RELIGIOUS STUDIES 81

MODERN IRAN

WINTER 2012

T-TH: 9:30-10:45 AM
Broida Hall, Room 1640

PROFESSOR JANET AFARY
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Course Description
This course will cover major turning points in modern Iran from the 1906 Constitutional Revolution to the 1979 Islamic Revolution and the post-revolutionary years, including the 2009 Green Movement. We will pay attention to the distinctive features of Shi'i Islam, to the rise of nationalism, to the quest for modernization, to democracy and authoritarianism, and to imperialism and the politics of oil. The course will end with a discussion of the Shi'i reformist movement that has arisen within the Islamic Republic, and which attempts to reconcile social and economic modernity with newer and more tolerant interpretations of Islam.

Required Texts

Additional required readings marked by an asterisk (*) in the syllabus are located at:
http://www.religion.ucsb.edu/modern.htm

Important dates:
Last day to drop the course: February 6, 2012
Final Examination: Tues. March 20, 9:30 AM to 11:00 AM
COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADES:

Exams
There will be two midterms (40% each) and a final exam (20%). Other details about the exams will be discussed in class.

Attendance Policy
Daily preparedness and participation in discussion is mandatory. More than three (3) excused, or unexcused, absences will bring your grade down automatically by one letter grade. Regular attendance may enhance your final grade in some cases.

Week 1 (January 10-12): Rise and Fall of the Safavids (1501-1722) and the Imposition of Shi’ism.

Required Readings

Suggested Readings

Week 2 (January 17-19): Society in the Qajar Era.

Required Readings.
Halm, H. Shi’a Islam. pp. 38-112

Suggested Readings
Week 3 (January 24-26): The Constitutional Revolution and the First World War (1906-1921).

Required Readings

Film: Selections from: *Once Upon a Time Cinema (Mohsen Makhmalbaf)*
http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=3697516834420994302#
at 28:55

Suggested Readings


Required Readings
* Boroujerdi, M. "Triumphs and Travails of Authoritarian Modernization in


Suggested Readings

Week 5 (February 7-9): Mossadeq and the Politics of Oil (1941-1953).

Required Readings
Keddie, Modern Iran, Chapter 6.
* Paidar, Women and the Political Process, Chapter 4.

Suggested Readings


February 14: First Midterm

February 16: Lecture

Required Readings
Keddie, Modern Iran, Chapter 7.

Suggested Readings
Menashri, Education and the Making of Modern Iran, Part 3.
Week 7 (February 21-23): Rise of Islamism and the Islamic Revolution.

Required Readings
Keddie, Modern Iran, Chapters 8 & 9.

Suggested Readings

Week 8 (February 28 - March 1): The Early Revolutionary Years

UCSB is hosting an international conference on Modern Iran from March 1-3 at the Loma Paloma Conference Center. Students are encouraged to attend one or more panels and write a two-page report for extra credit. Reports are due on Thursday, March 8.

Tuesday February 28: Film & Discussion of the Exam
Thursday March 1: Second Midterm

Required Readings
Keddie, Modern Iran, Chapters 10 & 11

Suggested Readings
Richard, Shi'ite Islam. Chapter 7.

Week 9 (March 6-8) The Reform Movement, Conservative Populism, and the Discourse of Human Rights

Required Readings:

Keddie, Modern Iran, Chapter 12

Suggested Readings
Foltz, Spirituality in the Land of the Noble, Chapter 9.


Richard, *Shi'ite Islam*, Conclusion

**Week 10 (March 13-15): Politics and Satire**

**Required Readings**

**TUESDAY MARCH 20: Final Exam: 9:30 AM to 11:00 AM, Broida 1640**

**Selected Websites**

**MAPS:**
http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/historical/shepherd/persian_empire.jpg
http://www.lib.utexas.edu/Libs/PCL/Map_collection/middle_east.html

Iran in Maps:
http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/shared/spl/hi/middle_east/06/iran_maps/html/default.s tm

**HISTORY:**
Iranian History Forum: http://www.freepowerboards.com/iranianforum
Persian, Greek, Roman and Byzantine Eras (500 BCE - 500 CE):
http://www.nmhschool.org/thornton/mehistorydatabase/persian.htm

Benchmarks in Modern History of Iran:
http://www.nmhschool.org/thornton/mehistorydatabase/iran.htm

Political Chronology:
http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/tehran/etc/cron.html

**DATA:**
US Department of State: http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/5314.htm
Iran's Size Comparison with the US:
http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/atlas_middle_east/iran_area.jpg
Atlas of Iran http://www.mgm.fr/PUB/Iran
Land Use: http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/atlas_middle_east/iran_land.jpg
Country Profile:
http://lcweb2.loc.gov/frd/cs/profiles/Iran.pdf
Statistics on Iran:
http://www.nationmaster.com/country/ir-iran
Iran's Share of World Crude Oil Reserves:
http://www.opec.org/home/PowerPoint/Reserves/OPEC%20share.htm

NEWS:
News and Views about Iran:
BBCpersian
www.Iranian.com
http://www.dw-world.de/dw
http://www.persia-house.com/
http://www.rfi.fr
http://www.iranmania.com/defaultenglish.asp
Radio Farda:
http://www.radiofarda.com/
Iran Daily:
http://wwwiran-daily.com/
Iranian Media Directory:
www.gooya.com

GOVERNMENT:
Governments on the WWW, Iran:  http://www.gksoft.com/govt/en/ir.html
Iranian Mission to the UN:
http://www.un.int/iran/
Iranian Parliament :
http://mellat.Majles.ir/
Presidency of the Islamic Republic:
http://www.president.ir
Who Rules Iran?:
http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/shared/spl/hi/middle_east/03/iran_power/html/default.stm

OTHER:
Encyclopaedia Iranica:
http://www.iranica.com/
Sample Persian Miniatures:
http://www.superluminal.com/cookbook/index_gallery.html
Iranian women's homepage:
http://www.irandokht.com/
Pictures of Iran: http://www.worldisround.com/articles/73022/index.html
Pictures of Tehran:
http://www.worldisround.com/articles/98910/
Selected Internet Sources on Iran:
http://www.loc.gov/rr/international/amed/iran/iran.html
Persian Calendar Program: http://www.payvand.com/calendar/
Iran's First National Anthem http://www.iranclip.com/player/1012
Civil Code of Iran:
Penal Code of Iran: