Course Description
This course traces the major transformations that the Middle East and North Africa has gone through within the last two centuries. Over this period, the peoples of these places have struggled with imperialism, nationalism, and militarism. This course will analyze these major currents and themes. We will shortly address the early history of the region and then deal with the nineteenth and twentieth centuries in a chronological manner. We will thoroughly study and discuss the end of the multi-ethnic empires, reinstatement of colonialism, emergence of nationalism, and decolonization, as well as the expansion and decline of radical Islam in the region and the gender ramifications of these developments. During the course of our study, we will focus on Turkey, Iran, Egypt, Algeria, Iraq, and Israel/Palestine. During the course, we will gain a better understanding of the formation of the modern Middle East through a study based on readings from textbooks with primary documents as well as historical films.

Course Objectives
• to acquire a general knowledge of historical development in the MENA
• to develop our knowledge of MENA geography and traditions
• to gain new insights to the historical human experience in the MENA
• to develop our writing, critical thinking, and public speaking skills

Required Readings
Supplemental readings will be available in Sturgis Library and/or on Georgia View Vista.
Schedule

Week 1
August 21: Syllabus Overview & Introduction
  Reading assignment: none
August 23: The Rise and Expansion of Islam
  Reading assignment: Cleveland 1-35

Week 2
August 28: The development of Islamic Civilization
  Reading assignment: Cleveland 37-56
August 30: The era of Transformations
  Reading assignment: Cleveland 57-80

Week 3
September 04: The era of Transformations
  Reading assignment: Cleveland 81-102
September 06: The era of Transformations
  Reading assignment: Cleveland 103-132

Week 4
September 11: European Colonialism in North Africa
  Reading assignment: Phillip C. Naylor 141-168
September 13: 1st Exam

Week 5
September 18: Movie (Ararat by Atom Egoyan)
  Reading assignment: Robert Melson, 141-171
September 20: WWI and the Aftermath
  Reading assignment: Cleveland 133-170

Week 6
September 25: Interwar Era and the WWII
  Reading assignment: Cleveland 271-192
September 27: Interwar Era and the WWII
  Reading assignment: Cleveland 193-237

Week 7
October 02: Interwar Era and the WWII
  Reading assignment: Cleveland 239-271
October 04: Post-Colonial and contemporary North Africa
  Reading assignment: Naylor 169-214

Week 8
October 09: Post-Colonial and contemporary North Africa
  Reading assignment: Naylor 215-246
October 11: 2nd Exam
Week 9
October 16: movie (The Battle of Algiers)
   Reading Assignment(s): Frantz Fanon, 249-279
October 18: WWII to 70’s
   Reading assignment: Cleveland 273-308

Week 10
October 23: WWII to 70’s
   Reading assignment: Cleveland 309-344
October 25: WWII to 70’s
   Reading Assignment: Cleveland 345-367

Week 11
October 30: The Middle East from the 1970’s
   Reading assignment: Cleveland 369-421
November 01: Iranian Revolution & Arab Oil
   Reading assignment: Cleveland 423-472

Week 12
November 06: Challenges to the existing order
   Reading assignment: Cleveland 473-525
November 08: Gulf war and the aftermath
   Reading assignment: Cleveland 527-557

Week 13
November 13: America in the Middle East
   Reading assignment: Cleveland 558-576
November 15: 3rd Exam

Week 14
November 20: Student presentations
November 22: NO CLASS

Week 15
November 27: Student presentations
November 29: Student presentations

Week 16
December 04: Student presentations

Final: December 11, 3:30PM-5:30PM
Course Requirements and Policies

Grading
Your grades will be based on 3 exams, 1 book review, 1 discussion leading, and active class participation. The weight of the each assignment in the final grade is as follows:

Exams (3) 45 %
Book Review 15 %
Discussion leading 10 %
Film reports (2) 10 %
Journal 10 %
Participation 10 %
Total 100 %

A = If your total points are ≥ 90 points
B = If your total points are ≥ 80 points and ≤ 89 points
C = If your total points are ≥ 70 points and ≤ 79 points
D = If your total points are ≥ 60 points and ≤ 69 points
F = If your total points are ≤ 59 points

I. Exams
There will be 3 exams, which will consist of a combination of multiple choice, true or false, short-answer, and paragraph questions.

II. Book Review and Presentation
Each student is responsible for preparing a 6-7 page long review on a book relevant to the class content. The essay should analyze the author’s methodology, findings, relationship to other scholarly works in the field, and the book’s connections to themes and issues raised in the course. Students must use the Chicago Manual of Style and must include a bibliography.

III. Film Paper
Every student is responsible for writing one analytical film paper one of the assigned movies. The report will be min. 900 words long. In those reports, you are expected to analyze the movie from a critical perspective and to discuss the main issues, points, and prominent details of the films. Consider the following questions when you write your essays:

1. What are the important issues in the movie?
2. What is the main point of the movie?
3. What are the prominent details?
4. What was particularly impressive, meaningful, annoying, or intriguing about the film?
5. What are your positive and negative criticisms, questions, and comments?
6. How does the content of the film relate to our readings and discussions?
IV. Discussion Leading
Every student will sign up for leading the discussion of an article or a chapter in article length. The discussion leader is responsible for preparing an **outline** of the article, presenting main argument of the article, and leading a discussion on it. The use of visual aids during the presentation is strongly encouraged.

V. Journal
Students will keep a weekly journal where they briefly report events, elections, political debates from MENA and discuss them in a minimum 300 word long entries. Please keep in mind that meeting the minimum length requirement does not the assignment is over. The entries should be clearly written and analytical. See Vista for some links to relevant media.

VI. Participation
Students will participate in the class in an active manner through the semester at a regular pace. Regular attendance is a prerequisite for active participation. Oral and written ways of participation are vital for active participation. You can orally participate in the class by discussing the assigned readings, raising probing questions, making comments, and engaging in discussions with your peers. You can also participate in class by completing written assignments on time. Your participation should reflect that you have carefully read the assigned pages and thought about the information provided in those pages.

Alternative ways of participation: If you feel that you did not have a chance to participate in a class, consider the optional alternative ways of participation. You can also participate in the class through three types of written accounts: reading logs, reflection logs, and online submissions. Turning in reading/ reflection logs, or making online submissions are **optional**.

1. **OPTIONAL** Reading Logs:
A reading log is a written account of your understanding of the reading assignment. You should turn in your log at the beginning of the specific class that the reading assignment was scheduled. You should also be present in this particular class. **Late or early reading logs will not be accepted**. The length of a log is one page and it should contain:
   i. A short summary of the main points presented in the reading assignment
   ii. One or more probing question about the text or passages, terms, and concepts that needs clarification.

2. **OPTIONAL** Reflection Logs:
A reflection log is a written account of your afterthoughts about the class lectures and discussions. In a reflection log, you are expected to make your comments and ask your questions that you did not have a chance to do in class. You should turn in your log at the beginning of the next class. **Late logs will not be accepted**. The length of a log is one page.
3. **OPTIONAL** Online Discussion/Submissions: I will post discussion topics and questions on Georgia View. You are **encouraged** to post your comments/answers/probing questions and engage into a dialogue with your peers.

VII. **Extra credit**
There are no extra credit opportunities.

VIII. **Make-Ups**
Make-ups are only available for the students with documented excuses, e.g. doctor’s note.

IX. **Attendance**
Regular attendance is a prerequisite of active participation and required.

X. **Readings**
Completion of assigned readings in a timely manner is essential for informed participation in class. Students are strongly encouraged to keep up with the assigned readings.

XI. **Writing Center**
The KSU Writing Center is a free service offered to all KSU students. Experienced, friendly Writing Assistants will work with you to become a better writer--regardless of your strengths or weaknesses. Commonly covered writing strategies include topic development, organization, revision, research, source documentation, and grammar, but the Writing Center listens to and works with each writer individually. For more information or to schedule an appointment, please visit [http://www.kennesaw.edu/english/WritingCenter](http://www.kennesaw.edu/english/WritingCenter), or stop by Room 242 in the English Building.

XII. **Academic Honesty (Excerpt from undergraduate and graduate catalog)**
The high quality of education at Kennesaw State University is reflected in the credits and degrees its students earn. The protection of these high standards is crucial since the validity and equity of the University's grades and degrees depend upon it. Any student found guilty of an infraction of a regulation for academic honesty shall be suspended for at least one semester unless evidence is provided to convince the court that substantial mitigating circumstances existed in that student's offense. The following regulations are designed to assist students in developing appropriate standards and attitudes with respect to academic honesty. To this end, the regulations protect students against infractions that may compromise the validity of their degree or place them at an undue disadvantage with respect to the equity of their grades.

A. **Plagiarism and Cheating**
No student shall receive, attempt to receive, knowingly give or attempt to give unauthorized assistance in the preparation of any work required to be submitted for credit as part of a course (including examinations, laboratory reports, essays, themes, term papers, etc.) When direct quotations are used, they should be indicated; when the
language, ideas, theories, data, figures, graphs, programs, **electronic based information**
or illustrations of someone other than the student are incorporated into a paper or used in
a project, they should be duly acknowledged.

**B. Unauthorized Access to Official University Materials**
No student shall take or attempt to take, steal, or in an unauthorized manner otherwise
procure, gain access to, alter or destroy any material pertaining to the conduct of a class
(including tests, examinations, grade change forms, grade rolls, roll books, laboratory
equipment, university grade records in written or computerized form, etc.).

**C. Misrepresentation, Falsification of University Records or Academic Work**
No student shall knowingly provide false information in completing university forms or
applications (including admissions forms, scholarship applications, time sheets, use of
false or counterfeit transcripts, etc.) or in any work submitted for credit as part of a
course.

**D. Malicious Removal, Retention, or Destruction of Library Materials**
No student shall misplace, take, or destroy or attempt to misplace, take or destroy any
item or part of an item belonging to or in the protection of the university library with the
intention of bringing about an undue disadvantage in the classroom work of other
Kennesaw State University students.

**E. Malicious/Intentional Misuse of Computer Facilities and/or Services**
The malicious or intentional misuse of computer facilities and services is prohibited.
Violation of state and federal laws (including copyright violations, unauthorized access or
systems, alteration/damage/destruction, or attempted alteration/damage/destruction, use
for profit, etc.) or a department's rules for computer usage (including account violations,
damage or destruction of the system and/or its performance, unauthorized copying of
electronic information, use of threatening or obscene language, etc.) is prohibited.
(See Academic Computing User Policies in the Academic Services and Policies section
of the undergraduate catalog).

**F. Student Identification Cards**
1. Lending, selling, or otherwise transferring a student identification card is prohibited, as
is the use of an identification card by anyone other than its original holder.
2. No student shall obtain under false pretenses any additional student identification
cards.
3. A student must present proper credentials to properly identified university faculty and
staff upon their request while these persons are in the performance of their duties.