. "Islamic Fundamentalism and the Trauma of Modernization: Reflections on Religion and Radical Politics" in <i>An Islamic Reformation?</i>, Michaëlle Browers and Charles Kurzman eds, pp 159-177. ○ Jones, Negotiating Change, ch. 8: Turkey <p><i>Optional Readings:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Esposito, John L. 1999. The Islamic Threat: Myth or Reality? pp74-128. ○ Halliday, Fred. 1996. Islam and the Myth of Confrontation: Religion and Politics in the Middle East, pp 107-132.

<p>Week 13 Nov 15-17</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political Islam and Islamic Movements-Part 2 • The US and the Middle East • The Debate on “The Clash of Civilizations” • Nov 17: Professor Andac is out of town for a Conference -No Class
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Kurzman, Charles, "Bin Laden and Other Thoroughly Modern Muslims," <i>Contexts</i>, Vol. 1, No. 4, Fall/Winter 2002, pp. 13-20. ○ Roy, Olivier. 2004. <i>Globalized Islam: The Search for a New Ummah</i>. 1-57. ○ Smith, An Atlas of Conflict and Resolution, pp 46-49. ○ Samuel Huntington, "The Clash of Civilizations?" <i>Foreign Affairs</i> 72:3, (Summer 1993), 22-49. (Blackboard) ○ Edward Said, "The Clash of Ignorance," <i>The Nation</i>, October 22, 2001. http://www.thenation.com/doc.mhtml?i=20011022&s=said ○ Fukuyama, Francis. 2006. “After Neo-Conservatism”, <i>New York Times Magazine</i>; Feb 19, 2006; Research Library, pg. 62-67. <p><i>Optional Readings:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ US Presidential Politics, 1947-2002, in the Middle East and Islamic World Reader, Marvin E. Gettleman and Stuart Schaar eds. pp244-252 ○ Halliday, Fred. 2002. Two hours that shook the world: September 11, 2001 : causes and consequences. (Excerpts). ○ <i>9/11 Commission Report</i>, available online at http://www.9-11commission.gov/report/index.htm, chapters 2, 4 and 5.
<p>Week 14 Nov 22-24: Thanksgiving Week</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The US and the Middle East • Thanksgiving Break: No Class on Nov 24th! <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Roy, Olivier. 2008. <i>The Politics of Chaos in the Middle East</i>. NY: Columbia University Press. ○ Smith, An Atlas of Conflict and Resolution, pp 94-101.
<p>Week 15 Nov 29-Dec 1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gulf Wars and Iraq • Dec 1st: Book Reaction papers are due at the beginning of the class • Dec 1st: Final take-home questions handed out in class

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Kamrava, <i>The Modern Middle East</i>, pp 169-214 ○ Jones, <i>Negotiating Change</i>, Chapter 9: Iraq ○ Shadid, Anthony. 2005. <i>Night Draws Near: Iraq's people in the Shadow of America's War</i>. Selected Chapters. ○ <i>Video: Iraq in Fragments</i> ○ <i>Video: Living in Baghdad (60 minutes, 4/22/07)</i>
Week 16 Dec 6-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Question of Democracy ● Patterns of Continuity and Change
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Kamrava, <i>The Modern Middle East</i>, pp 359-376. ○ Filali-Ansary, Abdou. 2003. "Muslims and Democracy". <i>Islam and Democracy in the Middle East</i>, edited by Larry Diamond, Marc F. Plattner, and Daniel Brumberg. Baltimore, Maryland: The Johns Hopkins University Press , pp 193-207. ○ Schlumberger, Oliver, 2006. "Dancing with the Wolves: Dilemmas of Democracy Promotion in Authoritarian Contexts". <i>Democratization and Development: New Political Strategies for the Middle East</i>. NY: Palgrave Macmillan, pages 33-60. ○ Gole, Nilufer. 2000. "Snapshots of Islamic Modernities". <i>Daedalus</i>; Winter 2000; 129, 1; Research Library, pp91-117.
Monday, Dec 13th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Final Take-home exam is due in my office by 1pm.