

GEOGRAPHY 366
Winter 2006

MIDDLE EAST

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Required Texts: Held, Colbert C. Middle East Patterns. Fourth Edition.
(Boulder: Westview Press 2005).

National Geographic Atlas of the Middle East

This is a **GEOGRAPHY** class, not a Political Science class. Having said that it is obvious that we cannot talk about one without the other. Our focus however must still be on the geography of this region. Geography encompasses many other disciplines and we will therefore touch on each as they apply.

Objectives: Now, more than ever, it is important to attempt to understand as much as possible about this part of the world. Many of the issues we need to understand are based on basic issues of geography. These issues include the human struggle to live in often times hostile environments, the importance of natural resources, especially oil, competing world powers trying to control the strategic intersection of three continents, and competing peoples struggling to gain or maintain control of jointly claimed lands and waters.

During the quarter we will study the physical, cultural and political geography of this important region of the world.

Requirements:

#1 Final exam Open Book - Take home (125 points)

This will be a comprehensive short answer/essay exam that will require you to type your answers and include maps and diagrams for each of the questions as appropriate. This is an individual requirement - NOT a GROUP project. Any exams that appear to have been copied from another student in any form will be graded with an F. This will be due Thursday March 16th at 11 am. Extra credit will be offered if the final is turned in on or before Friday March 10th.

#2 Quizzes (6) (30 points each) - These will consist of map identification, short answer and fill in the blank and will include material covered prior to each quiz. These will require you to have done all assigned readings and attended lectures. **See schedule for quiz dates**

#3 Current Events - (40 points - 10 per assignment) Each of you will be assigned a location or an issue in the Middle East. On the assigned days (see schedule) I expect you to come prepared with a current (past week or so) article. You need to be ready to discuss your topic or any issues that might arise during the quarter concerning your topic. If something happens during the quarter in your area that is worth class time for additional discussion you need to be ready to talk about it even if it is not a current event day. You will be graded on your participation. If there is nothing current on your area, find another article and be prepared to join in a discussion of another area. I expect you to read a good newspaper or read from news sites on the Internet. You will need to bring a 1 page single spaced review/discussion of your article and a copy of the article to class on the discussion day.

#4 Paper - 125 points 10 pages typed. Please see attached page for requirements.

#5. Extra Readings. Students are to read the assigned *readings*. We will discuss them in class as time permits. You will be tested on the readings in the quizzes and the final. I will tell you when to be prepared to discuss the readings. You will find these on Reserve at the Library.

Readings

- a. Friedman, Thomas L. " Hamas Rules." Chapter 4 in *From Beirut to Jerusalem*. (New York: Farrar Straus Giroux 1989).
- b. Emmett, Chad F. The Status Quo Solution for Jerusalem. *Journal of Palestine Studies*. Winter 1997, pp. 16-28
- c. Friedman, Thomas L. "Poker, Beirut-Style." Chapter 7 in *From Beirut to Jerusalem*. (pg. 160-166)

Date	Readings	Assignments
Wed Jan 4 th - Jan 13	Chapters 1, 2 and 3 Intro/Historical/Physical Section on Water will be done later (25-34)	Current Event #1 Jan 13th. In class discussion and typed article due
Tuesday Jan 17 th QUIZ	Countries and Capitals of ME Short answer and fill in the blank text and lecture	QUIZ You will have the entire class period for this quiz
January 18-24	Chapter 4. Class lectures will focus on Religions of ME and their impact	
Wednesday January 25 QUIZ	No maps - just short answer and fill in the blank on class lecture, readings that I hand out during this section and chapter 4	QUIZ and Current events #2 Due. We will discuss these after the quiz. You will be given 30 minutes to take the quiz. I will collect all quizzes after 30 minutes finished or not
January 26 - Feb 2 nd	Chapter 12 - Israel	TOPIC FOR PAPER WITH ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPY DUE FEB 2 ND THIS IS NOT OPTIONAL
Friday Feb 3 rd QUIZ	Map of Israel and short answers on chapter, lecture and readings as assigned	
Feb 6-13	Chapters 5 and 6 Class lectures will focus on water and oil. Chapter 2 pages 25-34	
Tuesday Feb 14 QUIZ	Chapters 5 and 6. Section on water from Chapter 2. Lecture and readings as assigned	QUIZ AND Current Event #3 After the quiz. 30 Minutes for the quiz.
Feb 15-22	Chapter 14 Saudi Arabia Chapter 13 Iraq Chapter 19 Iran Chapter 18 Turkey	
Thursday Feb. 23 QUIZ	Above chapters and Map ID for those countries. Lecture and readings as assigned	QUIZ
Feb. 24- March 6	Chapter 10 Lebanon Chapter 9 Syria Chapter 11 Jordan	Current Event #4 Due Feb 24th. We will have a short discussion before the lecture begins.

PAPER DUE FEB. 28 TH BY 4 PM.	PAPER DUE	PAPER DUE FEB 28 TH BY 4PM.
Tuesday March 7 th QUIZ	Above chapters, maps for Lebanon, Syria and Jordan + <u>Egypt</u> Lecture and assigned readings	QUIZ
March 8 th -10th	Chapter 17 Egypt	
Final - TAKE HOME	Due Thursday March 16 th at 11 am. EXTRA CREDIT if you turn it in on or before March 10th	FINAL

REQUIREMENTS FOR PAPER

#1 Choose your topic. You may choose from the list below or you may consult with me on another topic. I am very open to your choices. Do not feel that you have to choose from my list.

#2 Go to the library and find books, journals etc. Write up an annotated bibliography. That means that you cite your book or journal and then write 4 or 5 lines describing the book and what you intend to use from it. (Don't just copy what is on the back of the book - I want to know why you think it will be a good source). Your information should be current. There is more than enough material on the Middle East available. Current means nothing older than 1990, and most of your material should be no more than 5 years old, with the possible exception of a good history book. If you find that there is good old material you can use it if you use extra current material to back up the old material. Along with this annotated bibliography you need to give me a 1 page write up on your topic. Your title, and an introductory paragraph and a listing of topics you intend to cover. All journals should be listed together, then all books, then all web sites. Place a title above each section. You need to have 18 sources in the annotated bibliography. At least five need to come from Academic Journals. (National Geographic is NOT an academic journal).

This is due February 2nd in class. This is not an optional part of the paper. If you do not turn this in then don't plan on writing the paper because I won't accept it. If it is late I will take off 5 points per day that it is late (including weekends) This is worth 25 points. If you turn it in on Friday the 3rd you will get 20 points, by Monday the 6th it is only worth 5 points. I will not accept it past Monday the 6th and you will also forfeit the 100 points you would have earned had you written the paper. That means 0/125 for the paper assignment.

The final paper is due FEBRUARY 28TH BY 4PM.

The paper should include the following:

Title Page

10 pages typed (double spaced) text

Maps - cite your source and make sure they are referred to in the body of the paper

Tables - cite your source

You need to cite at least 10 sources

Works Cited - a list of anything you cited (again - list them by type) and a clean copy of your bibliography. It should not be annotated this time.

You will need to turn in 2 clean copies and an electronic copy. I will run your paper through the Turnitin.com program that is available to faculty. This program tells me if you have copied from any source, including other papers written by students at other universities. If this program shows that you have plagiarized I will not grade your paper.

You will also need to turn in your annotated bibliography that was turned in and graded on February 2nd.

All these things need to be placed in a Manila Folder with your name and topic listed on the outside of the folder.

Possible Topics - these are just suggestions

Water in the Middle East - you may focus on a specific source (aquifers, rivers, lakes etc or work on a more general topic)

Oil and resources in the Middle East - what is the future for these countries when the oil is gone - what are they doing to prepare for that day?

Arafat - PLO - Fatah

Alawites - Syria

Bath Party (Syria and Iraq)

Saddam Hussein and Iraq

The Gulf War - be careful not to make this a history paper

Iran - nuclear issues

Taliban

Palestinians - in and out of Israel

Jews/Israel

Agriculture in the Middle East

Muslim Brotherhood

Hamas and Islamic Jihad (Al-Jihad al Islami)

Peace Accords - Middle East Peace Process

Muslim Brotherhood

