

Middle Eastern History Reading List:

History MA Comprehensive Oral Examination

Abbreviated instructions (full instructions [here](#)): Students not writing a thesis must present themselves for examination in three subfields. Students will take three subfield examinations (written, three hours each) within a one-week period, followed by a one-hour oral examination with the Graduate Advisory Committee. For the subfield of Middle Eastern History, students will be expected to synthesize the arguments and evidence of **at least fifteen of the following books and articles**. Students interested in this subfield should contact Professor [Yousefi](#) for guidance. Call numbers at the end of each entry are for copies at the Meriam Library. Books without call numbers have been ordered by the library, but should be requested via Interlibrary Services.

Basics (choose five – consult Professor Yousefi for the order in which the titles in this section may be studied)

Berkey, Jonathan Porter. *The Formation of Islam Religion and Society in the Near East, 600-1800*. Themes in Islamic History New York: Cambridge University Press, 2003. <http://mantis.csuchico.edu/login?url=http://site.ebrary.com/lib/csuchico/Doc?id=10070349> (authenticate through Meriam Library). BP63.A35 B47 2003eb.

Bulliet, Richard W. *Conversion to Islam in the Medieval Period: An Essay in Quantitative History*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1979. DS38.3 .B84.

Donner, Fred McGraw. *Muhammad and the Believers: At the Origins of Islam*. Cambridge: The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 2010. BP55 .D66 2010.

———. *The Early Islamic Conquests*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1981. DS38.1 .D66.

Hodgson, Marshall G. S. *The Venture of Islam: Conscience and History in a World Civilization*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1974. 3 vols. DS36.85 H63.

Kennedy, Hugh. *The Prophet and the Age of the Caliphates: The Islamic Near East from the Sixth to the Eleventh Century*. New York: Longman, 1986. DS38.5 K38 1986.

King, C. R. D. and Averil Cameron. *The Byzantine and Early Islamic Near East: Land Use and Settlement Patterns*. Princeton: Darwin Press, 1994. The library has ordered the first two volumes.

Owen, Roger. *State, Power, and Politics in the Making of the Modern Middle East*. London; New York: Routledge, 1992. DS63 O94 1992.

Makdisi, George. *The Rise of Humanism in Classical Islam and the Christian West: With Special Reference to Scholasticism*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 1990.

Pourshariati, Parvaneh. *Decline and Fall of the Sasanian Empire the Sasanian-Parthian Confederacy and the Arab Conquest of Iran*. New York: I.B. Tauris in association with the Iran Heritage Foundation; Distributed in the U.S.A. by Palgrave Macmillan, 2008. <http://mantis.csuchico.edu/login?url=http://site.ebrary.com/lib/csuchico/Doc?id=10254887> (authenticate through Meriam Library). DS286 .P68 2008eb.

Shaw, Stanford J. *History of the Ottoman Empire and Modern Turkey*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1976. Read vol. 1. DR440 .S5.

Focused (choose five – alternatives of comparable importance and length may be suggested)

Berkey, Jonathan Porter. *Popular Preaching and Religious Authority in the Medieval Islamic Near East*. Seattle: University of Washington Press, 2001. <http://opac.csuchico.edu/record=b2338165~S13> (authenticate through Meriam Library).

Bulliet, Richard W. *The Camel and the Wheel*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1975. SF401 C2 B84.

Casale, Giancarlo. *The Ottoman Age of Exploration*. Oxford & New York: Oxford University Press, 2010.

Chamberlain, Michael. *Knowledge and Social Practice in Medieval Damascus, 1190-1350*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1994. DS99.D3 C48 2002.

Gutas, Dimitri. *Greek Thought, Arabic Culture: The Graeco-Arabic Translation Movement in Baghdad and Early 'Abbāsīd Society(2nd-4th/8th-10th Centuries)*. London: Routledge, 1998. DS36.82.G7 G88 1998.

Hallaq, Wael B. "Juristic Authority Vs. State Power: The Legal Crises of Modern Islam." *Journal of Law and Religion* no. 2 (2003): 243-58 (PDF full text available through Meriam Library). doi:10.2307/3649176.

Maalouf, Amin. *The Crusades through Arab Eyes*. New York: Schocken Books, 1985. DS38.6 .M3213 1985.

Makdisi, George. *The Rise of Colleges: Institutions of Learning in Islam and the West*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 1981. KBP42 .M24 1981.

Matthee, Rudi. *Pursuit of Pleasure: Drugs and Stimulants in Iranian History, 1500-1900*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2009. <http://opac.csuchico.edu/record=b2277462~S13> (authenticate through Meriam Library).

Mitchell, Timothy. *Colonizing Egypt*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1988. <http://opac.csuchico.edu/record=b1936699~S13> (authenticate through Meriam Library).

Najmabadi, Afsaneh. *Women with Mustaches and Men without Beards: Gender and Sexual Anxieties of Iranian Modernity*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2005. <http://opac.csuchico.edu/record=b2199744~S13> (authenticate through Meriam Library).

Rosenthal, Franz. *Knowledge Triumphant: The Concept of Knowledge in Medieval Islam*. Leiden: Brill, 2006. <http://opac.csuchico.edu/record=b2228088~S13> (authenticate through Meriam Library)

Saliba, George. *Islamic Science and the Making of the European Renaissance*. Cambridge, Mass: MIT Press, 2007. <http://mantis.csuchico.edu/login?url=http://site.ebrary.com/lib/csuchico/Doc?id=10173702> (authenticate through Meriam Library). Q127.I742 S35 2007eb.

Zaman, Muhammad Qasim. *Religion and Politics Under the Early `Abbasids: The Emergence of the proto-Sunni Elite*. Leiden: Brill, 1997.

Historiography (choose two primary and three secondary)

al-Balādhurī, Aḥmad ibn Yáhyā. *The Origins of the Islamic State: Being a Translation from the Arabic Accompanied with Annotations, Geographic and Historic Notes of the Kitāb Futūḥ Albuldān of al-Imāmabu-l `Abbās A ḥmad ibn al-Balādhuri*. Beirut: Khayats, 1966. DS234 B232 1916a.

King, C. R. D. and Averil Cameron. *The Byzantine and Early Islamic Near East: Problems in the Literary Source Material*. Princeton: Darwin Press, 1994. Library has ordered the first two volumes.

Donner, Fred McGraw. *Narratives of Islamic Origins: The Beginnings of Islamic Historical Writing*. Princeton: Darwin Press, 1998. DS38.16 .D66 1998.

Humphreys, R. Stephen. *Islamic History: a Framework for Inquiry*. Rev. ed. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1991. Z3014.H55 DS38.3 H85 1991.

Ibn Ishaq. *The Life of Muhammad: A Translation of Ibn Ishaq's Sirat Rasul Allah*. Oxford & New York: Oxford University Press, 1967/2002.

Ibn Khaldun, 'Abd al-Rahman ibn Muhammad, Franz Rosenthal, and N. J. Dawood. *The Muqaddimah: An Introduction to History / Translated from the Arabic by Franz Rosenthal*. Edited and abridged by N. J. Dawood. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1974. D16.7 .I24132 2005.

Makdisi, George. *The Rise of Colleges: Institutions of Learning in Islam and the West*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 1981. <http://opac.csuchico.edu/record=b2274948~S13> (authenticate through Meriam Library). LA99 M24 1981.

Niẓām al-Mulk. *The Book of Government = or, Rules for Kings: The Siyar al-Mulūk or Siyāsāt-nāma*. 2nd. ed. Persian Heritage Series v. 32. London: Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1978. JC49 N43 1978.

Noth, Albrecht, and Lawrence I Conrad. *The Early Arabic Historical Tradition: a Source-critical Study*. Princeton: Darwin Press, 1994.

Said, Edward W. *Orientalism*. New York: Pantheon Books, 1978. DS12 S24 1978.