

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
Department of History

Semester I Year 1978-79

<u>COURSE NO.</u>	<u>COURSE TITLE</u>	<u>INSTRUCTOR</u>
Hist. 607	THE AMERICAN IMPACT ABROAD. <u>Topic: The U.S. and the Middle East</u> <u>since 1790</u>	John A. DeNovo

COURSE DESCRIPTION PLEASE NOTE: This course description is out of date. It provides a sample of this course. For more detail see faculty person, who may not be the person listed on this description.

This course explores the diplomatic, economic, cultural, and social contacts of official and private Americans with the nations and peoples of the Middle East since the late 18th century. The instructor will use a combination of lecturing and class discussion (based on assigned reading). If possible, one or more guest lecturers will be scheduled. The organization is as follows:

- Part I: Background on Middle Eastern Geography and Culture (3 class periods);
- Part II: American Contacts from the 1780s to 1914 (7 class periods);
- Part III: From Wilson to World War II, 1914-1939 (9 class periods);
- Midterm test, probably October 20.
- Part IV: World War II and Its Aftermath, 1939-1950 (7 class periods);
- Part V: Three Turbulent Decades, 1950-1978 (15 class periods).

There will be a midterm test and a final examination. In addition to assigned reading, a modest amount of reading selected from a mimeographed bibliography to be distributed by the instructor will be required. There will be periodic discussion of current events for which we shall seek the historical roots. During the first week there will be two map exercises to acquaint students with the major geographical locations they will be encountering during the course.

A short basic textbook will provide essential background throughout the course: Robert W. Stookey, AMERICA AND THE ARAB STATES: AN UNEASY ENCOUNTER. During the early part of the course there will be a few chapters assigned from James A. Field, Jr., AMERICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN WORLD, 1776-1882 (can be purchased in paperback, but there are several copies on reserve in Helen White Library). John A. DeNovo's AMERICAN INTERESTS AND POLICIES IN THE MIDDLE EAST, 1900-1939 will be assigned in its entirety. It is available only in hardback, but there are many copies on reserve in Helen White. To give all students a basic understanding of the old Ottoman Empire in decline and what happened to its parts during the 20th century, a short book is assigned: Peter Mansfield, THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE AND ITS SUCCESSORS. A very useful book of key documents, THE ISRAEL-ARAB READER, 3rd ed., 1976, will be assigned selectively.

Undergraduates taking the course for honors credit and graduate students will be asked to give a short oral report on a subject mutually agreeable to the student and the instructor. I anticipate that they will often be on volumes of memoirs by Americans who were active in the Middle East.

GRADING SYSTEM

The precise proportions are not yet set; tentatively, they are as follows:
Midterm test = 25 per cent; Final Exam = 50 per cent; Class Discussion and Collateral Reading = 25 per cent.

Mr. DeNovo expects to be in his office (5103 Humanities) mornings during registration week and will be happy to respond to any questions prospective students have about the course.