Boston University

THE GREAT POWERS and the EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN

CAS IR 325 / HI 229
Spring Semester 2019
Monday and Wednesday 10.10 – 11.25

Prof. Erik Goldstein
Office: 152 Bay State Road, 3rd Floor
Telephone: 353-9280

Office Hours:
Monday/Wednesday, 9:00-9:45
Monday/Wednesday, 3:45-4:30
and by appointment

COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Description
This course will look at the Eastern Mediterranean as a centre of Great Power confrontation, and consider such issues as the impact of the competition on wider international relations, the domestic impact on the region of this involvement, the role of seapower, the origins and conduct on wars in the region, and attempts at conflict resolution.

Objectives
To provide an understanding of the nature of Great Power rivalry, to gain insight into the underlying factors affecting international relations in the Eastern Mediterranean, and to consider how governments evolve and implement policy.

Requirements
Mid-term examination 30% (18 March 2019)
Comprehensive final examination. 70% (to be determined by University Registrar)

The use of cellphones is not permissible in class, except for genuine accessibility requirements (documented proof needed). Disruption caused by phones usage or phones ringing will result in a grade penalty to be determined by the instructor.

The use of laptops and tablets is for class related purposes only.

All class members are expected to maintain high standards of academic honesty and integrity. The members of this class will follow the “Academic Code of Conduct” of Boston University, accessible at: https://www.bu.edu/academics/policies/academic-conduct-code/

Boston University is committed to providing equal access to our coursework and programs to all students, including those with disabilities. In order to be sure that accommodations can be made in time for all exams and assignments, please plan to turn in your accommodations letter as soon as possible after the first class to the instructor. After you turn in your letter, please meet with me to discuss the plan for accommodations so that we can be sure that they are adequate and you are supported in your learning. If you have further questions or need additional support, please contact the Office of Disability Services (access@bu.edu).
Core Readings

Donald Quataert. *The Ottoman Empire, 1700-1922* (2000)
Avi Shlaim. *War and Peace in the Middle East*

Supplementary Readings


In addition supplemental reading will be made available to the class as the course progresses.

LECTURE 1: INTRODUCTION: THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN IN FOCUS

Macfie, chaps 1-2.
Mansfield, chap. 1.
Quateart, chap. 1

LECTURE 2: THE GREAT POWERS ARRIVE: NAPOLEON, NELSON & THE NILE

Macfie, chap. 3

LECTURE 3: NATIONALISM & GREAT POWER PROXIES: I (Serbia & Greece)

Macfie, chap. 4
Quateart, chap. 6

LECTURE 4. RUSSIA & THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE

Macfie, chap. 5
Quateart, chap. 4

LECTURE 5. THE CRIMEAN WAR (Britain, France, and Russia)

Macfie, chap. 6

LECTURE 6. THE EASTERN CRISIS, 1878

Macfie, chap. 7
AJP Taylor, *The Struggle for the Mastery of Europe*, chap. 11. ‘The Great Eastern Crisis, 1875-8’
LECTURE 7. NATIONALISM & GREAT POWER PROXIES: II (The Emergence of the Modern Balkans)

Macfie, chap. 8

Quateart, chap. 5


LECTURE 8. THE GREAT POWER FACTOR IN MODERN GREEK POLITICS


LECTURE 9. BRITAIN & EGYPT, 1882-1914, & THE BAGDAD RAILWAY (Britain, France, Germany, Russia)

Mansfield, chap 5.


LECTURE 10. THE BALKAN WARS, 1912-13

AJP Taylor, *The Struggle for the Mastery of Europe*, chap.21, ‘The Balkan Wars and After’

LECTURE 11. THE FIRST WORLD WAR AND THE END OF THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE


Austria Hungary: Chap 1
Italy: Chap 2
Russia: Chap 3
Germany: Chap 4
France: Chap 5
Britain: Chap 6

Macfie, chap. 9

**Mid-term examination**
Lecture 12. THE ARAB REVOLT  
Mansfield, chap. 6. ‘Turks and Arabs’  

Lecture 13. ZIONISM AND THE GREAT POWERS  
AREMNIA and THE GREAT POWERS  

Lecture 14. THE PARIS PEACE CONFERENCE  
Macfie, chap. 10  

Lecture 15. ATATURK’S TURKEY  
Macfie, Part 3.  

Lecture 16. THE INTERWAR ERA  
Mansfield, chap 9.  
Avi Shlaim. *War and Peace in the Middle East*, chap 1. ‘the Post-Ottoman Syndrome’

Lecture 17. THE SECOND WORLD WAR  
Mansfield, chap. 10.  
Mark Mazower. *Inside Hitler’s Greece: the experience of Occupation, 1941-44*
Lecture 18. THE GREEK CIVIL WAR: BRITAIN, the SOVIET UNION, the UNITED STATES


Avi Shlaim. *War and Peace in the Middle East*, chap 2. ‘Succeeding John Bull’


Ritchie Ovendale, *The Origins of the Arab-Israeli War*, I chap. 7

Ritchie Ovendale, *The Middle East since 1914* (1992), Section 1.6

Lecture 20 BRITAIN, the UNITED STATES & THE FALL of MOSSADEGH, and SUEZ 1956 (Britain, France, Soviet Union, USA)

Ritchie Ovendale, *The Middle East since 1914* (1992), Section 1.5.

Mansfield, chap 11.


21. THE CYPRUS CONFLICT


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22. THE COLD WAR: THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION

Avi Shlaim. *War and Peace in the Middle East*, chap 3, ‘American Between Arab and Israeli’


23. THE SIX DAYS WAR & THE YOM KIPPUR WAR

Ritchie Ovendale, *The Origins of the Arab-Israeli War*, chap. 10


24. THE END OF THE COLD WAR

Avi Shlaim. *War and Peace in the Middle East*, chap 8. ‘Pax Americana’

25. THE GULF WARS

Avi Shlaim. *War and Peace in the Middle East*, chap 6, ‘Desert Storm and Desert Shield’

26. CONCLUSION