

History 205: *The Modern Middle East from 1700 to the Present*
Dr. Joy Land (Fall 2008)
Tuesday & Thursday, 11:20 a.m. to 12:35 p.m.

This course will cover tradition, change, modernization and development in the Middle East from the period of Ottoman decline and the rise of successor states to more recent events. It will survey the religious, political, economic, social, and intellectual movements that shape the region. Geographically it will span the area from North Africa to the eastern border of Iran. The focus, however, will be on Egypt, Turkey, and the heartland of the Middle East. The course is designed for students who are at the sophomore level or above. No prior study of the Middle East is expected.

HEB 1103/JUDS 1103: *Literature & Civilization of Jewish People*
Dr. Nehama Aschkenasy (Fall 2008)
Thursday, 6:00 p.m. to 8:40 p.m.

Focusing on the major concepts, personalities and literary works of the Hebraic tradition from the Biblical and Talmudic periods to the present, a selection from the entire spectrum of Judaic tradition. Taught in English. May not be used to meet the foreign language requirement.

English 3619
Topics in Literature and Human Rights: Literature of the Holocaust
Dr. Frederick Roden (Fall 2008)
Tuesday, 6:00 p.m. to 8:40 p.m.

It has been more than 60 years since the end of World War Two, and literature concerning the Holocaust continues to be published. That historical event remains an ongoing phenomenon through its resultant cultural production. The Holocaust lives today even as the events and people connected to it become part of the past. The literature calls to awareness in our present moment while its history still unfolds.

In this class we will analyze a range of different works pertaining to Holocaust studies, including memoirs and nonfiction prose, fiction, drama, film, and poetry. We will entertain guest speakers and make at least one field trip to Holocaust-related exhibitions in New York City. The texts we will evaluate range from the mid-20th century to the 21st and interrogate diverse perspectives and cultural experiences.

This course concerns the notion of "survival" and "survivors," broadly conceived. Even as we contemplate the atrocity of genocide, the miracle of life's endurance will serve as our recurring theme. We will "look for the helpers" and interrogate meanings of "humanitarian effort" at individual and collective levels. What do studies of "survival" teach us in terms of public policy *and* human interaction, community *and* relationship? How do we (in E. M. Forster's words) "only connect"? How do we survive?