

History 232, Middle East to 1798

Spring 2016

MWF 1200-1250 CPS 310. Final Exam: , Tuesday, May 17 12:30-14:30

Instructor: Dr. E. Francis.Office: 463 CCC | Phone: (715) 346-3289 | Email: efrancis@uwsp.edu.Office Hours: Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays 10:45-11:45 **And By Appointment**

Important Note: The assignments, deadlines, and policies described in this syllabus are subject to change. Any such changes will be clearly announced. It is your responsibility as a student to regularly check D2L and your UWSP email account for corrections or updates to the syllabus.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

History 232 (The Middle East to 1798) fulfills the “Historical Perspectives” and “Global Awareness” categories of UWSP’s General Education Program (GEP). It is also a foundational course for several majors and minors--including History, International Studies, and Broad-Field Social Sciences. Through this course, students will improve their ability to:

- identify, interpret, and assess historical arguments.
- evaluate primary and secondary sources as historical evidence
- identify and explain various aspects of premodern Middle Eastern societies.

Students will develop those skills by studying the history of the Middle East from approximately 600 to 1798 CE. They will learn about this history through reading textbooks and primary sources and through lectures, discussions, and other learning activities.

BOOKS AND OTHER REQUIRED EXPENSES

Egger, Vernon O. *A History of the Muslim World to 1405: The Making of a Civilization*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Prentice Hall, 2004. (Egger I)

Available through Textbook Rental

Egger, Vernon O. *A History of the Muslim Since 1260: The Making of a Global Community*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Prentice Hall, 2008 (Egger II)

Available through Textbook Rental

Williams, John, ed. *The Word of Islam*. Austin, TX: University of Texas Press, 1994. (Williams)

Additional readings will be distributed in class, posted on e-Reserves, or posted on D2L. You will need to print out E-Reserve readings and bring hard copies to class on the date assigned. Printing is available to students at all UWSP computer labs for \$0.10/page.

ASSESSMENT AND GRADING

Final course grades will be assigned on a percentage basis:

A	93.0%+	A-	90.0%+	Exceptional or exemplary work.
B+	87.0%+	B	83.0%+	Very good work. Above average.
C+	77.0%+	C	73.0%+	Acceptable work. Meets minimum requirements.
D+	67.0%+	D	63.0%+	Does not meet minimum requirements.
		F	0-62.9%	

These grades will be based on students' performance on short assignments and exams as described below:

Item	Deadline	Percentage
Short Assignments	Ongoing	20%
Exams		80%
Exam 1	March 2	
Exam 2	April 13	
Exam 3	May 17, 12:30-14:30	
Professionalism		special
TOTAL		100%

Short Assignments (Ongoing, unannounced 20% of overall grade)

A significant portion of your grade will be based on a variety of short assignments administered throughout the semester. I plan to give at least ten such assignments. Most, if not all, will be unannounced in-class work. These short assignments will include both graded and ungraded (pass/fail) work. The format may include:

- In-class writing assignments (graded or ungraded)
- In-class “pop quizzes” (including “attendance quizzes”)
(Hint: Quizzes will often be open-book quizzes on the day’s reading. Always be sure to have a copy of the day’s reading with you!)
- Brief graded writing assignments. (no more than 250 words)

Only the top 90% of your short assignments (rounding down) will count towards your grade..

Because of this, **students may not normally make up missed quizzes or short assignments.**

Exams 80% of overall grade

- Exam 1: Weds. March 2 (in class)
- Exam 2: Weds. April 13 (in class)
- Exam 3/Final Exam: Tues. May 17 12:30-14:30 in CPS 310.

The majority of your grade will be based on three in-class exams. Each exam will be weighted equally. All exams will be in a similar format. All will combine objective questions with short answers and a brief essay. These will be comprehensive—covering readings, lectures, and primary source interpretation. The second and third exams will not be cumulative as such. However, everything you have learned in class will be valuable for future exams as part of the necessary background knowledge.

Professionalism. College is your gateway into the working world. Therefore, in this class I will follow practices of common courtesy and professionalism expected in the workplace. I expect that you do the same. Attendance, participation, and overall professionalism are not graded as such in this class. However:

- Students who regularly exhibit disrespectful or disruptive behaviors (e.g., distracted behavior like talking, texting, etc.) may be subject to grade penalties of 3%-10% (up to a full letter grade).
- Students who stop attending may be dropped from the class, in accordance with UWSP's policies on attendance.
- At the instructor's discretion, students who exemplify professional student behavior may earn up to 1% of extra credit. For example:
 - Some students might regularly advance class discussions by answering the instructor's questions or posing their own.
 - Other students might demonstrate their engagement with the material through online discussions or one-on-one meetings with the instructor.

LIST OF TOPICS AND TEXTBOOK READINGS

- This is a brief summary of the material we will cover in this semester.
- I will periodically distribute more detailed schedules throughout the semester.
- Please note that there is no date assigned to particular topics. I will announce when we will proceed to the next topic.
- Please note that this list **only** lists readings for Egger for each topic. I will also assign outside readings for each topic, normally primary sources from Williams or from E-Reserves. These outside readings will be announced ahead of time.

DATE	No.	TOPIC	EGGER ¹
	1	Introduction to Class	N/A
	2	Introduction to Primary Sources	
		<i>Egger I, Part I: The Formative Period, 610-950</i>	
	3	Southwest Asia in the Seventh Century	I:1-20
	4	The Rise of Islam	I:20-32
	5	The Arab Conquests	I:33-44
	6	Umayyad Administration	I:44-54
	7	The Dissolution of the Arab Empire	I:54-60
	8	Ali and the Politics of Division [Origins of Shiism]	I:62-69
	9	The Abbasid Revolution	I:69-72
	10	Shiite Identities	I:72-80
	11	The Sunni Consensus	I:80-84
	12	The Abbasid Caliphate	I:85-92
	13	The Fatimid Caliphate	I:94-98
	14	The Umayyad Caliphate of Cordoba	I:98-104
	15	Economic Networks	I:104-112

¹ In addition to Egger, there will be regular readings from Williams and other primary sources assigned relevant to each topic. Reading Egger alone will not be sufficient!

DATE	No.	TOPIC	EGGER ¹
	16	The Origins of Islamic Law	I:114-123
	17	Early Sufism	I:123-127
	18	The Reception of Science and Philosophy	I:127-133
	19	The Development of an Islamic Theology	I:133-138
		<i>Egger I, Part II: A Civilization Under Siege, 950-1260</i>	
	20	The Buyid Sultanate	I:142-145
	21	The Advent of the Turks	I:145-154
	22	The Fatimid Empire AND	I:154-160
	23	The Nizaris ("Assassins")	I:160-162
	24	The Muslim West	I:162-170
	25	The Period of the Crusades	I:172-182
	26	The Loss of Andalus	I:182-188
	27	Realignment in the East	I:188-198
	28	Science and Philosophy	I:199-205
	29	Consolidating Institutions: Sufism	205-214
	30	Consolidating Institutions: Shiism	214-219
	31	The Transmission of Knowledge	219-226
		<i>Egger I, Part III (or Egger II, Part I): Mongol Hegemony, 1260-1405</i>	
	32	The Mongol Khanates	I:260-269/ II:1-13
	33	New Centers of Islamic Culture	I:269-282/ II:13-21
	34	Scourges	I:282-288/ II:21-34
	35	Unity and Diversity in Islamic Traditions	I:290-317/ II:34-63
		<i>Egger II, Part II: Muslim Ascendancy 1405-1750</i>	
	36	The Ottoman Empire	II:67-83
	37	The Ottoman Empire II	II:83-95
	38	The Maghrib [ca. 1405-1750]	II:116-129
	39	Central Asia [ca. 1405-1750]	II:143-153
	40	Iran [ca. 1405-1750]-Part I	II:153-163
	41	Iran [ca. 1405-1750]-Part II	II:163-181

Other Important Dates:**March 19-27****Spring Break****Week 15.****Monday, May 9:****Last day of class (anticipated)****Wednesday, May 11:****International Congress of Medieval Studies.****Class may not meet in lieu of alternate assignment****Friday, May 13:****International Congress of Medieval Studies.****Class may not meet in lieu of alternate assignment**

COURSE POLICIES

Attend all class sessions. Do all assigned work yourself and do it on time. Give others credit for their work. Treat your classmates and me with the respect that you would like to receive. For further details, see the following policies (listed in alphabetical order):

Academic Honesty. I expect all students to uphold principles of academic honesty in this classroom. Students who commit any form of academic dishonesty in this class will be given a "0" (zero) grade for the relevant assignment. Further penalties can range from a lowered grade in the class (up to and including failing the class) to suspension or expulsion from the University.

- Academic dishonesty includes (but is not limited to):
 - plagiarism.
 - cheating on exams
 - providing false information on official documentation (e.g., signing others in for attendance, or giving false excuses to make up work)
 - presenting the same piece of work for credit in two different classes without prior permission
- Regarding plagiarism, I find the following statement from Cambridge University very helpful: "Plagiarism is defined as submitting as one's own work, *irrespective of intent to deceive*, that which derives in part or in its entirety from the work of others without due acknowledgement. It is both poor scholarship and a breach of academic integrity."² (Emphasis added.)
- I encourage you to review the Dean of Students' web page "Academic Misconduct" (<http://www.uwsp.edu/dos/Pages/Academic-Misconduct.aspx>). This website includes an overview of University policies, as well as a detailed discussion of students' rights and responsibilities.

Attendance. Students are expected to attend all classes for the entire session and complete all work by the date assigned. While attendance is not a formal part of your grade, attending class will have an impact on your grade.

- In accordance with University policy, students who stop attending class may be reported as not attending, and may be dropped from the class.
- Students are always responsible for all material presented in lectures. As noted elsewhere, I do not post my PowerPoint slides on D2L. Similarly I do not share my lecture notes. Be sure to get notes from a classmate if you miss class. If you have specific questions, I will always be happy to answer them.
- As the instructor, I work to establish a distraction-free environment where all can learn. I reserve the right to remove any disruptive or clearly non-attentive student from my classroom, either for one session or for the remainder of the semester, as I see fit. If this becomes necessary, students may be subject to grade penalties above and beyond that for missed assignments.
- See also: **Electronic Devices, Late Work, Missed Assignments, PowerPoint**
- See also: **Professionalism**, under "Grading and Assignments," above.

Communication. See **Desire 2 Learn, E-mail, and Office Hours.**

² University of Cambridge, "University-Wide Statement on Plagiarism," <http://www.admin.cam.ac.uk/univ/plagiarism/students/statement.html> (published June 2011, accessed January 19, 2014.)

Copyright on Course Materials. As the instructor, I retain all copyright on lectures, slides, assignments, and other course materials. I do not allow anybody to photograph, film, or otherwise record lectures without my express permission. I do not allow anybody to distribute course materials to people not currently enrolled in this class without my express permission. Posting course material I have created onto course-sharing websites directly violates my copyright on my academic materials.

Desire 2 Learn (D2L). This class uses Desire2Learn (D2L), UWSP's Online Learning Management System.

- All written work must be submitted electronically to the D2L Dropbox, except where noted otherwise.
- I will post grades, class announcements, review sheets, and course information on D2L, as well as other materials.
- I encourage you to ask me questions about the course on the D2L discussion boards. If you have a question, there's a good chance several other students have it too! As with e-mail, I will check D2L at least once a day, Monday through Friday.
- You can log into D2L at, <https://uwsp.courses.wisconsin.edu/>, with your UWSP logon. D2L can also be found on your MyPoint Portal, <https://mypoint.uwsp.edu>, on the Academics tab. After you have logged in to D2L, look below "My Stevens Point Courses" in the middle of the screen. Click the plus sign in front of the current semester to access the link to our class.

E-mail. I may make course announcements by e-mail. Be sure to regularly check your university provided email account (e.g., spointer@uwsp.edu). For my part, I check my e-mail at least once a day, Monday through Friday.

Electronic Devices. I strongly discourage the use of electronic devices such as cell phones, tablets, or laptop computers in the classroom. All those who wish to use laptop computers or similar devices must sit at the back of the room to avoid distracting other students. If I believe that any student is creating a distraction for others, I will insist that they put away the device or leave the class.

Equity of Educational Access. I will make every effort to accommodate verified disabilities so that students can do their best work in this course. If you have a learning or physical challenge which requires classroom accommodation, please contact the UWSP Disability Services office with your documentation as early as possible in the semester. They will then notify me, in a confidential memo, of the accommodations that will facilitate your success in the course. They can be reached at:

Disability Services Office, LRC 609, Voice: (715) 346-3365, TTY: (715) 346-3362,
web: <http://www4.uwsp.edu/special/disability/contact/default.aspx>.

See also: **Religious Beliefs**

Late Work. Any work submitted after the deadline will be subject to a -5% penalty for each 24 hours (or portion thereof) it is late. No written assignment may be submitted more than two weeks after the deadline. I will consider accommodations for special circumstances if informed beforehand, but am unlikely to do so after the fact except in case of a verified, legitimate emergency.

See also: **Missed Assignments**

Missed Assignments. Failure to take a quiz, exam, or in-class assignment will result in zero credit for that assignment.

- I will only allow make-up exams in documented cases of illness, emergency, or university-related travel.
- As a rule, students **cannot** make up grades for in-class work or "short assignments," since all students may drop 10% in this category. I will only make exceptions in rare cases on only for the reasons stated above.
- See also: **Attendance, Late Work**

Office Hours. Please visit me in my office (463 CCC), especially if there are things you don't understand in the class or if you are experiencing any other difficulties. I have scheduled office hours (listed on the syllabus) when I am always available to students. If you are not available during my scheduled office hours, I am always happy to schedule an appointment.

PowerPoint. I do use PowerPoint slideshows in the classroom. I do not make them available to students, except when necessary for reasons of equity of educational access.

Religious Beliefs. If you think you may need academic accommodations in this class due to your religious beliefs (for instance, if you cannot complete an assignment due to a religious holiday), please let me know within the first three weeks of class. I will work with all such students to provide reasonable accommodations for religious beliefs, in accordance with UWS 22.03.