

History 381
THE NEAR AND MIDDLE EAST
M 6:00pm-8:50pm 225 McIver

Instructor: Dr. Ann Saab
Office Hours: 223 McIver M 5:00-6:00pm or by appointment (334-5992 or 272-1024)
e-mail: annsaab@earthlink.net

Texts: S.N. Fisher and W. Ochsenwald, THE MIDDLE EAST: A HISTORY, 5th ed., vol. II (F)
Michael Cook, THE KORAN: A VERY SHORT INTRODUCTION
Other assignments on reserve (including e-reserve) in Jackson Library
You should also be prepared to access course information at <http://blackboard.uncg.edu>

The Fisher text is a standard account of Middle Eastern history in the twentieth century. It will be most helpful for background, and for laying hold of the many complex details in which this subject abounds. In addition, I have placed a series of short stories and selections from longer works on reserve in the library. These readings are designed to give you a feel for the milieu. Students should hand in a short (250-500 word) summary and reaction to reserve assignments (but NOT Fisher or Cook) due at the class period for which the reading is assigned. Alternatively, you may e-mail me your paper *before* the class period at which it is due. Late papers will be accepted, but the grade will be lowered five points. When more than one selection is assigned for the same class period, each student will be responsible for reading all the selections for discussion purposes, but should write a paper on only one selection. These summaries plus class participation will count equally with each hour exam and the final exam in determining the course grade.

I. LIVING THE HERITAGE

Jan 13 Introduction

Jan 20 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday. No class.

Jan 27 Judaism: The Promise and the History Old Testament or Hebrew Bible (any ed), Genesis 6:5-9:17; 12:1-9; 13:14-18; 15:1-21; 17:1-27; Joshua 24:1-28; Isaiah 40:1-31; Ezekiel 1:1-2:7; Yehuda Amichai, *Open, Closed, Open*, on reserve

Feb 3 Islam: The Way of Life Then and Now Cook, pp. 3-48; 95-143; Rumi, selections on reserve

Feb 10 The Ottoman Empire: The Political Heritage "Story of Bugach Khan"

Feb 17 REVIEW/FIRST HOUR EXAM

II. CONFRONTING MODERNITY

Feb 24 Torn States: Turkey and Iran F 399-421; 482-532; "Civilization's Spare Part;" "My Nephew;" "Moonlight on the Avenue of Faith"

Mar 3 The Middle Way: Egypt under Nasser: The Pan-Arab Dream F 539-55; 561-70; "Another Evening at the Club"; "Cairo is a Small City"

Mar 10 SPRING BREAK: NO CLASS

Mar 17 Cleft States: Lebanon and Afghanistan F 421-22; 439-43; 533-34; 583-95; "An Unexpected Light"

Mar 19 LAST DAY TO DROP WITHOUT PENALTY

Mar 24 Iraq: A Cleft State Waiting to Happen F 445-51; 606-17; "The Arab World: Personal Encounters;" "Women in Fear"

Mar 31 REVIEW/SECOND HOUR EXAM

III. A CLASH OF WHAT?

Apr 7 Israel and the Palestinians to 1967 F 453-65; 674-94; "The Swimming Pool"

Apr 14 Israel and the Palestinians since 1967 F 697-719 "Room on the Roof"

Apr 21 War and Peace: Core-State Competition, Fault-Line Conflicts, and Great Power Hegemony F 617-21; "From a Sealed Room"

Apr 28 Islamism F 721-39; "Open Letter by Hizb Allah;" "What Went Wrong?"

May 5 REVIEW

FINAL EXAM: Take-home Exam to be given out at the end of the last class and to be handed in at any time up to May 12 8:50pm