



POLS 276/HIST 276/INST 276

Spring 2018

MODERN MIDDLE EASTERN HISTORY AND POLITICS

Essay #1

Directions

*Write a 3-5 page typed, double-spaced essay in response to the question below. Be sure to answer all parts of the question in standard essay form (with introductory, body, and concluding paragraphs) and to support your arguments with specific evidence from the assigned readings. **You do not need to consult sources outside of the course readings for this assignment.** Provide in-text citations (with author and page number) for all quotations and references in your essay as well as a complete reference to each text you use on your Works Cited page at the end of your essay. Please contact me should you have any questions about this assignment or the course readings (e-mail: rlee@rockford.edu).*

Your essay is due no later than Fri., Feb. 16, at 10:00 P.M.

Essay Question

In the Introductory Chapter to his book *Seven Pillars of Wisdom*, T.E. Lawrence writes the following: "I meant to make a new nation, to restore a lost influence, to give twenty millions of Semites the foundations on which to build an inspired dream palace of their national thoughts."

These words express the great hopes of many that the years following World War I would mark the arrival of a modern era in the Middle East – of what T.E. Lawrence refers to in the Epilogue to his book as "the new Asia."

Write an essay in which you first identify some of the most significant hopes and aspirations of the peoples of the Middle East in the aftermath of World War I and then discuss the extent to which these hopes and aspirations were realized in the years 1920-1960.