

PS 119A: 20th Century Islamic Political Thought

UCSD Spring Term 2011

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This course explores key thinkers in the development of 20th century Islamic political thought. We will consider how thinkers from Morocco to South Asia have used religious arguments to inform their political philosophies. The course will begin with the demise of the Ottoman Empire which prompted an exciting wave of theoretical ferment across the Islamic world. We start off with Islamic modernism and then examine the rise and development of Islamism in a variety of forms. We conclude with a return to liberal developments both from within and outside the Islamist tradition.

Week 1 *Islamic Modernism*

M: Introduction - Setting the stage
W: Young Ottomans, [Read: Khayr al-Din]
Abdulhamid and pan-Islamism
F: al-Afghani [Read]

Film: Attatürk documentary

Week 2 *Islamic Modernism (cont.)*

M: Followers of Afghani: 'Abduh, Rida, al-Raziq [Read: Raziq]
W: Islamic Modernism in Persia [Read: Na'ini]
F: Muhammad Iqbal and the origins of Pakistan [Read: Iqbal]

Week 3 *The Rise of Islamism*

M + W: Hassan al-Banna and the Origins of Muslim Brotherhood (*Egypt*) [Read: al-Banna]

F: Islamism in Pakistan, Sayyid Abu'l a'la Mawdudi and *Jamaat e Islami (Pakistan)*
[Read: Mawdudi]

PAPER 1 DUE FRI AT CLASS

Week 4: *Sayyid Qutb and the new 'jihadis'*

M: Qutb [Read]
W: Faraj [Read]

F: Film *The Power of Nightmares* (selections)

Week 5: Islamists, the state, and democracy

M: Youssef Qaradawi

W: Hassan Turabi

F: Case study, Elections and Islamists in Algeria

Film: *Algeria's Bloody Years*

Week 6: Iranian Revolution and Shiite voices

M + W: *Iranian Revolution: Theoretical Genealogy*

Khomeini and Shariati (see website for Shariati reading)

Film: *I knew Khomeini*

F: *Shiite voices beyond Iran (from Iraq and Lebanon)*

Muhammad Baqir al-Sadr, Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah

MIDTERM DUE IN CLASS

Week 7: Women and Women's Voices

M: Murtaza Mutahhari;

W: Nadia Yassine

F: B. Bhutto

Film: *A Veiled Revolution*

Week 8: Contemporary Liberal Islam

M + W: *'Transnational' Sufism*

The case of M. Fethullah Gülen and the Gülen Movement

(See website for Gülen reading)

F: Case study - Constitutionalism and the Egyptian Revolution

Week 9: Islam and Citizenship in 'the West'

M: Mohammed Arkoun

W: Tariq Ramadan

F: Abdullahi an-Naim

Week 10

FINAL EXAM

Readings

Text to purchase:

Princeton Readings in Islamist Thought: Texts and Contexts from al-Banna to Bin Laden,
Roxanne L. Euben and Muhammad Qasim Zaman (eds).

All other texts will be posted as pdfs on the course website. Please PRINT these and BRING THEM to class on the assigned day.

Grades

Paper 1: 25%

Midterm Paper: 35%

Final: 40%