COURSE SYLLABUS
William J. Hamblin, History 240-1: Middle East to AD 600-1800
Fall 2011, T/Th, 9:30-10:45 am (253 MARB)

• “Verily I say unto you, that it is my will that you should . . . obtain a knowledge of history.”
D&C 93:53
• Note: You are responsible for the information on this syllabus. Ignore it at your peril. Ignorance of the law is no excuse.

1. OBJECTIVES:
This class will examine the history of the Middle East from the rise of Muhammad (seventh century) until around 1800, focusing on political and religious developments.

2. INSTRUCTOR:
William Hamblin
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Office hours: T/Th 9:00-9:25 am, 1:00-1:25 pm; 3:00-3:20 pm or by appointment.

3. REQUIRED TEXTS (From the Bookstore and on reserve in the library):
The Qur’ān; not in bookstore; you can pick any edition, but I will be using:

4. PROBLEMS. If you have serious medical problems or other types of difficulties, contact me as soon as possible. Do not wait to try to resolve problems until the end of the semester when it is too late to do anything about them. Problems identified early and dealt with swiftly can be solved.
5. Grades:
Tests will be given at the Testing Center. Grades will be based on five factors, which total 400 points:
- Quizzes (13x5, drop lowest 3) 50
- Book Review 50
- Term Paper 150
- Mid-term Exam 100
- Final Exam 100
*Grand total 450*

The percentage of the curve is as follows: A 93-100; A 90-92; B+ 87-89; B 83-86; B 80-82; C+ 77-79; C 73-76; C 70-72; D+ 67-69; D 63-66; D 60-62; E 59 or lower

Note on “Make-up” Quizzes and Tests:
- There will be regular pop quizzes on the reading assignments for that day. *There are no make-up quizzes!* Instead, your lowest *three* grades (15 points) on the quizzes will be dropped. Thereafter, you take the losses. The dropping of the lowest three quizzes is designed to accommodate legitimate excuses, not so you can fool around.
- If you know in advance you will miss the day of a test, you must take the test *before* the scheduled test day. Make-up tests *after* the exam date will be essay exams because we discuss the tests in class. You may not take the final early except for medical or similar emergency. (The claim that your mom scheduled your airline ticket on the wrong day, or that you are getting married on the day of the final are not medical excuses.) Tests *may* include all types of questions: T/F, multiple choice, matching, fill in blank, short answer, essays, etc. **There is no extra credit.**
- *There are no exceptions to these rules, so don’t ask.*

6. Courtesy: Whispering, flirting, snoring, evil speaking, and other forms of disturbance will not be tolerated. Students causing any form of disturbance (as judged by the professor) will receive a warning and be docked 5 points. If problems persist, they may be expelled from class. It is very important to be considerate of your neighbors who are actually trying to listen.

7. Cheating: Anyone caught cheating or plagiarizing on their tests, papers, or quizzes will fail the course and be sent to the Honor Code office! *No exceptions!* If you repent and confess *before* you are caught, mercy *may* be obtainable. For more information, see:
8. **TERM PAPERS:**
200 points (44%) of your grade will be based on two papers: a book review, and a research paper:

1. **General**
   1.1- All materials must be typed, double space, 12 point font, 1 inch margins.
   1.2- Any form of cheating or plagiarism (*copying from sources without attribution*) on the papers will result in failure of the course (see #7 above). If you do not understand what plagiarism is, ask.
   1.3- More specific details on these assignments will be given in class.

2. **Book Review (50 points)**
   2.1- The book report must be on an *approved* book at least 250 pages long; you cannot have already read the book, nor be reading it for another class.
   2.2- Your book report topic cannot be on the same topic as your paper
   2.3- Your book report must be 3-4 pages, ⅔ summary, ⅓ analysis.
   2.4- Tues. 6 Sept. Book Review Title due (-5 points)
   2.5- Thurs. 3 Nov. Book Review due (50 points)

3. **Research Paper (150 points)**
   3.1- Research paper can be on any topic on Middle Eastern civilization from AD 600-1800.
   3.2- Research topics and books for review must be pre-approved by me in advance.
   3.3- You cannot expand a paper you have done before, nor write one paper for two classes.
   3.4- The paper should be 8-10 pages long.
   3.5- The following is the schedule for the different parts of the papers.
   - Thurs. 8 Sept. Research Paper Topic (5 pts)
   - Thurs. 22 Sept. Research Paper Bibliography (15 pts)
   - Thurs. 20 Oct. Preliminary Paper Outline due (30 pts)
   - Thurs. 17 Nov. Research Paper is due (100 pts)