

WWS 594-h Culture and Conflict in the Middle East
Spring Semester 2004, Session II
Lisa Wynn

Examines conflicts in the modern Middle East from an anthropological perspective, including colonialism and nationalism, “political Islam,” terrorism, civil society, Islamic social movements, and the politics of gender. The course will give students a background in the political history of the region, explore the relationship between culture and politics, and debate policy issues. We will examine primary historical documents including original Zionist texts, UN resolutions on Palestine, and the 1998 bin Laden fatwa. Cases include the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and militant movements such as al-Qaeda.

Books:

Required:

Arthur Goldschmidt Jr., 2001. A Concise History of the Middle East, 7th Edition. Westview Press.

Eqbal Ahmed, 2001. Terrorism: Theirs and Ours. New York: Seven Stories Press, Open Media Pamphlet Series.

Joel Beinin and Joe Stork, eds., 1997. Political Islam: Essays from Middle East Report. Berkeley, Los Angeles: University of California Press.

Marvin Gettleman & Stuart Schaar, eds., 2003. The Middle East and Islamic World Reader. New York: Grove Press.

Recommended:

Malek Alloula, 1986. The Colonial Harem. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.

Week One: Introduction

Arthur Goldschmidt Jr., 2001. A Concise History of the Middle East, 7th Edition. Westview Press.

Barry Rubin, 2002. “The Real Roots of Arab Anti-Americanism.” Foreign Affairs, November-December 2002.
<http://www.foreignaffairs.org/20021101faessay9993/barry-rubin/the-real-roots-of-arab-anti-americanism.html>

J. Donald Moon, 2000. “Why I Am Not a Secularist” (book review). American Political Science Review, June 2000.

→ to distribute in class: **Arab reactions to 9/11: articles from al-Ahram Weekly**

Week Two: The Middle East and the West: Representations and Identity

Samuel Huntington. "The Clash of Civilizations?" Foreign Affairs, Summer 1993.
(and the responses to it...)

Samuel Huntington, 1993. "If Not Civilizations, What? Samuel Huntington Responds to His Critics." Foreign Affairs, November/December 1993.
<http://www.foreignaffairs.org/19931201faresponse5213-faarticles/samuel-p-huntington/if-not-civilizations-what-samuel-huntington-responds-to-his-critics.html>

Edward Said, "The Clash of Ignorance." The Nation, vol.273, no.12 (October 22, 2001), pp.11-14.

Edward Said, 1979. "Introduction" to Orientalism. New York: Vintage Books, pp.1-28.

Rana Kabbani, 1986. Europe's Myths of the Orient: Devise and Rule. London: MacMillan Press Ltd. Introduction (pp1-13), Conclusions (pp.137-139).

Immanuel Wallerstein, 1990. "Culture as the Ideological Battleground of the Modern World-System." In Theory, Culture and Society, vol.7, M. Featherstone, ed. London, Delhi: SAGE Publications, pp.31-55.

Bernard Lewis, 2001. "The Revolt of Islam." The New Yorker, 11/19/2001, pp.?

Kazem Alamdari, 2003. "Terrorism cuts across the East and the West: Deconstructing Lewis's Orientalism." Third World Quarterly, vol.24 no.1, pp.177-186.

Additional Readings:

M.A. Heiss. "The Evolution of the Imperial Idea and U.S. National Identity."

Diplomatic History, Fall 2002, vol.26 no.4 pp.511-540. (online, link below)

http://saturn.bids.ac.uk/cgi-bin/ds_deliver/1/princetonnj:shr/princetonj/ISIS/3381852.1/bpl/diph/2002/00000026/00000004/art00324/2FF8085CD55B4BFC10402403826409AB77BC51A08F.pdf?link=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.ingenta.com%3A80%2Fsis%2Ftracking%2FdeliveryError%2Fingenta%3FWebLogicSession%3DPgDOnb0KTTIvcEtEiFIF%7C-3751347002617499122%2F-1052814329%2F6%2F7051%2F7051%2F7052%2F7052%2F7051%2F-1%7C1040240285974&format=.pdf

James Carrier, ed., 1995. "Introduction" to Occidentalism: Images of the West. Oxford: Clarendon Press, pp.1-32.

Week Three: Political Islam, Islamic Social Movements and Civil Society

Ann M. Lesch, 2002. "Osama bin Laden: Embedded in the Middle East Crises." Middle East Policy vol.9 no.2, Jun 2002, pp.82-91.

From The Middle East and Islamic World Reader: "Early ideologues of Islamic radicalism" and "Modern Islamic radicalism," pp.296-313, and "The Threat of Osama bin Laden and American Responses," pp.324-331.

Joel Beinin and Joe Stork, 1997. "On the Modernity, Historical Specificity, and International Context of Political Islam." In Beinin and Stork, Political Islam, pp.3-28.

Yahya Sadowski, 1997. "The New Orientalism and the Democracy Debate." In Beinin and Stork, Political Islam, pp.33-50.

Gudrun Kramer, 1997. "Islamist Notions of Democracy." In Beinin and Stork, Political Islam, pp.71-82.

Rema Hammami, 1997. "From Immodesty to Collaboration: Hamas, the Women's Movement, and National Identity in the Intifada." In Beinin and Stork, Political Islam, pp. 194-210.

Timothy Mitchell, 1997. "Introduction to Part Four: The Struggle over Popular Culture." In Beinin and Stork, Political Islam, pp.253-256.

Lila Abu-Lughod, 1997. "Dramatic Reversals: Political Islam and Egyptian Television." In Beinin and Stork, Political Islam, pp.269-282.

Additional Readings:

Guilain Denoëux, 1993. "Religious Networks and Urban Unrest: Lessons from Iranian and Egyptian Experiences." In Kay Warren, ed., The Violence Within. Boulder: Westview, pp.123-156.

Carrie Rosefsky Wickham, 1997. "Islamic Mobilization and Political Change: The Islamist Trend in Egypt's Professional Associations." In Beinin and Stork, Political Islam, pp.120-135.

Saad Eddin Ibrahim, 1980. "Anatomy of Egypt's Militant Islamic Groups." IJMES 12, pp.423-53.

<http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0020-7438%28198012%2912%3A4%3C423%3AAOEMIG%3E2.0.CO%3B2-P>

Week Four: Debating Terms: “Terrorism,” “Martyrdom,” “Jihad”

Eqbal Ahmed, 2001. Terrorism: Theirs and Ours.

Eqbal Ahmed, 1986. “Comprehending Terror.” Middle East Report vol.16 no.3 (May-June 1986), pp.3-5.

Articles by Amnon Lipkin-Shahak, Martha Crenshaw, Abdul Hadi Palazzi, Reuven Paz, Boaz Ganor, and Khalil Shiqaqi, 2001. Countering Suicide Terrorism. Herliza, Israel: The International Policy Institute for Counter-Terrorism, pp.5-9, 21-29, 64-74, 86-94, 134-145, 149-58.

Robert A. Pape, 2003. “The Strategic Logic of Suicide Terrorism.” American Political Science Review, vol.97 no.3, August 2003, pp.343-361.

Assaf Moghadam, 2003. “Palestinian Suicide Terrorism in the Second Intifada: Motivations and Organizational Aspects.” Studies in Conflict and Terrorism, vol.26, pp.65-92.

Roland Bleiker, 2003. “Aestheticising Terrorism: Alternative Approaches to 11 September.” Australian Journal of Politics and History, vol.49, no.3, pp.430-445.

David J. Whittaker, 2003. The Terrorism Reader: Second Edition. London, New York: Routledge. Chapters 1 (“Definition of Terrorism”), 4 (“An Unholy Alliance”)

Additional Readings:

National Research Council, 2002. Discouraging Terrorism: Some Implications of 9/11. Washington: The National Academies Press.

David J. Whittaker, 2003. The Terrorism Reader: Second Edition. London, New York: Routledge.

Talal Asad. “The Limits of Religious Criticism in the Middle East.” Genealogies of Religion: Discipline and Reasons of Power in Christianity and Islam. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins, pp.200-236.

Week Five: Israel and Palestine

Gettleman and Schaar, eds., 2003. “Chapter V: Arabs and Zionists Struggle over Palestine.” The Middle East and Islamic World Reader, pp.147-232.

Davida Wood. "Politics of Identity in a Palestinian Village in Israel." In Kay Warren, ed., The Violence Within: Cultural and Political Opposition in Divided Nations. Boulder: Westview, pp.87-122.

Mary Layoun, 1992. "Telling Spaces: Palestinian Women and the Engendering of National Narratives." In Parker, Russo, Sommer and Yaeger, eds., Nationalisms and Sexualities. New York: Routledge, pp.407-423.

Additional Readings:

David Gilmour, 1982. Dispossessed: The Ordeal of the Palestinians. London: Sphere (chapters 1, 2, 5).

Edward Said, 1980. The Question of Palestine. New York: Vintage Books, pp.3-55.

Week Six: Women and Politics in the Middle East

Malek Alloula, 1986. The Colonial Harem. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.

Homa Hoodfar, 1993. "The Veil in Their Minds and On Our Heads: The Persistence of Colonial Images of Muslim Women." RFR/DRF Vol. 22 no.3/4, pp.5-18.

Laura Nader, 1989. "Orientalism, Occidentalism and the Control of Women." Cultural Dynamics vol.2 no.3, pp.323-355.

Sondra Hale, 1989. "The Politics of Gender in the Middle East." In Sandra Morgan, ed., Gender and Anthropology: Critical Reviews for Research and Teaching. Washington, D.C.: American Anthropological Association, pp.246-267.

Valentine Moghadam, 1992. "Revolution, Islam and Women: Sexual Politics in Iran and Afghanistan." In Parker, Russo, Sommer and Yaeger, eds., Nationalisms and Sexualities. New York: Routledge, pp.424-446.

Additional Readings:

Mosse, George. Nationalism and Sexuality. New York: Howard Fertig, 1985.

Kumari Jayawardena, 1986. Feminism and Nationalism in the Third World. London: Zed Books.

Marie-Aimee Helie-Lucas, 1990. "Women, Nationalism and Religion in the Algerian Liberation Struggle." In Badran and Cooke, eds., Opening the Gates: A Century of Arab Feminist Writing. London: Virago.