**NMC 278H — INTRODUCTION TO THE MODERN MIDDLE EAST**

**Summer 2017**

Time: Tuesdays, Thursdays 10:00 AM – 12:30 PM

Place: BL 205 (Claude Bissell Building)

Instructor: Dr. Oscar Jarzmik, e-mail: [o.jarzmik@mail.utoronto.ca](mailto:o.jarzmik@mail.utoronto.ca) (as another option: [oscar.jarzmik@gmail.com](mailto:oscar.jarzmik@gmail.com))

Office: The classroom (I’m not important enough to have my own office)

Office Hours: After class on Thursdays, by appointment/request.

*• Description:* A historical introduction to the present-day Middle East (Egypt, Turkey, Iran, the Fertile Crescent and the Arabian Peninsula) surveying the 19th and the 20th centuries. The major theme is the region’s transition from being a part of indigenous empires, to its incorporation into the modern state system midwifed by European colonial rule, along with the accompanying changes in and new definitions of Middle Eastern peoples’ collective identities. The course is delivered via lectures, with opportunities for questions, answers, and discussion of the lectures and readings.

*• Readings:* The basic text is William L. Cleveland and Martin Bunton, *A History of the Modern Middle East*, 6th edition. Students are responsible for the Cleveland-Bunton chapters and pages indicated in the schedule of lectures and textbook readings (found on the second page of this course outline). The Cleveland-Bunton textbook offers a narrative framework. Class lectures complement the textbook by emphasizing and developing the major themes of the course (including the transition from empire to nation-states/colonial rule, the “minoritization” of populations and development of national identities). In addition to the assigned textbook pages, you are required to read Salim Tamari and Issam Nassar, eds., *The Storyteller of Jerusalem: The Life and Times of Wasif Jawhariyyeh, 1904-1948.* Both books are (or should be) on course reserves in Robarts Library, and have been ordered through the University of Toronto Bookstore.

*Attendance*: Lecture attendance is highly encouraged, as lectures will cover content not included in the readings alone. It is your responsibility to take notes. Readings should be completed before the beginning of class (an exception, of course, is made for the first day of class).

*• Evaluation:* One term test on **May 30th** (30%), one book essay due on **June 15th** (25%), Faculty Final Examination on a date to be fixed by the Faculty of Arts & Science (45%). The mid-term and final test will consist of a mix of identification (keywords that include events, individuals, and concepts), as well as essay questions. You will be expected to draw on the Cleveland-Bunton text as well as the lecture material.

*• Book Essay:* Due **June 15th**. It should be between six and eight double-spaced typewritten pages (1500–2000 words). The report will deal with “The Storyteller of Jerusalem” book in accordance with a format defined by the instructor.

*• Late Work:*  Normally no extensions will be granted for the book essay. But, you may submit it up to one week late with two percent per working day subtracted from the assignment’s mark (documented medical or personal emergencies requiring special consideration should be brought to the instructor’s attention in a timely manner.)

**Course lectures & corresponding Cleveland-Bunton (6th edition) textbook readings**

May 16 Introduction pp. 1-52

May 18 19th-century reforms pp. 53–110

May 23 New political & intellectual currents pp. 111**–**138

May 25 First World War & colonial partition pp. 139–160

May 30 *Midterm test (90 minutes)*

Interwar Middle East I pp. 161–183

June 1 Interwar Middle East II pp. 184–225

June 6 From Palestine to Israel pp. 226–256

June 8 Turkey and Iran after the Second World War pp. 257–286

June 13 Nasser, Arab nationalism, and the June 1967 war pp. 287–328

June 15 Israel and the Palestinians after 1948 pp. 329–350

June 20 The Iranian revolution and “Political Islam” pp. 351–378

June 22 Oil and “America’s moment in the Middle East” pp. 403–423,

pp. 522–539

June 27 The “Arab Spring” and the challenge to authoritarian rule, pp. 540-560

N.B. Cleveland-Bunton pages skipped in this list are recommended but optional.