

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN  
Department of History  
Fall 1981

History 607

The American Impact Abroad

Mr. J. A. DeNovo

Topic: The United States and the Middle East since the 1790s

In this course, we explore the diplomatic, economic, cultural, and social contacts of official and private Americans with the nations and peoples of the Middle East and the relationships among the powers having interest in the region since the late 18th century. There are four assigned books:

Robert W. Stookey, AMERICA AND THE ARAB STATES: AN UNEASY ENCOUNTER (New York: John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 1975), paperbound.

Peter Mansfield, THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE AND ITS SUCCESSORS (New York: St. Martin's Press, c. 1973), paperback.

William R. Polk, THE ARAB WORLD (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1980), paperback.

John A. DeNovo, AMERICAN INTERESTS AND POLICIES IN THE MIDDLE EAST, 1900-1939 (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1963). Available only in hardback; copies are on 3-hr. reserve at Helen C. White Library and one copy at the State Historical Society.

There is one assignment and some optional reading in James A. Field, Jr. THE UNITED STATES AND THE MEDITERRANEAN WORLD, 1776-1882 (Princeton, N.J.: Princeton U. Press, c. 1969), copies on 3-hr. reserve at Helen C. White and one copy at the Historical Society. This book is also available in paperback. Any student especially interested in U.S. connections with Turkey, Iran, and Greece in the 1940s will benefit from Bruce R. Kuniholm, THE ORIGINS OF THE COLD WAR IN THE NEAR EAST: GREAT POWER CONFLICT AND DIPLOMACY IN IRAN, TURKEY, AND GREECE (Princeton, N.J.: Princeton U. Press, 1980). Three copies are on reserve at Helen C. White Library. There is a paperbound edition.

Each student will receive a mimeographed book list arranged under topical and/or chronological headings to assist in selecting additional reading. During lectures the instructor will recommend reading for particular topics. You will have the option of either [1] a written book review (due no later than December 1), your selection to be approved in advance by Mr. DeNovo, or [2] a ten minute mini-lecture on some aspect of U.S. relations with Turkey or Iran since World War II; these reports will be presented to the class on November 5, November 17, and December 8. If you opt for the book review, follow these guidelines: The report should not exceed four double-spaced typed pages and should summarize briefly (but not chapter by chapter) the contents. Give author, title, publication date, inclusive pages read. Include brief remarks about the author and his/her competence to write the book; convey your reactions to the book (this is an important part of the review).

Graduate students and undergraduates taking the course for honors credit will be required to undertake an additional project; it may take the form of an oral report to the class or a brief paper. You should have an office conference with the instructor early in the semester to plan your project.

Your work will be evaluated on the following basis (with adjustments for graduate student and honors projects):

Midterm test = 25%; Final exam = 50%; Class Participation and Project = 25%.

Schedule

Part I. Background on Middle Eastern Geography, History, and Culture

- Week 1 Tu. Sept. 1. Plans for the course. Lecture on geographical parameters of the Middle East, its history, culture, and diversities; the Ottoman Empire from greatness to decline.  
Assign for Thursday: Map exercise #1 and #2. Mansfield, ch. 1 (1-13) and Polk, ch. 1 (3-26).
- Th. Sept. 3. Maps due. Complete lecture on the Ottoman Empire. Discuss Mansfield, ch. 1, and Polk, ch. 1. Lecture: American ideas about commerce in the late 18th century.  
Assign for Tuesday, Sept. 8: Field, vii-xi and ch. 1; Stookey, v-xiii and pp. 1-9; Polk, ch. 2 (29-92).

Part II. The American Experience with the Middle East before 1914

- Week 2 Tu. Sept. 8. L: American Commerce with the Ottoman Empire; the Barbary Pirates; the Opium Trade.  
Assign for Th., Sept. 10: DeNovo, ch. 1; Stookey, pp. 9-20. Optional: Field, ch. 2 (27-67), ch. 3 (68-103), and pp. 133-153.
- Th., Sept. 10. L: Early American Missionaries and Missionary Education; Three American Colleges in the Middle East.  
Assign for Tuesday, Sept. 15: Optional in Field, pp. 121-133 (Greece); 227-237 (Kossuth and Koszta); 317-323 (Crete); 359-373 (Bulgaria); 445-446 (Armenians).
- Week 3 Tu. Sept. 15. L: Minorities and Self-Determination in the Ottoman Empire; the Greek War for Independence; Mid-19th Century Revolutions; Crete, Bulgarian Independence; the Armenians; Egypt.  
Assign for Th., Sept. 17: DeNovo, ch. 2 (ch. 3 is optional); Stookey, 20-28; Mansfield, ch. 2 (14-33). Optional but recommended in Field, 165-175, 237-261, 285-301; and on Egypt, pp. 383-388 and ch. 11 (389-435).
- Th. Sept. 17. Other Activities of Americans, chiefly secular, before 1914.  
Assign for Tu. Sept. 22: DeNovo, pp. 88-109 and 276-280; Mansfield, pp. 34-49; Polk, ch. 8 (93-112).

Part III. From Wilson to World War II, 1914-1939

- Week 4 Tu. Sept. 22. The U.S. and the Middle East during World War I.  
Assign for Th. Sept. 24: DeNovo, 109-127 & 278-280; Mansfield, 49-63; Stookey, 31-46.
- Th. Sept. 24. The U.S. and the M.E. at the Paris Peace Conference.  
Assign for Tu. Sept. 29: DeNovo, ch. 5 (128-166) & chs. 7 & 8 (210-274); Mansfield, ch. 4 (64-69).
- Week 5 Tu. Sept. 29. The Lausanne Conference of 1922-23; the Chester Project; Atatürk's Turkey.  
Assign for Thurs. Oct. 1: DeNovo, ch. 6 (167-209); Stookey, 57-68.
- Th. Oct. 1. First American Stakes in Middle Eastern Oil.  
Assign for Tu., Oct. 6: DeNovo, ch. 9 (275-317).

Week 6 Tu. Oct. 6. The U.S. and Iran between World Wars.  
Assign for Th. Oct. 8: DeNovo, chs. 10 & 11 (318-394); Stookey, 46-55;  
Mansfield, ch. 5 (70-91).

Th. Oct. 8. The U.S. and the Arab East between World Wars.  
Assign for Tu. Oct. 13: Stookey, 87-93; Mansfield, ch. 6 (92-104); Field,  
ch. 12 (436-454). Recommended: Kuniholm, Intro (xv-xxi) and pp. 3-130.

Part IV. World War II and Its Aftermath, 1939-1950

Week 7 Tu. Oct. 13. Overview of the U.S. and the Middle East during World War II.  
Assign for Th. Oct. 15: Stookey, 68-73 (on oil). Recommended: Kuniholm,  
ch. 3 (130-208) & pp. 211-216.

Th., Oct. 15. World War II--Incremental Commitments; MESC; Americans in  
Iran; Culbertson Economic Mission; Anglo-U.S. Tensions over Middle  
Eastern Oil.  
Assign for Tu., Oct. 20: MIDTERM TEST.

Week 8 Tu. Oct. 20. MIDTERM TEST.  
Assign for Th. Oct. 22: Recommended: Kuniholm, pp. 270-298.

Th. Oct. 22. ME Origins of the Cold War, I: The Azerbaijan Crisis of 1946.  
Assign for Tu, Oct. 27: Recommended: Kuniholm, 217-270 & 295-431.

Week 9 Tu. Oct. 27. ME Origins of the Cold War, II: Turkey; the Greek Civil War;  
Origins of the 6th Fleet; the Truman Doctrine.  
Assign for Th. Oct. 29: Stookey, 93-117; Polk, ch. 12 (166-182).

Th. Oct. 29. The Palestine Question, I.  
Assign for Tu. Nov. 3: Stookey, 118-126; Mansfield, ch. 7 (105-113);  
Polk, ch. 13 (185-195).

Week 10 Tu. Nov. 3. The Palestine Question, II: Israel and the Arabs.  
Assign for Th. Nov. 5: Stookey, 127-136; Mansfield, 114-119; Polk, 196-202.

Part V. Another Generation of Turmoil, 1950-1981

Week 10 Th. Nov. 5. Egyptian Revolution of 1952ff; the Iranian Crisis, 1951-1954  
(Student mini-lectures).  
Assign for Tu. Nov. 10: Stookey, 136-147; Mansfield, 119-122; Polk, 203-206.

Week 11 Tu. Nov. 10. The Suez Crisis of 1956.  
Assign for Th. Nov. 12: Stookey, 148-159; Mansfield, 122-134; Polk, 207-210.

Th. Nov. 12. From the Eisenhower Doctrine through the Lebanon Landings of  
1958.  
Assign for Tu. Nov. 17: Polk, chs. 18, 19, & 20 (267-312).

Week 12 Tu. Nov. 17. The U.S. and Turkey since the 1950s (Student mini-lectures).  
Assign for Nov. 19: Stookey, 216-219; Mansfield, 142-153; Polk, 210-230  
& ch. 22 (334-341).

Th. Nov. 19. Kennedy-Johnson Policies: The 1967 and Its Aftermath.  
Assign for Tu. Nov. 24: Stookey, 221-244; Mansfield, 153-164, and optional  
on North Africa, 135-141.

Week 13 Tu. Nov. 24. Nixon-Rogers Policies, 1969-1973.  
Assign for Tu. Dec. 1: Stookey, 245-279; Polk, ch. 17 (248-264).

### Thanksgiving

Week 14 Tu. Dec. 1. The 1973 War--Origins and Consequences. Book Reviews due.  
Assign for Th. Dec. 3: Stookey, 73-86 (oil).

Th. Dec. 3. Oil, OPEC, and the U.S.: 1950s to the Present.  
Assign for Tu. Dec. 8: Mini-lectures on U.S. and Iran since 1954.

Week 15 Tu. Dec. 8. The U.S. and Iran since 1954 (Student mini lectures).  
Assign for Th. Dec. 10: review Stookey, 245-272; Mansfield, ch. 11 (165-  
174); Polk, ch. 24 (361-377) and also see appendices, 381-477.

Th. Dec. 10. From Carter to Reagan: Peace Negotiations, Continuing  
Instability and Crises.

### FINAL EXAMINATION