

COURSE OUTLINE
Department of History
Georgia Southwestern State University

HIST 4781
History of North Africa
Credit: Three (3) semester hours

Catalog description:

HST 4781. History of North Africa is a course designed to familiarize students with the history and culture of Northern Africa. (3-0-3).

Prerequisite(s):

Completion of 6 hours of History core requirements

Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes:

At the conclusion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of the forces that molded current Northern Africa.
2. Examine the origins of North African history and focus on continuities from Ancient Egypt onward;
3. Analyze the life of Muhammad and interpret the expansion of Islam;
4. Illustrate an understanding of the Sunni and Shi'ite splits;
5. Describe the rise and fall of the Ottoman Empire and examine its impact on the area's historical development;
6. Assess the role of Western colonialism;
7. Evaluate rise of Arab nationalism in the 19th and 20th century;
8. Debate the origins of the Arab-Israeli dispute;
9. Compare the roles of minorities in North Africa;
10. Estimate the consequences from the current situation in North Africa

Course Outline:

- I. Introduction
 - i. Prehistory
 - ii. Ancient Egyptian Civilization
 - iii. Hellenism
- II. Christianity
 - i. Christian Heresies
 - ii. Byzantium
- III. Islam
 - i. Life of Muhammad
 - ii. Religion of Islam
 - iii. Expansion of Islam
- IV. The Caliphates
 - i. Umayyads in the Levant
 - ii. Umayyad Spain

- iii. Fatimids
- iv. Mamluks
- V. Ottoman Era
 - i. Ottoman world empire
 - ii. Ottoman empire in disarray
- VI. European Imperialism
 - i. British Imperialism in North Africa
 - ii. French Imperialism in North Africa
 - iii. The Ethiopian exception
- VII. Nationalism
 - i. Arab Nationalism
 - ii. Egyptian or "Pharonic Nationalism"
 - iii. De-colonization
 - iv. Independence
- VIII. North Africa since Independence
 - i. Secularized Islam
 - ii. Islamic Revival

Methods of Instruction: Reading, Lecture, and Classroom Discussion

Methods of Evaluation: A combination of Identification and Essay Examinations, as well as Analytical Writing Assignments

Textbooks:

Lapidus, Ira M. *A History of Islamic Societies*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 1988.

Salih, Tayeb. *A Season of Migration to the North*. New York: Three Continents Press, 1980.

Mernissi, Fatimia. *Tales of a Harem Girlhood*. Reading, MA: Perseus Books, 1994.