

# **Iraq: History, Society and Politics**

Spring 2007

*Prof. E. Ghareeb*

This research seminar will focus on the modern history and politics of Iraq from the emergence of the Monarchy to the present. The course will provide a historical overview of the distinctive political, social, cultural economic, and ideological forces at work in the country. Emphasis will be given to the Mandate period, the 1958 Revolution and Iraq's politics, policies and institutions under the Republic and the Ba'th regime and the recent developments in Iraq . Special attention will be given to the social, cultural, tribal, ethnic and religious landscape of Iraq, the Kurdish Question, the three Gulf Wars and to Iraq's relations with the neighbors and with the US. The roles and policies of regional players will also be stressed.

## **Course Requirements :**

- 25% - A term paper on a topic concerning modern Iraqi history, politics, culture, institutions, groups or foreign policy
- 25% - Final Exam
- 30% - Classroom discussion and assigned presentations

## **Readings:**

H. Batatu, The Old Social Classes and Revolutionary Movements in Iraq

E . Fernea, The Guests of the Shaykh

M. Khadduri, Republican Iraq

M. Khadduri and E. Ghareeb, War in the Gulf: The Iraq - Kuwait Conflict and its Implications.

S. Inati, Iraq

W. Polk , Iraq.

S. Pelletiere, Iraq and the International Oil System: Why America Went to War in the Gulf.

**Recommended:**

E. Ghareeb and B. Dougherty, Historical Dictionary of Iraq

Sinawi et al eds. Iraqi Poetry Today

S. Mitchell, Gilgamesh

S. Inati, Iraq

S. Kramer, History Begins at Sumer

M. Khadduri, Socialist Iraq

**Topics for Discussion:**

- Introduction to Iraqi history and geography From Sumer to the Ottomans
- Iraq's religious and ethnic landscape
- Literature, Art and Music in Iraq
- Iraq's society and institutions at the dawn of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century .
- The European Impact, Nationalism, and the lure of oil
- From Mandate to Independence
- From Monarchy to Republic
- Iraq under Qasim and the Arif brothers
- Iraq under the Ba'th
- The Kurdish Question
- Ethnicity and Religion: Kurds, Shi'a and others
- Social and Economic Transformation under the Ba'th
- Iraq in the era of Saddam .
- The Iran-Iraq War : origins and impact
- The Iraq- Kuwait conflict and Desert Storm : causes and consequences
- Iraqi Political Parties and Organizations
- Iraq and the U.S.
- Iraq and its Neighbors

- Prospects for the Future

Additional Readings:

- Al-Khalil, Samir. Republic of Fear: The Politics of Modern Iraq, (London 1989).
- Al-Marayati, Abid. A Diplomatic History of Iraq, (New York: Robert Speller & Sons 1961).
- Al Nasrawi, Abbas. The Economy of Iraq, (1994).
- Axelgard, Fredrick, W., ed. Iraq in Transition: A Political, Economic and Strategic Perspective, (Boulder 1986).
- Badger, George Percy. The Nestorians and their Rituals.
- Cerf, C. and M. Sifry eds. The Iraq War Reader, (New York 2003).
- Cottrell, Albin, ed. The Persian Gulf States: A General Survey, (Baltimore 1980).
- Dann, Uriel. Iraq Under Qassem: A Political History, 1958-1963, (New York 1969).
- Dowson, Sir Ernest. An Inquiry into Land Tenure and Related Questions, (Letchworth 1931).
- Edmonds, C.J. Kurds, Turks, and Arabs, (London 1978).
- Fattah, Hala Politics and Regional Trade in Iraq, Arabia and the Gulf 1745-1900, (1997).
- Fernea, R.A. Shaykh and Effendi: Changing Patterns of Authority Among the El-Shabana of Southern Iraq, (Cambridge 1970).
- Ghareeb, Edmund. The Kurdish Question in Iraq, (Syracuse 1981).
- Helms, Christine Moss. Iraq: Eastern Flank of the Arab World, (Washington, DC 1984).

- Hiro, Dilip, Secrets and Lies, (Avalon 2004).
- Ireland, Philip W. Iraq: A Case Study of Political Development, (London 1937).
- Jayyusi, S, Trends and Movements in Arabic Literature
- Joyner, Christopher. The Persian Gulf War, (Westport 1990).
- Khadduri, Majid. Socialist Iraq, (Washington, DC 1978).
- Khadduri, Majid. The Gulf War, (Oxford 1988).
- Kienle, Eberhard. Ba'ath vs. Ba'ath: The Conflict Between Syria and Iraq, (London 1990).
- Luizard, Pierre-Jean. La Formation de L'Irak Contemporain: Le Role Politiques des Ulema Chiites a la fin de la Domination Ottomane et au Moment de la Construction de l'etat Irakien, (Paris 2002).
- Marr, Phebe. The Modern History of Iraq, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition (Westview 2003)
- Metz, Helen Chapin, ed. Iraq, A Country Study, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition (Washington 1990).
- Miller, Judith, and Laurie Mylroie. Saddam Hussein and the Gulf Crises, (1990).
- Mitchell, Stephen. Gilgamesh, (New York 2004).
- Packer, George. Assassin's Gate, (New York 2005).
- Pelletiere, Stephen. Iraq and the International Oil System: Why America Went to War in the Gulf.
- Penrose, Edith and E.F. Penrose. Iraq: International Relations and National Development, (Boulder, CO 1978).

- Rejwan, Nissim. The Jews of Iraq: 3000 Years of History and Culture, (1985).
- Simawi Saadi et al eds. Iraqi Poetry Today, (London 2003).
- Simons, Geff. The Scourging of Iraq, (1995).
- Tarbush, M. The Role of the Military in Politics, (1982).
- Thesiger, W. The Marsh Arabs, (London 1964).
- Wiley, Joyce. Islamic Movement of Iraqi Shi'as, (Linne Rienner 1992).