IR 328 and HI 398: TURKO-PERSIA SINCE 1900

This course covers the 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’état 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/](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/](http://www.bu.edu/cas/students/graduate/forms-policies-procedures/academic-discipline-procedures/)
Weekly Schedule

Week 1
January 19: Turko-Persia: Geography, languages, religions
January 21: Pre-20th-Century History of Turko-Persia
Barfield, pp. 17-31, 40-47.

Week 2
January 26: Constitutionalism in the Middle East
January 28: The Iranian Revolution of 1906 and its aftermath
Zürcher, pp. 11-79.
Keddie, 1-57
The Iranian Constitution of 1906-07

Week 3
February 2: The Young Turk Revolution of 1908
February 4: World War I and its Aftermath in Turkey
Zürcher, pp. 80-165.

Week 4
February 9: Afghanistan Before 1919
February 11: Central Asia before Communism and the Impact of the Bolshevik Revolution
Barfield, pp. 90-99, 139-181.
Rywkin, pp. 20-33.

Week 5
February 16: No class
February 18: World War I and its Aftermath in Iran: The Rise of Reza Pahlavi
Keddie, pp. 58-80
Week 6
February 23: One-Party Kemalism in Turkey
February 25: One-Party Kemalism in Turkey, continued

Zürcher, pp. 165-205.

Week 7
March 1: The Rule of Reza Shah
March 3: Midterm exam

Keddie, 81-104.

Week 8
March 15: World War II and its Aftermath in Iran
March 17: Transition to Democracy in Turkey

Keddie, pp. 105-131.
Touraj Atabaki, Azerbaijan, pp. 7-26.

Week 9
March 22: Political Developments in Turkey from 1950 to 2016
March 24: Turkish Foreign Policy

Keddie, pp. 132-169.

Week 10
March 29: Political Developments under the Shah, 1953-1979
March 31: Social, Cultural, and Religious Developments in Iran, 1953-1979


**Week 11**
April 5: The Iranian Revolution
April 7: The Islamic Republic of Iran

Keddie, pp. 170-239.
Preamble of the Constitution of 1979

**Week 12**
April 12: The Foreign Relations of Revolutionary Iran
April 14: The Nuclear Issue

Keddie, pp. 240-322.

**Week 13**
April 19: Afghanistan under the Monarchy, 1919-1973
April 21: The Soviet Invasion and Occupation of Afghanistan


**Week 14**
April 26: The Mujahidin, the Taliban, and the Western Intervention
April 28: The Break-up of the Soviet Union and the Soviet South