

Islam and the Modern Middle East Unit Plan

Guiding Questions:

What are the basic features of Islam?

What has been the nature and historical development of Muslim beliefs and Islam?

What is the range of denominations and beliefs that make up Islam?

What have been the key developments in the history of the Middle East?

How have nationalism, oil, and revolution shaped the Modern Middle East?

What is the Arab-Israeli crisis and how might it be resolved?

To what extent is it a religious conflict?

Week of April 16: What are the basic features of Islam?

- 1st class: Intro to Islam; political cartoons; soccer imams; *the Life of Muhammad*
hw 247-251 (up to "Islam's Primary Teachings")
- 2nd class: The *Koran*; the standing miracle; theological concepts of Islam
hw: 251-253 ("Basic Practices and Social Teachings").
- 3rd class: The Five Pillars; social teachings and history
hw: 253-256 (up to "The Personal...")
- 4th class: Form and Function of a Mosque; The *Hajj*
hw: 256-257 (to the end of the page)

Week of April 23: Muslim Practices / Historical development of Islam, Sufism, and Islamic Philosophy

- 5th class: Other Religious Practices
hw: 258-260 (up to "Varieties of Islam")
- 6th class: *Jihad*; Expansion of Islam; Sunni and Shia divide
hw: 260-263 (to the end")
- 7th class: Islam in America, and Muslim Women
hw: Moderation Unveiled (handout)
- 8th class: Sufism, the poetry of Rumi, and Muslim Philosophy
hw: review for test

Week of April 30: Islam Test, Begin Modern Middle East

- 9th class: Islam Test
hw: complete Venn diagram on Judaism, Christianity, Islam
- 10th class: Key Events in the Formation of States
hw: tba
- 11th class: Key Events completed /Negotiating for Oil: Who Will Profit?
hw: tba

12th class: Negotiating for Oil (complete)
hw: tba

Week of May 7: Islam in the Modern World: How have nationalism, oil, and revolution shaped the modern Middle East?

[Note: 2nd visitation paper due by May 10]

13th class: Demographic Analysis of the Middle East
hw: tba

14th class: Analyzing Propaganda Posters (complete)
hw: tba

15th class: Analyzing Propaganda Posters from the Iranian Revolution
hw: tba / possible quiz

16th class: Jews and Palestinians: Two Claims to Palestine
hw: tba

Week of May 14: Conclude Arab-Israeli Crisis

17th class: Promises
hw: tba

18th class: Promises
hw: tba

19th class: In-class assessment / Reflection
hw: tba

20th class: Reflection on year / New Religious Movements
hw: tba

SUNDAY, MAY 20: ISRAEL CONFERENCE

Week of May 21: New Religious Movements

21st class: New Religious Movements
hw: tba

22nd class: New Religious Movements
hw: tba

23rd class: New Religious Movements
hw: tba