

**Key Issues in the History of Modern Iraq:
The Quest for the State and the Search for National Identity**

Dr. Rachel Kantz Feder

Spring Semester

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Office Hours: by appointment

Short description:

This elective course explores key issues in the history of modern Iraq, with the aim of achieving a nuanced understanding of the constituent processes, forces, and events that have shaped Iraqi state and society from the late Ottoman period until the present. Through the perusal of primary sources and secondary literature, the course explores the structure of Iraqi politics, salient aspects of socio-economic history, and the impact of religion, culture, memory, and wars on the quest for political order and national identity.

Assessment* :

Midterm: short essay 19%

Final requirement: paper (6-10 pages) 61%

Participation: 20%

Attendance:

Attendance is mandatory. Students are permitted a maximum of three absences without penalty. Any additional absences will affect the final grade and may result in failure of the course.

Academic conduct:

Plagiarism is taken extremely seriously. Any instance of academic misconduct which includes: submitting someone else's work as your own; failure to accurately cite sources; taking words from another source without using quotation marks; submission of work for which you have previously received credit; working in a group for individual assignments; using unauthorized materials in an exam and sharing your work with other students, will result in failure of the assignment and will likely lead to further disciplinary measures.

* Please note that if distance learning is required, the assessment procedure, modes of assessment and weightings may be changed.