



# EXTENDED CAMPUS

COLLEGE of PROFESSIONAL  
and CONTINUING STUDIES

## **HIST 6600-105: Seminar in Middle Eastern History: The Modern Middle East**

### **Course Description:**

An introduction to the history of the Middle East from 1500 to the present with emphasis on the last century. Students will explore ongoing issues in the region and write extensively about recent scholarship on the region.

### **Class Dates, Location and Hours:**

Dates: March 13 – 15, and 20 – 22, 2020  
Location: 3281 NW Koehler Loop, Fort Sill, Oklahoma.  
Hours: Friday 5:30-9:00 p.m., Saturday 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.; Sunday 12:00-4:00 p.m.  
Last day to enroll or drop without penalty: February 13, 2020

### **Site Director:**

Email: [apftsill@ou.edu](mailto:apftsill@ou.edu). Phone: (580) 355-1974.

### **Professor Contact Information:**

Course Professor: Daniel C. Snell  
Mailing Address: 504 Miller Avenue  
Norman, OK 73069-5930  
Telephone Number: (405)821-8752  
E-mail Address: [dcsnell@ou.edu](mailto:dcsnell@ou.edu)  
Professor availability: The professor will be available via email to students before and after the class sessions. On-site office hours are half an hour before and after each class session, by appointment.

### **Textbook(s) and Instructional Materials:**

Student materials are available at the OU Bookstore Website at <https://ou.textbookx.com/institutional/index.php>. There is no longer a physical bookstore, the store will remain, but textbooks will not be stocked. The website has book selling, renting, buying, returning, and order tracking capabilities. If you need help with an order, or if you have any questions contact the toll-free phone at 1-(855)-790-6637, agents are available from 9a – 5p (EST) Monday – Friday. For more information or questions about textbooks, feel free to contact [apsyllabi@ou.edu](mailto:apsyllabi@ou.edu). Text prices are available online

1. Cleveland, W., & Bunton, M. (2016). *A history of the modern middle east* (6<sup>th</sup> ed.). Boulder, CO: Westview Press. ISBN 9780813349800.
2. Dagher, Sam (2019) *Assad or we burn the country*. New York: Little Brown.
3. Materials posted on JSTOR: Access JSTOR on the OU libraries website at <https://libraries.ou.edu/>; enter your OU NetID and password, select Databases, click on J, and then select JSTOR. Please contact your local Site Director if you require assistance.

## Course Objectives:

To introduce students to the general shape of the history of the Modern Middle East and some of the historical problems connected with it.

## Course Outline:

- I. First Meeting: Chapter review of Cleveland and Bunton due via Canvas or physically on paper
  - a. Introduction
  - b. The Ottoman System
  - c. The Eastern Question and the Great Game
  - d. Religions and Missionaries
  - e. Turn in first paper.
  - f. Write informally in class: response to class session and questions
- II. Second Meeting:
  - a. Assign groups for final report on a regional problem. Possible topics:
    - i. Population Explosion
    - ii. Oil and Development
    - iii. Democracy and Minorities
    - iv. Educational Access and Standards
    - v. Roles of the Militaries
    - vi. Roles of Minorities
    - vii. Religions in Contact
  - b. Religion and Politics
  - c. The Safavids and Qajars
  - d. Reforms
  - e. Nationalism
  - f. Islam, Khartoum
  - g. Write informally in class: response to the class session and questions
- III. Third Meeting:
  - a. Western Imperial Involvement
  - b. Group plans for regional problem reports
  - c. Colonialism and Independence
  - d. World War I in the Middle East
- IV. Fourth Meeting: Short review of Dagher due on Canvas or on paper
  - a. Lawrence in Arabia
  - b. The Peace
  - c. Mandates
  - d. Egypt
  - e. Palestine
  - f. Iraq
  - g. Group plans for regional problem reports
  - h. Revolutions and Since:
    - i. Egypt
    - ii. Iraq
    - iii. Iran
    - iv. Israel
    - v. Syria
    - vi. Jordan
    - vii. Lebanon
    - viii. Turkey
    - ix. The Gulf States
- V. Fifth Meeting:
  - a. Group reports on regional problems
  - b. The Six Day War

- c. Peace Efforts
  - d. Current Crises
- VI. Sixth Meeting:
- a. Prepare for final
  - b. Discuss last writing assignment
  - c. Write Final Exam. Possible questions include:
    - i. Write a history of the problem on which your group reported with recommendations for the U.S. response for an incoming politically appointed ambassador.
    - ii. How would you advise US policymakers to move to resolve the Israel-Palestinian conflict in view of the history?
    - iii. Ditto: Iraq.

### **Assignments, Grading and Due Dates:**

Papers must be in a recognized citation form, either APA or Humanities Endnote form. Information on form will be given in the course of the class. For the first paper students may use whatever form they are most familiar with.

#### **First Assignment:**

Read Cleveland (and Bunton, if you have a later edition). Persons whose last names begin with A through M should choose one chapter from the first half of the book and write a four-page paper summarizing and critiquing that chapter. Persons with last names N through Z should choose one chapter from the second half and do the same. Each student should be ready to lead discussion on the chapter chosen. **Due the first day of class.**

#### **Second Assignment:**

Read Sam Dagher, *Assad or we burn the country*, paying special attention to aspects that appear to be prominent in other countries in the Modern Middle East besides Syria; is this a unique story, or is legitimacy an ongoing problem? Write a book review of at least one page of Dagher **due the fourth meeting of the class, that is, the second Friday we meet.**

#### **Final paper:**

Write a ten page paper using a recognized citation style exploring a problem of your choosing in the Modern History of the Middle East through study of at least six articles on JSTOR or other peer-reviewed sources written since 1980. **The paper will be due the Monday two weeks after the end of the course.** Papers submitted later may result in grades of Incomplete for the course.

#### **Grading:**

This is a letter-graded course: A, B, C, D, or F.

**Notice:** Failure to meet assignment due dates could result in a grade of I (Incomplete) and may adversely impact Tuition Assistance and/or Financial Aid.

## **POLICIES AND NOTICES**

### **Attendance/Grade Policy**

Attendance and participation in interaction, individual assignments, group exercises, simulations, role playing, etc. are valuable aspects of any course because much of the learning comes from discussions in class with other students. It is expected that you attend all classes and be on time except for excused emergencies.

Excused absences are given for professor mandated activities or legally required activities such as emergencies or military assignments. It is the policy of the University to excuse absences of students that result from religious observances and to provide without penalty for the rescheduling of examinations and additional required class work that may fall on religious holidays. Unavoidable personal emergencies, including (but not limited to) serious illness; delays in getting to class because of accidents, etc.; deaths and funerals, and hazardous road conditions will be excused.

If you are obtaining financial assistance (TA, STAP, FA, VA, Scholarship, etc.) to pay all or part of your tuition cost, you must follow your funding agency/institution's policy regarding "I" (Incomplete) grades unless the timeline is longer than what the University policy allows then you must adhere to the University policy. Students who receive Financial Aid must resolve/complete any "I" (Incomplete) grades by the end of the term or he/she may be placed on "financial aid probation." If the "I" grade is not resolved/completed by the end of the following term, the student's Financial Aid may be suspended making the student ineligible for further Financial Aid.

Students are responsible for meeting the guidelines of Tuition Assistance and Veterans Assistance. See the education counselor at your local education center for a complete description of your TA or VA requirements.

### **Academic Integrity and Student Conduct**

Academic integrity means honesty and responsibility in scholarship. Academic assignments exist to help students learn; grades exist to show how fully this goal is attained. Therefore all work and all grades should result from the student's own understanding and effort.

Academic misconduct is any act which improperly affects the evaluation of a student's academic performance or achievement. Misconduct occurs when the student either knows or reasonably should know that the act constitutes misconduct. Academic misconduct includes: cheating and using unauthorized materials on examinations and other assignments; improper collaboration, submitting the same assignment for different classes (self-plagiarism); fabrication, forgery, alteration of documents, lying, etc...in order to obtain an academic advantage; assisting others in academic misconduct; attempting to commit academic misconduct; destruction of property, hacking, etc...; intimidation and interference with integrity process; and plagiarism. All students should review the Student's Guide to Academic Integrity at [http://integrity.ou.edu/students\\_guide.html](http://integrity.ou.edu/students_guide.html)

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. All students should review policies regarding student conduct at <http://studentconduct.ou.edu/>

### **Accommodation Statement**

The University of Oklahoma is committed to making its activities as accessible as possible. For accommodations on the basis of disability, please contact your local OU Site Director.

### **Adjustment for Pregnancy/Childbirth-Related Issues**

Should you need modifications or adjustments to your course requirements because of documented pregnancy-related or childbirth-related issues, please contact me as soon as possible to discuss. Generally, modifications will be made where medically necessary and similar in scope to accommodations based on temporary disability. Please see <http://www.ou.edu/content/eoo/faqs/pregnancy-faqs.html>.

### **Title IX Resources**

For any concerns regarding gender-based discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, stalking, or intimate partner violence, the University offers a variety of resources, including advocates on-call 24/7, counseling services, mutual no-contact orders, scheduling adjustments, and disciplinary sanctions against the perpetrator. Please contact the Sexual Misconduct Office at [smo@ou.edu](mailto:smo@ou.edu) or (405) 325-2215 (8-5), or the Sexual Assault Response Team at (405) 615 -0013 (24/7) to report an incident. To learn more about Title IX, please visit the Institutional Equity Office's website at <http://www.ou.edu/content/eoo.html>

### **Course Policies**

Advanced Programs policy is to order books in paperback if available. Courses, dates, and professors are subject to change. Please check with your OU Site Director. Students should retain a copy of any assignments that are mailed to the professor for the course. Advanced Programs does not provide duplicating services or office supplies.

Any and all course materials, syllabus, lessons, lectures, etc. are the property of professor teaching the course and the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma and are protected under applicable copyright.

For more information about Advanced Programs, visit our website at: <http://www.goou.ou.edu/>

## INSTRUCTOR VITA

**Daniel C. Snell, Ph.D.**

### Education

- 1975 MA, M.Phil., Ph.D., Yale University, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Literatures
- 1971 BA, Stanford University, Humanities Special Programs, Phi Beta Kappa.

### Current Positions

- Advanced Programs professor since 2002
- L. J. Semrod Presidential Professor of History Emeritus
- University of Oklahoma since 1983, participating in Liberal Studies teaching since 1991

### Frequently Taught Advanced Programs Courses

- HIST 6600 Seminar in Middle Eastern History
- LSTD 4390 History of Slavery

### Major Areas of Teaching and Research Interest

- Society and economy of the Ancient Near East
- Proverbs in Israel and the Ancient Near East
- Slavery in the Ancient Near East and World History

### Representative Publications and Presentations

- Co-author, *Current Issues in the Study of the Ancient Near East*. Claremont, CA: Association of Ancient Historians.
- Editor, *A Companion to the Ancient Near East*. Oxford: Blackwell, 2005, second edition 2019.
- *Flight and Freedom in the Ancient Near East*. Leiden, The Netherlands: E. J. Brill, 2001.
- *Life in the Ancient Near East, 3100-332 B.C.* New Haven: Yale University Press, 1997.
- "Freedom as a Societal Value in the Ancient and Modern Worlds." Conference on "Religion, Freedom, and Prosperity in Oklahoma." East Central University, Ada, April 27-28, 2001.
- "Slavery and Freedom in the Ancient and Modern World." Otterbein College, Westerville, Ohio, October 24, 2000.
- "Slavery in World History." School of Arts and Sciences Lecture, State University of New York at Potsdam, October 19, 1999.

### Representative Honors and Awards Received

- Visiting Humanities Scholar, Otterbein College, Westerville, Ohio, autumn term, 2000
- Seminar member, National Endowment for the Humanities Seminar on "Slavery and the Atlantic Plantation Complex: 1450-1890," Johns Hopkins University, June-July, 1993
- Australian National Humanities Research Centre Fellow, Canberra, Australia, May-August, 1990
- National Humanities Center Fellow, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina, 1989-1990
- Fulbright Researcher, The National Museum, Aleppo, Syria, 1982-1983

### Major Professional Affiliations

- Life Member, American Oriental Society
- Member, Society of Biblical Literature
- Member, American Historical Association
- Member, Norman (Oklahoma) Public Schools Board