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HSTR 386.01: Nationalism and the Modern Middle East

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Autumn 2021
**Nationalism, Socialism & Islamic Fundamentalism in the Middle East, North Africa
& Central Asia**

Professor Mehrdad Kia
Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 3:30-5:30
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After a discussion on the intellectual, philosophical, and political origins of nationalism, Islamism, and socialism in Central Asia, the Middle East and North Africa, we will focus on the rise of modern nationalist, socialist, and Islamist movements and organizations in the Arab world, Turkey, Central Asia and Afghanistan. Throughout this course we will examine the works and political activities of the intellectual precursors of nationalism, socialism, and Islamism in the Arab world, Turkey, Central Asia, and Afghanistan.

First Exam: Thursday, October 14, 2021

First Exam Reading Requirement: *A Peace to End All Peace: The Fall of the Ottoman Empire and the Creation of the Modern Middle East*

Author: David Fromkin

Second Exam: Thursday, November 18, 2021

Second Exam Reading Requirement: *The New Sultan: Erdogan and the Crisis of Modern Turkey*

Author: Soner Cagaptay

Third Exam: Tuesday, December 14, 3:20-5:20 pm

Third Exam Reading Requirement: *Central Asia: Islam or Nationalism*

Author: Ahmed Rashid

Grade for the Course

First Exam: 30%

Second Exam: 30%

Third Exam: 30%

Attendance: 10%

Please Note: There will be no incomplete given in this course. Two absences will result in loss of one grade.

Topics to be discussed in the class:

1- Arab Nationalism and Socialism

- A. Sati al-Husri
- B. Michel Aflaq and Salah al-Din Bitar
- C. The Arab Socialist Ba'ath Party
- D. Nasserism and the Rise of Islamism in Egypt and Syria
- E. Palestinian Nationalism

2- Rise of Nationalism, Socialism and Islamism in Turkey

- A. Mustafa Kemal Ataturk
- B. The Ideological Pillars of Kemalism
- C. A Democratic Turkey?
- D. The Erdogan Phenomenon
- E. The Challenge from Kurdish Nationalism
- F. Democracy, Islamism and Nationalism Among Kurds

3- Modern Nationalism, Socialism and Islamism in the Central Asia and Afghanistan

- A. Political Geography of Central Asia and the Middle East
- B. Nationalism in the Caucasus
- C. Russian Imperialism and the Rise of Modern Nationalism and Marxian Socialism in Central Asia: Mir Said Sultan Galiev, Sadriddin Ayni, etc.

4- Militant Islamism from Muslim Brotherhood and al-Qaeda to ISIS

- A. Muslim Brotherhood
- B. Al-Qaeda
- C. ISIS
- D. The Road to Political Nihilism

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