

NES 402a/502a
Economic History of the Islamic World
Department of Near Eastern Studies | Marshall Bldg Rm 440
Th 4-6:30
Chavez Bldg 105

Dr. Leila Hudson
lhudson@email.arizona.edu
Office Hours MW 12-2 or by appt. (email me)

This class will introduce students to aspects of the economic history and political economy of the Islamic world (focusing on the Arab core) from the seventh century until the present day. The class will address the following themes: economies within cultures and societies, methods of analyzing economic change, the relationship of Islam to economic life, Islamic doctrines of economics, evolving world systems, states, social movements and gender in relation to economic life, globalization and development and oil and drugs in relation to local systems, world systems and war.

The class is organized as a discussion seminar. Participation at each session is mandatory and unexcused absences will result in grade erosion. Each session will focus on a book and students will prepare and circulate by email comments and questions about the week's reading by the Tuesday before each class. (20%) Students will write two short papers: one on an aspect of Islamic (or other Middle Eastern religious tradition's) economic morality (20%) and one about a premodern city, commodity or labor or trade pattern (20%). Students will write a longer paper on an aspect of the modern economy in a particular Middle Eastern country, movement, trade system or commodity to be handed in at the end of the semester by May 14th. (20%) There will be an essay final exam. (20%) Graduate students will present their research papers at the end of the semester.

January 15 – Overview and Planning

January 22 – Approaches

Boulakia, Jean David C. 1971. Ibn khaldûn: A fourteenth-century economist. *The Journal of Political Economy* 79, (5) (Sep. - Oct.): 1105-18.

Hudson, Leila. 2008. *Transforming damascus : Space and modernity in an islamic city*. Library of middle east history 16; Library of middle east history ;; v. 16. London ; New York: Tauris Academic Studies.

January 29 – Meccan Trade and Islam

Ibrahim, Mahmood. 1990. *Merchant capital and islam*. 1st ed. Austin: University of Texas Press.

February 5 – Islamic Economics

Kuran, Timur. 2004. *Islam and mammon : The economic predicaments of islamism*. Princeton, N.J: Princeton University Press.

February 12 – Early World Systems

Abu-Lughod, Janet L. 1989. *Before european hegemony : The world system A.D. 1250-1350*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Hanna, Nelly. 1998. *Making big money in 1600 : The life and times of isma'il abu taqiyya, egyptian merchant*. Middle east studies beyond dominant paradigms. 1st ed. Syracuse, N.Y: Syracuse University Press.

February 19 – Guest Lecture – Ottoman Finances FIRST PAPER DUE

February 26 – Europeanization

Masters, Bruce Alan. 1988. *The origins of western economic dominance in the middle east : Mercantilism and the islamic economy in aleppo, 1600-1750*. New york university studies in near eastern civilization ;; no. 11. New York: New York University Press.

Owen, Roger. 1981. *The middle east in the world economy, 1800-1914*. London ; New York: Methuen

March 5 – 20th Century Perspectives

Owen, Roger, and Sevket Pamuk. 1998. *A history of middle east economies in the twentieth century*. Cambridge, Mass: Harvard University Press.

March 12 – 20th Century Perspectives

Henry, Clement M., and Robert Springborg. 2001. *Globalization and the politics of development in the middle east*. The contemporary middle east ;; 1. Cambridge, UK ; New York, NY, USA: Cambridge University Press.

SECOND PAPER DUE

Spring Break

March 26 – Oil

Klare, Michael T. 2004. *Blood and oil : The dangers and consequences of america's growing petroleum dependency*. 1st ed. New York: Metropolitan Books/Henry Holt & Co.

April 2 – Drugs

Macdonald, Dave. 2007. *Drugs in afghanistan : Opium, outlaws and scorpion tales*. London: Pluto.

April 9 – Boom'n Bust

Davidson, Christopher M. 2008. *Dubai : The vulnerability of success*. New York: Columbia University Press.

April 16 - Presentations

April 23 - Presentations

April 30 - Presentations

Final Exam May 14th – FINAL PAPER DUE