

History 232, Middle East to 1798

Spring ~~2016~~2018

MWF 1200-1250 ~~CPS 310~~ CCC303. Final Exam: Tuesday May 15, 12:30PM - 2:30PM

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Office Hours: Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays 10:30-11:30 **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:

1. Use primary sources as evidence to answer questions about historical change
2. Describe differences among interpretations of the past
3. Analyze institutional and cultural change over time
4. Identify and explain components of Middle Eastern cultures from 600-1798 CE

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. *A History of the Muslim World Since 1260: The Making of a Global Community*. Upper Saddle River, N.J: Prentice hall, 2008. Print. (Egger II)

Available through Textbook Rental

Ibn, Faḍlān A, and Paul Lunde. *Ibn Fadlān and the Land of Darkness: Arab Travellers in the Far North*. London: Penguin, 2012. Print.

Available for purchase at the UWSP Bookstore.

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%+	B-	80.0%+	Very good work. Above average.
C+	77.0%+	C	73.0%+	C-	70.0%+	Acceptable work. Meets minimum requirements.
D+	67.0%+	D	63.0%+	F	0-62.9%	Does not meet minimum requirements.

These grades will be based on students' performance on the assignments described below:

ITEM	DEADLINE	PERCENTAGE
Professionalism	Ongoing	15%
Objective Exams		35%
Objective Exam 1*	Friday February 23 (Week 5)	
Objective Exam 2*	Friday April 13 (Week 11)	
Final Exam/Objective Exam 3*	Tuesday May 15, 12:30PM - 2:30PM	
Written Exams		30%
Written Exam 1*	Friday, March 9(Week 7)	
Final Exam/Written Exam 2*	Tuesday May 15, 12:30PM - 2:30PM	
Writing Assignments		
Ibn Fadlan and <i>The 13th Warrior</i> *	Thursday March 22, 11:30 PM (Week 9)	15%
Flipping the Ottomans & Safavids	Thursday May 10, 11:30 PM (Week 15)	5%
TOTAL		100%

**Assignments marked with an asterisk are considered major assignments. Failure to complete any one of these major assignments will result in automatically failing the course.*

Professionalism. 15% of course grade. Ongoing.

College is your gateway into the working world. Thus, I will follow practices of common courtesy and professionalism expected in the workplace. I expect that you do the same. You will be held to those standards, and these will be reflected in your professionalism grade. Aspects of your professionalism grade will include **attendance, preparation, courtesy, participation in class discussions, and academic honesty**. A separate rubric will be distributed explaining my criteria for professionalism in this class.

In addition, some short assignments may be integrated into your Professionalism grade. Possible assignments 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 750 words/3 pages)

Objective Exams. 35% of overall grade, divided evenly among three exams:

- Objective Exam 1: Friday February 23 (Week 5) (in class)
- Objective Exam 2: Friday April 13 (Week 11) (in class)
- Final Exam/Objective Exam 3: Tuesday May 15, 12:30PM - 2:30PM in our classroom.

Each objective exam will be weighted equally. All will be comprehensive—covering material from readings, lectures, and primary source interpretation. Questions will address geography, chronology, identifications, events, and other issues deemed significant. A study guide will be provided in advance of each exam. 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. Note that our final exam will combine Objective Exam 3 and Written Exam 2.

Written Exams. 30% of course grade, divided evenly between two exams:

- Written Exam 1: Friday, March 9 (Week 7) (in class)
- Final Exam/Written Exam 2: Tuesday May 15, 12:30PM - 2:30PM

In the written exams, you will engage in a **graded** analysis of a set of primary sources. A study guide will be provided in advance of each exam. Note that our final exam will combine Objective Exam 3 and Written Exam 2.

Writing Assignments.

There are two major writing assignments in this course. Prompts for both will be distributed ahead of time. Both must conform to the latest edition of the MLA Style Guide.

Ibn Fadlan and *The 13th Warrior*. 15% of course grade. ~~Deadline: Thursday March 8~~

Deadline: Thursday, March 22, 11:30 PM.

In this class, we will read the account of Ibn Fadlan, an Arab traveler who wrote about his encounters with Turks and Vikings during the years 921 and 922 CE. In this paper, you will discuss the utility of Ibn Fadlan's account as a primary source and compare his work with the 1999 John McTiernan film *The 13th Warrior*, which is connected to this account.

Flipping the Ottomans & Safavids. 5% of course grade. Deadline: Thursday May 10, 11:30 PM

Class will not meet on May 9 or May 11. Instead, you will be responsible for watching the PBS documentary "The Ottomans" from the series *Islam-Empire of Faith*. You will compare this documentary with what you have learned about the Ottoman and Safavid empires from assigned materials.

LIST OF TOPICS AND READINGS

- What follows is a **brief** summary of the material we will cover in this semester.
- Please note that there is no date assigned to particular topics. I will announce when we will proceed to the next topic.
- Remember that there are specific fixed dates in the semester:
 - **Friday February 23** Objective Exam 1 in class
 - **Friday March 9** Written Exam 1 in class
 - **Thursday March 22, 11:30 PM** Deadline: Ibn Fadlan and *The 13th Warrior*
 - **Saturday March 25 to Sunday April 1** Spring Break
 - **Friday April 13** Objective Exam 2 in class
 - **Monday May 7:** Last day class meets
 - **Wednesday May 9:** Class does not meet.
 - **Thursday May 10** Deadline: Flipping the Ottomans & Safavids
 - **Friday May 11:** Class does not meet
 - **Tuesday May 15, 12:30 - 2:30PM.** Final Exam in our classroom.
Objective Exam 3/Written Exam 2

DATE	No.	TOPIC	READINGS
	1	Introduction to Class	Cobb, "Is Islamic history in danger of becoming irrelevant?" (E-Reserves)
		<i>The Formative Period, 610-950</i>	<i>Egger I, Part I:</i>
	2	Southwest Asia in the Seventh Century	Egger I:1-20
	3	Introduction to Primary Sources	The Quran (E-Reserves)
	4	The Rise of Islam	Egger I:20-32 "Confronting the Death of the Prophet," Egger :28
	5	The Arab Conquests	Egger I:33-44
	6	Umayyad Administration	Egger I:44-54 Images of coins, Egger I:108
	7	Ali and the Politics of Division [Origins of Shiism]	Egger I:62-69* "The Rightful Caliph: The Shiite Version," Egger I: 67
	8	The Dissolution of the Arab Empire	Egger I:54-60* "The Arrival of al-Hajjaj in Kufa (694-695)," Egger I:57 Additional Readings TBA
	9	The Abbasid Revolution	Egger I:69-72
	10	Shiite Identities	Egger I:72-80
	11	The Sunni Consensus	Egger I:80-84
	12	The Abbasid Caliphate	Egger I:85-92
	13	The Fatimid Caliphate	Egger I:94-98
	14	The Umayyad Caliphate of Cordoba	Egger I:98-104
	15	Economic Networks	Egger I:104-112 Tignor et al. (eds.) "The Merchants of Egypt" (E-Reserves) Additional Readings TBA
	16	The Origins of Islamic Law	Egger I:114-123 Additional Readings TBA
	17	Early Sufism	Egger I:123-127 Additional Readings TBA
	18	Women's Issues in the Abbasid Era	Al-Jāhiz, <i>Epistle on Singing-Girls</i> , §§ 8, 9, 33, 36, 37, 38, 47, 48, 52 (pp. 15-16, 34-25, 26-27, 30-32, 34) (E-Reserves) Quran 3:195, 3:335, 4:124, (E-Reserves) Additional Readings TBA
	19	The Reception of Science and Philosophy	Egger I:127-133
	20	The Development of an Islamic Theology	Egger I:133-138
	21	Ibn Fadlan and the Land of Darkness	<i>Ibn Fadlan and the Land of Darkness</i> , xiii (13)-xxxvii (37); 1-58.
	22	Reel Bad Arabs: Watching Films about Arabs and the Middle East	Readings TBA

DATE	No.	TOPIC	READINGS
	23	Discussion: Ibn Fadlan and <i>The 13th Warrior</i>	Readings TBA
		<i>A Civilization Under Siege, 950-1260</i>	Egger I, Part II:
	24	The Buyid Sultanate	Egger I:142-145
	25	The Advent of the Turks	Egger I:145-154
	26	The Fatimid Empire AND	Egger I:154-160
	27	The Nizaris ("Assassins")	Egger I:160-162
	28	The Muslim West	Egger I:162-170
	29	The Period of the Crusades	Egger I:172-182 "Franks through Muslim Eyes," Egger I:177 "Usama ibn Munqidh's 'A Muslim View of the Crusaders': The Full Text." <i>Milestone Documents in World History</i> . (E-Reserves)
	30	The Loss of Andalus	Egger I:182-188 Additional Readings TBA
	31	Realignment in the East	Egger I:188-198 Ibn al-Athir. <i>The Great History</i> (E-Reserves) Juvaini, 'Ala-ad-Din 'Ata-Malik. <i>History of the World Conqueror</i> (E-Reserves)
	32	Science and Philosophy	Egger I:199-205
	33	Consolidating Institutions: Sufism	Egger I:205-214 "A Sufi Rule for Novices," Egger I: 208 Additional Readings TBA
	34	Consolidating Institutions: Shiism	Egger I:214-219
	35	The Transmission of Knowledge	Egger I:219-226
		Mongol Hegemony, 1260-1405	Egger I, Part III (or Egger II, Part I):
	36	The Mongol Khanates	Egger I:260-269/II:1-13 "In the Presence of Timur," Egger I:286/II:30-31
	37	New Centers of Islamic Culture	Egger I:269-282/II:13-21
	38	Scourges	Egger I:282-288/II:21-34
	39	Unity and Diversity in Islamic Traditions	Egger I:290-317/II:34-63 "The People's Poet [Hafez]," Egger I:300/II:45 Additional Readings TBA
		Muslim Ascendancy 1405-1750	Egger II, Part II:
	40	The Ottoman Empire	Egger II:67-83
	41	The Ottoman Empire II	Egger II:83-95 "Portrait of an Ottoman Gentleman," Egger II:90-91 Ebu Suud, "Islamic Law and Ottoman Rule" (E-Reserves) Film: <i>Islam: Empire of Faith—The Ottomans</i> (E-Reserves)
	42	The Maghrib [ca. 1405-1750]	Egger II:116-129
	43	Central Asia [ca. 1405-1750]	Egger II:143-153

DATE	No.	TOPIC	READINGS
	44	Iran [ca. 1405-1750]-Part I	Egger II:153-163 "Shah Ismail Describes Himself to His Followers," Egger II:158 Film: <i>Islam: Empire of Faith—The Ottomans</i> (E-Reserves) (Review)
	45	Iran [ca. 1405-1750]-Part II	Egger II:163-181

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):

Absences. See **Attendance.**

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."¹ (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 provides University policies and a detailed discussion of students' rights and responsibilities.

¹ 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.)

Attendance. Attendance is a factor in your **Professionalism** grade (see above). You are expected to attend all classes for the entire session and complete all work by the date assigned. Please note these details:

- I do allow excused absences for the following reasons: illness, personal safety (e.g., unsafe road conditions), military service, or related emergency service (e.g., police, fire, or rescue squad).
- If you are absent for any other reason, including work responsibilities or family commitments, this will result in a penalty to your Professionalism 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 regardless of the reason for their absence. While I post my PowerPoint slides on D2L, this is not a replacement for attending class. 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.
- <https://www.uwsp.edu/regrec/Pages/Attendance-Policy.aspx>
- See also: **Electronic Devices, Late Work, Missed Assignments, PowerPoint**

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

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**

Extensions. I am willing to discuss extending deadlines for individual students if the student approaches me beforehand. Such extensions will only be granted in cases where unusual circumstances prevent the student from completing the work on time. As a rule, I will only grant extensions after the fact under truly exceptional circumstances, such as a personal or family emergency. See also: **Late Work, Religious Beliefs, Equity of Educational Access**

Late Work. Any written 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 complete any assignment will result in zero credit for that assignment.

- I will allow students to make up assignments which they miss for the same reasons I would grant an excused absence (See **Attendance**, above).
- I may allow make-up assignments which students may miss for other reasons. Any such make-up work is granted at my discretion and may be subject to a penalty.
- 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 will make PowerPoint slideshows available through the D2L site for this course..

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.