Now, Welcome to the world of free ideas, and let us get to the tasks ahead of us this semester:

Course Description:

This is a survey course of Arab political and social thought from the late 19th century to the early 21st century. The main purpose of the course is to introduce the students to a variety of intellectual traditions which emerged in the Arab world as a result of its political and cultural encounter with the West. Emphasis will be placed in this course on the relationship between Arab social and economic issues and the development of ideas and concepts among Arab elites and intellectuals.

Schedule: The course will consist of three major parts:

Part I : The Arab Renaissance:

Week 1 & 2: Europe and the New Paradigms of Arab Thought Hourani , ch.1 and 2

Week 3: Early views of Europe, Hourani, ch. 3 and 4.

Week 4: Early Islamic Reformers: Afghani and Abduh, ch. 5 and 6.

Part II: The Age of Nationalism and Radical Thought:

Week 6 & 7: Nationalism, pan-Arabism and regional nationalisms, Sati’ al-Husari’s Concept of Arab Nationalism, selections from the Baath ideology,

Hourani ch. 11

Week 8: Radical thought, Arab socialism, Marxism and the New Left.

Arab Radical Perceptions, The New Left in Ismael

Week 9: The impact of Palestine on Arab perceptions.

Reading TBA

Part III: Islamic Resurgence and Ideological Proliferation:

Week 10 & 11: The second Wave of Islamic revival. A Politico –Strategic Interpretation of Islamic Militancy, Khomeni’s concept of Islamic government

Week 12 &13: Globalization and intellectual proliferation- Neoliberalism

Readings TBA.

Grading System:
The students grade will consist of the following components:

35% First exam, date: March 1st. 35%

35% Second exam, date: April 5th. 35%

30% Third exam, date: May 13th 30%

Research Paper:

In special cases some students might be allowed to substitute the final quiz with a research paper if they can illustrate to the instructor that there are special circumstances that require of them to write a research paper of 5-7 pages.

Textbook and reading material:


A set of articles on reserve, including those authored by the instructor.

Basic Rules:

1. According to university rules, a 3 week absence from the course for whatever reason (including health) will result in a reduced grade or possibly an F in the course.

2. Make ups should not be expected.

3. No extra credit will be offered.

4. A student may appeal his grade in an exam to the instructor in writing no later than the next class meeting after receiving his/her exam booklet. No appeals will be considered by the instructor if not in writing or past the deadline.

Recommended Readings:

Al-Husary, Khaldoun, Three Reformers, Beirut, 1966

Ismael, Tareq, The Arab Left, Syracuse U. Press, 1976

Kedouri, Elie, Nationalism in Asia and Africa


Le Gassick, Trevor J., Themes in Modern Arabic Thought, University of Michigan Press, 1979


Al-Azmeh, Aziz, Arabic Thought and Islamic Societies, Crown Helm, Kent, 1986


"ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND PLAGIARISM

Students are expected to commit to the principles of academic integrity.

Academic integrity includes a commitment to not engage in or tolerate acts of falsification, misrepresentation or deception. Such acts of dishonesty include cheating or copying, plagiarizing, submitting another persons' work as one's own, using Internet or other sources without citation, fabricating field data or citations, stealing examinations, tampering with the academic work of another student, facilitating other students' acts of academic dishonesty, etc.

Plagiarism for assignments and/or reports may result in a zero grade for the assignment and/or the report in question. Cheating during an examination may result in a zero grade for this examination. Further action, according to university regulations, would also be implemented.

You should be aware that all written work might be submitted to “Turnitin.com”, the detection prevention software. By signing this syllabus, you will acknowledge that you have understood that any detected plagiarism will have to be reported.

The University's statement on academic integrity, from which the above statement is drawn, is available at http://www.aucegypt.edu/academics/integrity/Pages/default.aspx
DISCLAIMER

THIS SYLLABUS IS INTENDED TO PROVIDE AN OVERVIEW OF THE COURSE. YOU CANNOT CLAIM ANY RIGHTS FROM IT. IN PARTICULAR, SCHEDULING AND DATES MAY CHANGE. I MAY ALSO CHOOSE TO ADD OR DELETE SOME OF THE READINGS. HOWEVER, THE SYLLABUS SHOULD BE A RELIABLE GUIDE FOR THE COURSE, AND IF ANY CHANGES ARE MADE OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS WILL ALWAYS BE MADE IN CLASS OR ON BANNER IN DUE TIME.