IR 328 and HI 398: TURKO-PERSIA SINCE 1900

This course covers history of non-Arab Muslim West and Central Asia, i.e. Turkey, Iran, Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan, and Kyrgyzstan. This is a geographic area in which Iranian and Turkic peoples have been in close contact for a millennium and forged a cultural synthesis, hence the term ‘Turko-Persia’.

These nine countries enjoyed a certain cultural unity until the nineteenth century, when Russia conquered the Caucasus and Central Asia. At the dawn of the twentieth century, the inhabitants of the Ottoman Empire, Iran (Persia) and Afghanistan were the only Muslims who were not governed by Europeans, which makes the history of these three countries very different from most of the rest of the non-Western world, which at one point or another was subjugated by colonialism. After the Bolshevik revolution of 1917 the Muslims of the Caucasus and Central Asia came under Communist rule, which for over half a century severed their ties with their kinsmen in Turkey, Iran, and Afghanistan. The end of the Soviet Union in 1991 allowed its six Muslim union republics to become independent. Southwest Asia (the Middle East) and Central Asia are linked again.

Throughout the course, political, diplomatic, social, and cultural developments will be covered, and the mutual influences of the various countries on each other will be highlighted. Topics discussed in this course include the Young Turk revolution in the Ottoman Empire, the constitutional revolution in Iran, the impact of World War I on the Ottoman Empire and Iran, the reforms of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, Reza Shah Pahlavi, and King Amanullah, the imposition of Communism on the Caucasus and Central Asia and the formation of ethnic republics, World War II, democratization in Turkey, the 1953 coup d’etat of 1953 in Iran, the Iranian revolution of 1979, the Communist take-over in Afghanistan and the subsequent war, the independence of the former Soviet republics, the Taliban, and the advent of a mildly Islamist government in Turkey.


There will be a midterm examination and a final examination, and the course grade will be calculated as follows: 40 % midterm, 60 % final. Class attendance and participation are mandatory and will be monitored. If a student misses more than two lectures, the course grade will be taken down one level (i.e., from A to A-, or from B+ to B) for every lecture missed without a valid excuse.

The instructor can be reached by telephone at 358 0193. Office hours are T. and Th. 2:00-3:00, or by appointment on Wednesday afternoons, and take place at 154 Bay State Road. No make-up exams will be given except in very exceptional circumstances – travel arrangements will not count as such. Cell phones and laptop computers are not allowed in class.

Students are expected to maintain high standards of academic honesty and integrity. You are expected to provide citations in papers for all quotations, paraphrases, and ideas taken from any source other than your own original thoughts. Boston University has very strict standards for intellectual integrity, and punishment for plagiarism is severe, and can include permanent expulsion from the university. For more on the definition of plagiarism and the standards to which you will be held, see the CAS Academic Conduct Code, available at http://www.bu.edu/academics/resources/academic-conduct-code/ or the GRS Academic Conduct Code: http://www.bu.edu/cas/students/graduate/forms-policies-procedures/academic-discipline-procedures/
Weekly Schedule

**Week 1**
January 16: Turko-Persia: Geography, languages, religions
Barfield, pp. 17-31, 40-47.

**Week 2**
January 21: Pre-20th-Century History of Turko-Persia
January 23: Constitutionalism in the Middle East
Zürcher, pp. 11-79.
Keddie, 1-57

**Week 3**
January 28: The Iranian Revolution of 1906
January 30: The Young Turk Revolution of 1908
Zürcher, pp. 80-118.
Keddie, pp. 58-72

**Week 4**
February 4: Afghanistan Before 1919
February 6: Central Asia before Communism
Barfield, pp. 90-99, 139-181.
Wheeler, pp. 22-47.

**Week 5**
February 11: World War I and its Aftermath in Turkey
February 13: World War I and its Aftermath in Iran
Zürcher, pp. 119-165.
Keddie, pp. 73-80

**Week 6**
February 18: The Bolshevik Revolution and Russia’s Muslims
February 20: One-Party Kemalism in Turkey
Week 7
February 25: One-Party Kemalism in Turkey, continued.
February 27: The Rule of Reza Shah

Keddie, 81-104.

Week 8
March 4: World War II and its aftermath in Iran
March 6: Midterm exam

Keddie, pp. 105-131.

Week 9
March 18: Transition to Democracy in Turkey
March 20: Political Developments in Turkey from 1950 to 2014


Week 10
March 25: Turkish Foreign Policy
March 27: Political Developments under the Shah, 1953-1979

TBA
Keddie, pp. 132-169.
Khosrow Fatemi, “Leadership by Distrust: The Shah’s *Modus Operandi*,” *The Middle East*

**Week 11**
April 1: Social, Cultural, and Religious Developments in Iran, 1953-1979
April 3: The Iranian Revolution

Keddie, pp. 170-239.

**Week 12**
April 8: The Islamic Republic of Iran
April 10: The Foreign Relations of Revolutionary Iran

Keddie, pp. 240-322.

**Week 13**
April 15: The Nuclear Issue
April 17: Afghanistan under the monarchy

Barfield, pp. 174-225.

**Week 14**
April 22: The Soviet Invasion and Occupation of Afghanistan
April 24: No class


**Week 15**
April 29: The Mujahidin, the Taliban, and the Western Intervention
May 1 The Break-up of the Soviet Union and the Soviet South

Barfield, pp. 272-350.