

<< DRAFT >>

## **Ottoman Palestine (1516-1917)**

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### **Course description**

The modern Middle East has its roots in the long period of Ottoman rule that ended with the First World War. The Ottoman centuries left a lasting impact on the region and shaped many of the political realities, movements, ideologies and actors of the post-Ottoman century which has recently come to an end. Focusing on the region that would become British Mandate Palestine, the contested territory at the heart of the Arab-Israeli conflict, this course explores it as a territory in the Ottoman Empire, as a religious center, a destination for pilgrims, visitors and immigrants, as a site of daily life, a site of change, and as a coveted geopolitical asset. It offers a close look at Ottoman regional realities, the workings of the Ottoman state and society, and the interactions of imperial, local and foreign trajectories, during the four tumultuous centuries of Ottoman imperial rule.

### **Preliminary list of readings**

#### **Textbooks**

Gudrun Krämer, *A History of Palestine: From the Ottoman Conquest to the Founding of the State of Israel* (Princeton University Press, 2011), pp. 1-138 (chapters 1-6)

Jane Hathaway, *The Arab Lands under Ottoman Rule: 1516–1800*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition (London and New York: Routledge, 2020) [selected chapters and subchapters]

Malcolm E. Yapp, *The Making of the Modern Near East 1792–1923* (London and New York: Routledge, 2013) [selected chapters and subchapters]

## **Additional Readings**

(chapters, subchapters, excerpts)

Amy Singer, Palestinian Peasants and Ottoman Officials: Rural Administration around Sixteenth Century Jerusalem (Cambridge, 1994)

Bernard Lewis, Amnon Cohen, Population and Revenue in the Towns of Palestine in the Sixteenth Century (Princeton University Press, 1978).

Abraham David, To Come to the Land: Immigration and Settlement in 16<sup>th</sup> Century Eretz Yisrael (Tuscaloosa: The University of Alabama Press, 1999)

Dror Zeevi, An Ottoman Century: The District of Jerusalem in the 1600s (Albany: State University of New York Press, 1996).

Amnon Cohen, Palestine in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century: Patterns of Government and Administration (Jerusalem: Magnes Press, 1973)

Beshara Doumani, Rediscovering Palestine: Merchants and Peasants in Jabal Nablus, 1700-1900 (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1995)

Johann Büssow, Hamidian Palestine: Politics and Society in the District of Jerusalem 1872-1908 (Brill, 2011)

Michelle Campos, Ottoman Brothers: Muslims, Christians, and Jews in Early Twentieth-Century Palestine (Stanford University Press, 2011)

Beshara Doumani, "Rediscovering Ottoman Palestine: Writing Palestinians into History." The Israel/Palestine Question: Rewriting Histories, Ilan Pappé, ed. (London: Routledge, 2007), pp. 5-28.

Thomas Philipp, Birgit Schäbler, eds., The Syrian Land: Processes of Integration and Fragmentation: Bilād Al-Shām from the 18<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup> Century (Stuttgart: Franz Steiner Verlag, 1998) [selected articles]

Philip S. Khoury, Urban Notables and Arab Nationalism: The Politics of Damascus 1860-1920 (Cambridge University Press, 1983) [selections from chapters 1 and 3]

Mesut Uyar, Edward J. Erickson, A Military History of the Ottomans: From Osman to Atatürk (Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO, 2009), pp. 175-280 (ch. 5)

Haim Gerber, Remembering and Imagining Palestine: Identity and Nationalism from the Crusades to the Present (London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2008), pp. 1-79 (chapters 1-2)

Baruch Kimmerling and Joel Migdal, The Palestinian People: A History (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2003), pp. 3-37 (chapter 1)

Alan Dowty, Arabs and Jews in the Ottoman Empire: Two Worlds Collide (Indiana University Press, 2019), pp. 1-42 (ch. 1)

Thomas Philipp, Acre: The Rise and Fall of a Palestinian City, 1730–1831 (New York: Columbia University Press, 2001)

Mahmoud Yazbak, Haifa in the Late Ottoman Period, 1864–1914: A Muslim Town in Transition (Leiden: Brill, 1998)

Amy Singer, Review of: Sylvia Auld and Robert Hillenbrand, Ottoman Jerusalem: The Living City, 1517-1917 (London: Altajir World of Islam Trust, 2000), Mediterranean Historical Review 19 (2004), pp. 113-117.

Judith E. Tucker, In the House of the Law: Gender and Islamic Law in Ottoman Syria and Palestine (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1998)

John Hunwick and Eve Trout Powell, The African Diaspora in the Mediterranean Lands of Islam (Princeton: Markus Wiener Publishers, 2002)

P.J. Baldensberger, The Immovable East (London: Pitman, 1913)

Suad Amiry and Vera Tamari, The Palestinian Village Home (London: British Museum Publications, 1989)

Rochelle Davis, Palestinian Village Histories: Geographies of the Displaced (Stanford University Press, 2011)

Arie Morgenstern, "Dispersion and the Longing for Zion, 1240-1840", Azure 12 (2002), 71–132.

Martin Sicker, Reshaping Palestine: From Muhammad Ali to the British Mandate, 1831-1922 (Praeger, 1999), pp. 1-18 (ch. 1)

Rashid Khalidi, Palestinian Identity: The Construction of Modern National Consciousness (Columbia University Press, 2009)

Gad Gilbar, ed., Ottoman Palestine 1800-1914 (Leiden, 1990)

Yuval Ben-Bassat and Eyal Ginio, eds., Late Ottoman Palestine: The Period of Young Turk Rule (New York: I. B. Tauris, 2011)

Selim Deringil, The Well-Protected Domains: Ideology and the Legitimation of Power in the Ottoman Empire, 1876–1909 (London: I. B. Tauris, 1998) (ch. 2, 4, 5)

Robert G. Hoyland and H.G.M. Williamson (eds.), The Oxford Illustrated History of the Holy Land (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2018) (Chapter 9 and short excerpts from chapters 11 and 12).

## Course outline

1	Introduction	Course outline	
		Course assignments and products	
		Resources and challenges	
2	Locating Ottoman Palestine	A world of Empires	Ottoman, Mamluk, Iranian, Venetian, British, French, Russian, Austrian, German
		The Ottoman Empire	The Ottomans and their conquests, their regime, imperial structure, rivals, allies and changing borders; and important dates in their chronology
		The land	Names, maps and borders
3	Worlds of faith	Religions and religious divisions	
		The Holy Land	
		Holy Cities, sites and routes	
4	Chronology and periodization	Conquests, campaigns, military expeditions	Ottoman, French, Egyptian, British
		Rulers, governors, officials, administrators	
		Chronology and periodizations	
5	Geography	Cities, towns and villages	
		Administrative divisions and subdivisions	
		Regions, topographies, landscapes	
6	Possibilities and constraints: environment, subsistence, production, materiality, security, mobility	Water sources, vegetation and agriculture, farming and animal husbandry, natural resources, seasons and yearly cycles	
		Built environment, technology and material culture	
		Roads, streets, mobility and transportation, trade and supply	

7	Population	Demography and population distribution	
		Religious, ethnic, social, and linguistic groups	
		Population movement	Migration, settlements, urbanization, forced relocation, enslavement, nomadic practices, periodic and seasonal movement, diasporas
8	Social and political structures	Identifying social and political actors and their histories	Notables, artisans, guilds, courts, elites, scholars, officials, intellectuals, soldiers, refugees, immigrants. Class and gender.
		Social and political divisions, internal conflicts and warfare	City dwellers, villagers, nomadic and semi-nomadic groups, neighborhoods, communities, military units. Families, households, lineages, clans, tribes, dynasties.
		Legal systems, social supervision and local traditions	
9	Individual, society and economy	Life and family trajectories, career ladders, career paths, training and education, occupation, employment, production and consumption, work and leisure	
		Land ownership, taxation, financial institutions, markets, family patrimonies and endowments	
		Catastrophes, protests, poor relief, charity, social support	
10	Society and culture	Languages and literatures	Texts and ideas, writing, printing, readership, culture of the book, art
		The ebb and flow of information	Communication networks, letters, decrees, news and rumors
		Cultural mediators and cultural exchange	Travelers and researchers, pilgrims and pilgrimage, scholars and intellectuals, preachers and missionaries

11	Early modern Palestine: Review of the first three Ottoman centuries	The first Ottoman century	Organizing imperial space, linking the local to the imperial center
		The second Ottoman century	Local politics and dynasties, regional and provincial networks
		The third Ottoman century	Challenges to imperial rule
12	The last century of Ottoman rule I (1818-1878)	Modern times: Innovations and Crises	
		Reforms, transitions and centralization efforts	
		New political arenas	
13	The last century of Ottoman rule II (1878-1913)	New educated elites, intellectual circles and ideas	
		The new military structures	
		Empire and nations	
14	Ottoman endgame (1913-1918)	Empire of the Turks	
		World war	
		Holy war	
15	Varieties of historiographical approaches and narratives	Histories of the Palestinian people	
		Histories of the Jewish people	
		Conflict historiography	
16	Conclusion		