

George Mason University, Spring 2012

HIS 388 The Mediterranean World, 1821 to the present

Robinson Hall B122 / Wednesdays 4:30-7:10 p.m.

Instructor: Dr. Gail Hook

Office hours: Robinson Hall B, Room B373B,

Wednesdays 3:15-4:00 p.m., or by appointment

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Traditional Greek folk dancing

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The fall of the Ottoman Empire, French and British colonization in the nineteenth century, the events of World War II, and decolonization in the twentieth century have all shaped the development of the societies and states of the modern Mediterranean world. This course begins with Greek independence from the Ottomans in 1821, in which the western powers, particularly Britain, played an important role. We will examine the Mediterranean world of native peoples and their history, art, architecture, literature, religion, and nationalist aspirations versus western colonial powers since the nineteenth century, focusing on four zones: Turkey, Greece, and Cyprus; Italy and Sicily; France and north Africa; and Spain. Finally, we will briefly examine how the “Arab Spring” of 2011 has been influenced by these developments.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- Define and describe the significance of key individuals and events in modern Mediterranean history
- Understand the interplay of politics, culture, religion, literature and media, and the geography of modern Mediterranean regions
- Understand the main forces of colonization, decolonization, and nation building in the modern Mediterranean
- Develop the skill to analyze historical sources and make conclusions based on that analysis
- Compose critical essays explaining the significance of historical events

REQUIRED TEXTS:

- Clogg, Richard. *A Concise History of Greece*. Cambridge University Press, 1992). ISBN 0 521 37830 3 (paperback)
- Fanon, Franz. *A Dying Colonialism* (NY: Grove Press, 1965 English translation). ISBN 0-8021-5027-6 (paperback)
- Durrell, Lawrence. *Bitter Lemons* (paperback); Axios Press. ISBN-10:1604190043 (or any other edition)
- Simeti, Mary Taylor. *On Persephone's Island: A Sicilian Journal* (paperback). ISBN-10: 0679764143
- Additional readings online

GRADING

A = 90-100; B = 80-89; C = 70-79; D = 60-69; F = below 60. Grading is based on three exams (33% each). The exams cover material from the lectures, reading assignments listed in the syllabus and on Blackboard, and films. *Students are responsible for all the assigned material, regardless if it was discussed in class.* With the instructor's approval, students may write an 8-page (typed, double-spaced) research paper in lieu of the third exam.

ATTENDANCE AND CLASS PARTICIPATION

Attendance is expected. The exams rely heavily on material discussed in class, therefore it is important to attend class every week. Assigned readings should be read before that week's class. Please be prepared to participate in class discussions about the assigned readings.

APPROPRIATE CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR

****Appropriate classroom behavior is a requirement for remaining in this class. This means specifically that private conversations, sleeping, texting or other use of cell phones, or any other disruption in the classroom are strictly prohibited. This also requires you to be courteous and respectful of other students in the class in relation to ethnicity or religious beliefs.**

You may use your laptop computer to take lecture notes, but no work for other classes will be allowed during class time.

Students violating these rules will be asked to leave the class for the remainder of that class period. Repeated violations will be referred to the Dean of Student Services for additional action.

NOTE that arriving late disturbs the class, so IF you must arrive late for reasons beyond your control, be sure to be quiet and not disrupt the class. Habitual tardiness will be reason for a conference with the Instructor, academic advisor, or Dean of Student Services about whether you should remain in the class. It is your responsibility to schedule your classes and personal schedule appropriately so you can be on time and remain in class for the duration of the class period.

EXAMINATION POLICIES

All students are required to take all exams at the scheduled dates and times. No makeup exams will be given without a medical excuse or other documentation or reason of extreme emergency beyond the students' control. No final exams will be given earlier than the scheduled date and time without a medical excuse or reason of extreme emergency beyond the students' control, so students should take care not to schedule vacations or other personal activities until after the scheduled final exam date.

NOTE: No restroom breaks are given during exams. If there is a medical problem with this, please let me know ahead of time so we can make other examination arrangements for you.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

Any student found cheating, including plagiarism, will receive a grade of "0" for the assignment or exam and may also be referred to the Dean of Student Services for additional disciplinary action. For information on plagiarism, see this website: <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/589/01/>

SPECIAL NEEDS

Please let me know if you have documented special needs or require special accommodations, or if there is any other situation that may prevent you from fully participating in the class or completing the assignments so that I can help to determine reasonable and appropriate accommodations.

WITHDRAWAL FROM CLASS

If you choose to withdraw from this class, it is your responsibility to check the appropriate deadlines and proceed with the withdrawal process.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

*Readings outside the required texts will be posted on Blackboard

Week 1 Wednesday, Jan. 25

Introduction to class / The Early Modern Mediterranean

Read: Greene, *A Shared World: Christians and Muslims in the Early Modern Mediterranean*, Introduction, pp. 3-6, and Chapter 1, pp. 13-18

➤ FOR EXAM #1: Begin reading Simeti, *On Persephone's Island*, entire book. See Blackboard for the exact question that will be on the exam.

Week 2 Wednesday, Feb. 1

Ottoman rule, the Greek War of Independence, and the birth of the Greek state (1770-1831)

Read: Clogg, *A Concise History of Greece*, Chapters 1-2
 Holst-Warhaft, "Politics and Popular Music in Modern Greece"

Week 3 Wednesday, Feb. 8

The rise of Italian nationalism / Sicily

Read: Doumanis, *Italy, Inventing the Nation*, pp. 53-63 and Chapter 4, "The Unification of Italy, 1848-1860"
 Riall, *Sicily and the Unification of Italy*, Chapter 4, "'From Moderate Liberalism to Destra Storica: The Impact of Unification'"
 Riall, "Elites in Search of Authority: Political Power and Social Order in 19th C. Sicily"
 Schneider and Schneider, "Mafia, Antimafia, and the Plural Cultures of Sicily"
 Gardaphé, "Reinventing Sicily in Italian and American Film"
 Film clip from *The Godfather* or *Placido Rizzotto*

Week 4 Wednesday, Feb. 15

European colonization: British hegemony in the Mediterranean, 1850-1913

Read: al-Sayyid-Marsot, Afaf Lufti, "The British Occupation of Egypt from 1882"
 Mansel, *Levant: Splendour and Catastrophe on the Mediterranean*, Chapter 8, "Alexandria: British Years"
 Brown, "Brigands and State Building: The Invention of Banditry in Modern Egypt"
 Stockey, *Gibraltar, A Dagger in the Spine of Spain?* Introduction and Chapter 1
 Holland, *Britain and the Revolt in Cyprus 1954-1959*, Chapter 1, "The Pattern of Colonial Cyprus, 1878-1950"

Exam review

Week 5 Wednesday, Feb. 22 Exam #1

Week 6 Wednesday, Feb. 29

Modern Greek mythology

Read: Sant Cassia, "Banditry, Myth, and Terror in Cyprus"

Film in class: "Zorba the Greek" (142 min.)

➤ FOR EXAM #2: Begin reading Fanon, *A Dying Colonialism*, entire book

Week 7 March 7

Greek nation building and the "megali idea," 1831-1922 / World War I, 1914-1918, and the fall of the Ottoman Empire / Spain and Morocco

Read: Clogg, *A Concise History of Greece*, Chapter 3, "Nation Building, the 'Great Idea' and National Schism, 1831-1922"

Goldstein, "Greater Britain and Greater Greece 1919-1920"

McCarthy, *The Ottoman Turks*, Chapter 11, "The Great War 1912-1918"

Chandler, "Spain and Her Moroccan Protectorate 1898-1927"

Week 8 March 12-18 SPRING BREAK: No Classes**Week 9 March 21**

A new Turkish republic looks to the West

Read: Jung, *Turkey at the Crossroads*, Chapter 4, "National Resurrection: The Early Turkish Republic"

Davison, Roderick. *Turkey: A Short History* (Eothen Press, 1981), Chapter 8, "The Turkey of Atatürk, 1923-1938"

Week 10 March 28

Mediterranean nationalism during World War II, 1939-1945

Read: Clogg, *A Concise History of Greece*, Chapter 4, "Catastrophe and occupation and their consequences, 1923-1949"

Doumanis, *Italy, Inventing the Nation*, Chapter 7, "Fascist nation, 1919-1943"

Exam review

Week 11 April 4 Exam #2**Week 12 April 11**

European colonization: French Morocco, Tunisia, and Algeria

Read: Stora, *Algeria, 1830-2000: A Short History*, Introduction, pp. 1-27 and pp. 29-31

Bahloul, *The Architecture of Memory, A Jewish-Muslim household in colonial Algeria, 1937-1962*, Chapter 1, "Foundations"

(continued on next page)

Gosnell, *The Politics of Frenchness in Colonial Algeria: 1930-1954*, pp. 46-68, and 105-124

Mckay, "The French in Tunisia"

Edmund Burke, III, "A Comparative View of French Native Policy in Morocco and Syria, 1912-1925"

- For Exam #3: Begin reading Durrell, *Bitter Lemons*, entire book

Week 13 April 18

Algerian War of Independence, 1962

Read: Horne, *A Savage War of Peace*, Chapter 9, "The Battle of Algiers, January - March 1957"

Film in class: "The Battle of Algiers" (125 min.)

Week 14 April 25

Eastern Mediterranean 1960 to the present / The case of Cyprus independence, 1960 / Greece, Turkey, and Cyprus today: Divided Cyprus

Read: Clogg, Chapters 5-7

Kelling, *Countdown to Rebellion*, Chapter 6, "The Rise of Makarios, 1951-1953, and Chapter 7, "The United Nations and the Violence"

Loizos, "Intercommunal Killing in Cyprus"

Hoffmeister, "Cyprus v. Turkey, App. No. 25781/94"

Dikomitis, "Three Readings of a Border: Greek Cypriots Crossing the Green Line in Cyprus"

Week 15 May 2

A "globalized" Mediterranean in the 20th-21st century / The Arab Spring of 2011

Read: Yesilada, "Turkey's Candidacy for EU Membership"

Chase, "The Meyhane or McDonald's? Changes in eating habits and the evolution of fast food in Istanbul"

Hussey, "Why French Algerians' football celebrations turned into a battle"

Voll, "Sultans, Saints, and Presidents: The Islamic Community and the State in North Africa"

Alexander, "Opportunities, Organizations, and Ideas: Islamists and Workers in Tunisia and Algeria"

News articles posted on Blackboard from 2011 "Arab Spring" (Students are encouraged to find other articles about the Arab Spring pertaining to the particular country of their own interest.)

Week 16 May 9

Exam #3

FINAL EXAM PERIOD Wednesday May 9-Wednesday 16