Invisible Borders: Exchanges and Migrations in the Modern Mediterranean

AS.100.252 (01) // Gilman 75 // Tuesdays & Thursdays 10:30-11:45am // Sara Rahnama smrahnama@gmail.com // office hours: Tuesdays 12-1pm, Gillman 346 or by appointment

Course Objectives

1. Develop an understanding of how the Mediterranean can be used as an analytic frame in historical inquiry and its limitations.
2. Examine how race, gender, ethnicity, and social status impacted people’s possibilities and limitations as they moved through the modern Mediterranean.
3. Understand the lasting impact of events in the nineteenth and twentieth century Mediterranean on the region today.
4. Practice interpretive and analytic historical work by analyzing primary source documents in class and independently with secondary scholarship through midterm and final research papers.

Course Expectations

1. You will attend every class, do all required reading, and participate in discussion.
2. You will ask questions when you do not understand what is discussed in class or in readings.
3. You will show respect for the questions, viewpoints, and opinions that your fellow students offer in class, although it is in no way expected that you will necessarily agree with them, or with the instructor.

Evaluation

Students should complete each week’s assigned readings and post a response to Blackboard by noon Monday. Responses should be approximately one page in length and be within the body of the post (not an attachment). Please do not summarize the readings. Instead, make a distinct argument about one aspect of the readings. You may respond to or critique other students’ responses.

In lieu of a midterm exam, students will write a 7-10 page paper in response to a prompt of their choosing. In lieu of a final exam, students will write a 15-20 page research paper devoted to a topic of their choosing related to the course’s themes.

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<th>Component</th>
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<tr>
<td>Class Participation, Attendance</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reading Responses</td>
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<td>Midterm Essay</td>
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<td>Final Essay</td>
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Reading Schedule

Week 1:

Introduction to the Course (January 31)


Scholarly Approaches to the Mediterranean as a Category (February 2)

David Abulafia, “Mediterraneans,” in Rethinking the Mediterranean, edited by W. V. Harris (2005), 64-93


Week 2:

The Napoleonic Invasion of Egypt & the Beginnings of Arab Migration to France (February 7)


Ian Coller, “Ports of Call” in Arab France: Islam and the Making of Modern Europe, 1798-1831 (2009), 47-74

Travel, Migration, and Arab Reactions to Europe (February 9)


Ibrahim Abu-Lughod, “Arab Travelers to Europe” and “Arab Attitudes and Reactions to Western Achievements” in The Arab Rediscovery of Europe: A Study in Cultural Encounters (2011), 78-96 and 135-158

Week 3:

Scientific Knowledge and the Changing Orient in the European Imaginary (February 14)


Maria Todorova, “Introduction” in Imagining the Balkans (2009): 3-20

The Colonization of Algeria and European Immigration to North Africa (February 16)


Week 4:

Empire and Sex Tourism (February 21)

Ottoman History Podcast, "Illicit Sex in Ottoman and French Algeria"


Commerce, Border-Crossings, and Economic Migrations (February 23)

Jessica M. Marglin, "Mediterranean Modernity through Jewish Eyes: The Transimperial Life of Abraham Ankawa" Jewish Social Studies, Volume 20, Number 2, Winter 2014, 34-68


Week 5:

Modernizing City Spaces and the Local (February 28)


The Rise of the Arab Press and New Discourses about Women (March 2)

*Qasim Amin, “Women’s Freedom” in The New Woman (1900)

*Malik Hifni Nasif lecture at Umma Party Club (1909)


Week 6:

New Colonizations: The British Invasion of Egypt and the French Invasion of Tunisia (March 7)

*Jules Ferry, “Address to Chamber of Deputies on Tunisia,” (1884)


Political Ruptures in the Mediterranean: World War I (March 9)


Week 7:

Changing Cities in the Interwar (March 14)

*Taha Hussein, excerpt from The Future of Culture in Egypt (1936)

Nancy Reynolds, “Anticolonial Boycotts and National Trade” in A City Consumed: Urban Commerce, the Cairo Fire, and the Politics of Decolonization in Egypt (2012): 78-113

New Regimes Across the Mediterranean: The Spanish Civil War and The Turkish Republic (March 16)

*Halide Edib Adivar’s critique of Ataturk’s reforms (1929)

Ali Al Tuma, “Moros y Cristianos: Religious Aspects of the Participation of Moroccan Soldiers in the Spanish Civil War (1936-1939),” 151-177

Week 8:

Representing the Mediterranean in European Expositions (March 28)


The Rise of Anti-Imperialism and Pan-Arabism (March 30)


Week 9:

Policing the Family and Nation Building (April 4)


Colonies as “Laboratories of Modernity” (April 6)


Week 10:

World War II and Hitler’s Europe (April 11)

Emily Greble, Sarajevo, 1941-1945: Muslims, Christians, and Jews in Hitler’s Europe, 29-87, 149-207, 241-256 (2011)
Michael Marrus, “Wartime Escape Routes” and “Rescue Efforts” in *The Unwanted: European Refugees from the First World War through the Cold War* (1985), 240-195

**Changing Labor and Postwar Migrations (April 13)**

*Etel Adnan, address to Association of Middle Eastern Women’s Studies (1986)*


Stephen Castle and Mark J. Miller, “Migration to Highly-Developed Countries since 1945” in *The Age of Migration* (Third Edition, 2003), 68-93

**Week 11:**

**Zionism and the Creation of Israel (April 18)**

*Excerpt from Theodor Herzl, *The Jewish State* (1896)*

*Letter from Arthur Balfour to Lord Rothschild (1917)*

*Mahmoud Darwish, “Identity Card” (1964)*

*Naomi Shermer, “Jerusalem the Gold*

**The Algerian War, Decolonization, and the Remaking of the Mediterranean (April 20)**

*Frantz Fanon, “Algeria Unveiled” and “This is the Voice of Algeria” in *A Dying Colonialism* (1965)*

*Film: The Battle of Algiers*


**Week 12:**

**Europe in Revolt: the Sexual Revolution and 1968 (April 25)**


**Developing Immigration Policies: Migration, Borders, and Refugees (April 27)**


Christina Boswell and Andrew Geddes, “Asylum” in Migration and Mobility in the European Union (2011), 150-175

Week 13:

The Veil and Religious Representation in the Secular Mediterranean (May 2)


Jane Kramer, “Taking the Veil: How French’s Public Schools Became the Battleground in a Cultural War”

Today’s Refugee Crisis: 2015 and 2016 (May 4)

Matthew Carr, “The Greek Labyrinth” in Fortress Europe (2012), 84-106

*a primary source*