

Islamic Societies and Cultures -- Spring 2012
David Crawford
Tuesdays and Fridays from 9:30 – 10:45 in Bannow 254a
<http://www.faculty.fairfield.edu/dcrawford/>

This course is an *anthropological* inquiry into various forms of cultural, religious, and linguistic diversity within and among Islamic societies and cultures. Our goals will be to, 1. broaden our understanding of the societies in question, and 2. sharpen the way we think about the categories of “society,” “culture” and “religion.”

Your grade will be determined by ten quizzes, ten “news reports,” three short papers, including an end of the semester news summary, and a final exam. Quizzes will count 3% each, for a total of 30%. Five of the quizzes will be announced in advance (they are posted on the schedule below), but the rest will not. We will have at least twelve, from which your best ten will count towards your grade. News reports will be a one page summary of the week’s news from non-Western sources in some assigned region of the world and will be worth 3% each. There are twelve possible weeks in which to do a report; ten reports will count towards your grade, for a total of 30%. *You must be in class to discuss your report to receive credit.* You will submit three short papers of six pages each; each is worth 5% of your grade. The first two papers will relate any three chapters from the Burke book to the rest of the course. The last one will be submitted at the end of the term, when you will summarize the newsworthy events in your region over this semester. Papers count for a total of 15% of your grade. The final exam is worth 25%. *There will be no early or makeup quizzes, reports, or papers. Please do not ask.*

Reading List: Books

Burke, Edmund. 1993. *Struggle and survival in the modern Middle East*. Berkeley:University of California Press.
Crawford, David. 2008. *Moroccan Households in the World Economy*. Baton Rouge: LSU Press.
Crawford, David and Rachel Newcomb, eds. *Encountering Morocco: Anthropological Fieldwork and Cultural Understanding*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press. (forthcoming)
Maalouf, Amin. 1992. *Leo Africanus*. New York: New Amsterdam.

Reading List: Articles

[Asad, Talal](#). 1993. Genealogies of Religion: Discipline and Reasons of Power in Christianity and Islam. Baltimore, John Hopkins University Press. Pp.27-54.
[Fromkin, David](#). 1991. “How the Modern Middle East Map Came to be Drawn,” *Smithsonian* 22 (May 1991), 132-47.
[Geertz, Clifford](#). 1973. “Religion as a Cultural System” in *The interpretation of cultures*. New York: Basic Books
Mamdani, Mahmood. 2004. Good Muslim, Bad Muslim. New York: Pantheon Books. Pp. 3-62
[Manger, Leif O](#). 1999. “Introduction” in *Muslim diversity : local Islam in global contexts*. Surrey: Curzon. Pp. 1-36
[Newcomb, Rachel](#). 2002. “Gifts.” *Anthropology and Humanism*. Vol. 30, Issue 1. Pp. 81-86.
[Silverstein, Paul](#). 2004. *Algeria in France*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press.

Spadola, Emilio. 2011. “Forgive me Friend: Mohammed and Ibrahim.” *Anthropology Quarterly*, Vol. 84, No. 3. 737-756.

Schedule of Readings

January 17	First day; no reading and nothing due.
January 20	Geertz
January 24	Asad
January 27	Quiz (contrast Geertz and Asad); <i>report 1</i> due
January 31	Mamdani (Intro and Chapter 1); Burke 1
February 3	Vital coordinates of Islam I. (no reading); <i>report 2</i> due
February 7	Vital coordinates of Islam II. (no reading);
February 10	Crawford and Newcomb (<i>Introduction – this will be emailed to you</i>); <i>report 3</i> due
February 14	Burke 25; Rignall (in Crawford and Newcomb – <i>this will be emailed to you</i>)
February 17	Burke 2, 3; <i>report 4</i> due
February 21	Go to MONDAY classes.
February 24	Spadola; <i>report 5</i> due
February 28	Burke 5, 19
March 2	Newcomb , <i>report 6</i> due
March 6	Silverstein, Fromkin
March 9	Van den Hout, Kapchan (in Crawford and Newcomb – <i>these will be emailed</i>); <i>report 7</i> due
<i>Spring Break</i>	
March 20	Burke (choice of three chapters); <i>paper</i> due
March 23	Manger (only read to page 19); <i>report 8</i> due
March 27	Burke (choice of three chapters); <i>paper</i> due
March 30	Crawford (Preface and Introduction); <i>report 9</i> due
April 3	Crawford (Chapters 1, 2); <i>quiz</i>
<i>Easter Break</i>	
April 10	Crawford (Chapters 3, 4, 5); <i>quiz</i>
April 13	NO CLASS; <i>report 10</i> due <i>in my mail box (CNS232)</i>
April 17	Crawford (Chapter 6 and Conclusion); <i>report 11</i> due
April 20	Maalouf I; <i>quiz</i>
April 24	Maalouf II and III; <i>report 12</i> due
April 27	Maalouf IV; <i>quiz</i>
May 1	Conclusion; <i>paper</i> due
May 8	8 a.m. FINAL EXAM

Just so you know...

"**Plagiarism** is the appropriation of ideas, data, work, or language of others and submitting them as one's own to satisfy the requirements of a course. Plagiarism constitutes theft and deceit. Students are often confused by just what constitutes plagiarism. When the ideas or writings of others are presented in assignments, these ideas or writing should be attributed to that source. Special care should be taken, when cutting and pasting materials or when paraphrasing, to cite sources correctly and to use quotation marks around exact words from source materials. Actions that result in plagiarism may be intentional or unintentional. Consequently, students must understand the concept of plagiarism. When reading, processing, or using materials from any source, appropriate documentation is always essential."

Resources such as the library (x2178) and the writing center (www.fairfield.edu/writingcenter) are available on campus to assist you in your academic endeavors. You are encouraged to take advantage of these resources. If you have a disability that may require special accommodation in this course, contact Student Support Services (x2614) to make arrangements.

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	60-69