IR 581: Middle East International Relations
Colonialism, Nationalism and Identity

Autumn 2007

Prof. Laurie Brand ext. 03651
Office: VKC 330 brand@usc.edu
Office Hours: Wednesday 10-12 and by appointment

Even a precursory examination of the region stretching from Morocco to Afghanistan reveals myriad struggles and several armed conflicts, each of which has at base some configuration of issues triggered or exacerbated by colonial penetration, and then incorporated into the problematic of state consolidation in the wake of independence. From the question of the future of the Western Sahara in the Maghreb to that of possible state fracture in Iraq, the colonial legacy has become intertwined with (and often largely defined) the imperatives of state formation and development/construction of national identity. It is to a careful and scholarly examination of the origins and evolution of some of the thorniest of these regional issues that this course addresses itself.

We begin with weeks devoted to theoretical considerations of nationalism and colonialism, and then proceed to a series of case studies from North Africa to the Gulf region. While classic academic works on the region are the primary course materials, we do also use films and one novel. The goal of the course is to provide students with a theoretical and empirical understanding of the components of colonialism and nationalism, so as to better appreciate the full complexity of factors in the region that that have shaped the ongoing struggles over "nation" and national definition. While current developments in the region are critical and will constitute part of our discussion, this is not intended to be a course in Middle East current events.

****

Requirements: Students are expected to complete the readings for each class and be prepared to discuss them. No prior study of the Middle East is required to take this class; however, for those students with no prior background the Cleveland book, A History of the Modern Middle East, one of the required texts, should serve as a useful reference to fill in informational gaps.

The final grade will be calculated according to the following percentages and assignments. 1) Leading class discussion once (20%), which involves 10-15 minute analytical presentations of the major questions or issues raised by the week's readings; this is *not* intended to be a mere summary of all the readings. 2) Class participation (20%): much of graduate work involves reading, absorbing and critiquing bodies of literature; one of the most effective ways of struggling with and ultimately mastering this literature involves in-class discussion with your classmates of the works assigned each week; your class participation demonstrates not only that you have read the assigned material, but also that your have spent time reflecting upon it and digesting it; this type of

class work also helps to prepare you for the broader academic world in which commentary and critical discussion are important parts of the profession; I consider this a major part of the work for the class. 3) A 30-page research paper (40%). 4) An in-class 15-20 minute oral presentation of the research topic (20%) on the last day of class. The topic of the paper **must** be cleared with me (by submitting a one-page proposal and a preliminary bibliography) no later than **October 17**. This date is not negotiable, and papers written on topics that have not been approved will receive an F. The paper is due by 5 pm on December 12. No extensions will be given.

****

Statement for Students with Disabilities
Any student requesting academic accommodations based on a disability is required to register with Disability Services and Programs (DSP) each semester. A letter of verification for approved accommodations can be obtained from DSP. Please be sure the letter is delivered to me (or to TA) as early in the semester as possible. DSP is located in STU 301 and is open 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The phone number for DSP is (213) 740-0776.

Statement on Academic Integrity
USC seeks to maintain an optimal learning environment. General principles of academic honesty include the concept of respect for the intellectual property of others, the expectation that individual work will be submitted unless otherwise allowed by an instructor, and the obligations both to protect one's own academic work from misuse by others as well as to avoid using another's work as one's own. All students are expected to understand and abide by these principles. Scampus, the Student Guidebook, contains the Student Conduct Code in Section 11.00, while the recommended sanctions are located in Appendix A: http://www.usc.edu/dept/publications/SCAMPUS/gov/. Students will be referred to the Office of Student Judicial Affairs and Community Standards for further review, should there be any suspicion of academic dishonesty. The Review process can be found at: http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/SJACS/.

****

Required Texts: William L. Cleveland, *A History of the Modern Middle East*
Meron Benvenisti, *Sacred Landscapes*
John Hutchinson and Anthony D. Smith, *Nationalism*
Timothy Mitchell, *Colonizing Egypt*
Tayeb Saleh, *Season of Migration to the North*
Kamal Salibi, *A House of Many Mansions*
Elizabeth Thompson, *Colonial Citizens*

A course reader
The film, *The Battle of Algiers*
Articles marked with an asterisk (*) can be found through Proquest

Course meeting outline

August 29: Introduction to the class, preliminary discussion
View part of *Nasser 1956*
Read Cleveland, Chapter 11, section on Egypt; chapter 15, through segment on "Foreign Relations after 1952"

September 5: I. Nationalism and National Narratives
John Hutchinson and Anthony D. Smith (eds.), *Nationalism*, selections 1, 5, 6, 7, 12, 14
Gershoni and Jankowski, *Rethinking Nationalism in Arab Middle East*, chapters 1 and 4.
Adeed Dawisha, *Arab Nationalism in the Twentieth Century*, chapters 1 and 11.

September 12: Understanding Colonialism
*Edmund Burke III, "Theorizing the Histories of Colonialism, and Nationalism in the Arab Maghreb," *ASQ*, vol 20. no. 2. spring 1998.
F. Robert Hunter, "Rethinking Europe's Conquest of North Africa and the Middle East," *JNAS*, vol. 4, no. 4, winter 1999.
Timothy Mitchell, *Colonizing Egypt*, Chapters 2, 5 and 6

Please watch the *Battle of Algiers*. It is available at Leavey Library.

September 19: Algeria and North Africa
*Driss Maghraoui, "Moroccan Colonial Soldiers," ASQ, vol 20., no. 2 spring 1998
Todd Shepard, *Inventing Decolonization*, chapters 2 and 7.
Patricia Lorcin, (ed.), Algeria & France, 1800-2000, chapters by Joshua S. Schrier, Todd Shepard, Habiba Deming, and Richard Derderian.

September 26: Egypt and the Sudan
Al-Tayyib Salih, *Season of Migration to the North*
Timothy Mitchell, *Colonizing Egypt*, Chapters, 3 and 4.
Cleveland, Chapter 6, sections on Egypt.
Gershoni and Jankowski, chapters 3, 6, 7 and 8. (Egypt).

October 3: Lebanon
Kamal Salibi, *House of Many Mansions*

October 10: Syria and Lebanon
Elizabeth Thompson, *Colonial Citizens*, chapters 1-9.

October 17: Iraq

One page summary/proposal and preliminary bibliography for research paper are due.

Cleveland, Chapter 11, sections on Iraq; Chapter 16, section on Iraq; Chapter 19, section on Iraq.
Sami Zubaida, "The Fragments Imagine the Nation: The Case of Iraq," *IJMES*, vol. 34, no.2, 2002.
*Adeed Dawisha, "Identity and Political Survival in Saddam's Iraq," *MEJ*, vol. 53, no. 4 autumn 1999.
Amatzia Baram, "Neo-Tribalism in Iraq: Saddam Husayn's Tribal Policies, 1991-96" *IJMES*, vol. 29, no. 1, February 1997.
Ofra Bengio, *Saddam's Word*, chapters 6-9.

October 24: The Gulf
Cleveland, Chapter 21.
*Madawi al-Rasheed, "God, the King and the Nation: the Rhetoric of Politics in Saudi Arabia in the 1990s," *MEJ*, vol. 50, no. 3, summer 1996.
Madawi Al-Rasheed and Robert Vitalis, *Counter-Narratives: History, Contemporary Society and Politics in Saudi Arabia and Yemen*, chapters 4,6, and 8.
Gershoni and Jankowski, chapter 2 (Yemen).
Anh Nga Longva, "Nationalism in Pre-Modern Guise: The Discourse on Hadhar and Badu in Kuwait," IJMES, vol. 38, no. 2, (May2006).

October 31: Turkey
Cleveland, Chapter 8, section on Young Turks; Chapter 10, relevant sections; Chapter 14, relevant sections.
*Ayse Kadiolglu, "The Paradox of Turkish Nationalism and the Construction of Official Identity," *MES*, vol. 32, no.2, April 1996.
*Ahmet Icduygu, Yilmaz Colak and Nalan Soyaick, "What is the Matter with Citizenship: A Turkish Debate," *MES* vol. 35, no. 4, October 1999.
*Mesut Yegen, "The Turkish State Discourse and the Exclusion of Kurdish Identity," *MES*, vol 32, no. 2., April 1996.
*Kemal Kirisci, "Disaggregating Turkish Citizenship and Immigration Practices," *MES*, vol. 36, no.s, July 2000.
Yesim Arat, "Gender and Citizenship in Turkey," *GCME* (Syracuse), 275-287.

November 7: Israel/Palestine, Contested Histories
Walid Khalidi, *From Haven to Conquest*, Introduction.
Avi Shlaim, "The Debate about 1948," *IJMES*, vol. 27, no. 3, August 1995
Meron Benvenisti, *Sacred Landscapes*
William Cleveland, chapters 17 and 22-23.

November 14: Israel

Nadim Rouhana and As'ad Ghanem, "The Crisis of Minorities in Ethnic States: The Case of Palestinian Citizens of Israel," *IJMES*, vol. 30., no. 3 August 1998.

Yoav Peled, and Gershon Shafir, "The Roots of Peacemaking: The Dynamics of Citizenship in Israel, 1948-93," *IJMES*, vol. 28, no. 3, August 1996.

Raphael Cohen-Almagor, "Cultural Pluralism in the Israeli Nation-Building Ideology," *IJMES*, vol. 28, no.4 November 1995.

Rhoda Kanaaneh, "Embattled Identities: Palestinian Soldiers in the Israeli Military," *JPS*, vol. xxxii, no. 3, spring 2003

Kais M. Firo, "Reshaping Druze Particularism in Israel," *JPS*, vol. xxx, no.3, spring 2001.

Sami Shalom Chetrit, "Mizrahi Politics in Israel: Between Integration and Alternatives," *JPS*, xxix, no. 4 summer 2000.

Sara Helman, "Conscientious Objection and the Redefinition of Citizenship in Israel," in *CSME* (Syracuse), pp.316-338.

November 21: Palestine

Helga Baumgarten, "The Three Faces/ Phases of Palestinian Nationalism, 1948-2005" *JPS*, vol. xxxiv, no. 4, summer 2005

*Baruch Kimmerling, "The Formation of Palestinian Collective Identity: The Ottoman and Mandatory Periods," *MES*, vol.36, no. 2, April 2000.

Rosemary Sayegh, "Camp Palestinian Women as Tellers of History," *JPS* xxvii, no 2, winter 1998.

Anis Kassem, "The Palestinians: From Hyphenated to Integrated Citizenship" in *CSME* (Syracuse) pp. 201-225.

Islah Jad, Penny Johnson, and Rita Giacaman, "Transit Citizens: Gender and Citizenship under the Palestinian Authority," *GCME*, (Syracuse), pp. 137-157.

November 28: Class Presentations

December 5: Class Presentations