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**HS/IS 280: War in the Balkans and the Making of the 21st Century**

The Refugee Crisis, one of the defining events of the 21st century, has its origins in the Syrian Civil War. War influencing the Balkans is not a new development, as it has played a pivotal role in shaping the political, cultural, and structural dynamics of the region for much of modern history. Many of the legacies of today, in fact, are the result of the conflicts of the past century. This course, therefore, provides an overview of military developments in the 20th century Balkan history as a backdrop to the dramatic changes in Greece and South Eastern Europe in the 21st century. The lectures will examine the construction and development of these states, and the role that warfare had in their creation. Topics will include: How does one define irregular war? What role does warfare have in state formation? What role have non-state entities, such as guerrillas, had in constructing states in the region? What role has warfare had in creating specific cultural and social dynamics in the region? Answering these and other related questions will not only be of use for those seeking to increase their awareness of the Balkans and contemporary events, but also those who seek to expand their understanding of international relations as a whole.

**Required Readings:**
All required readings will be provided on Canvas or emailed by professor.

**Optional Texts:**


These texts are not required, but are useful reference materials for the historical issues and themes covered in the course. They will be made available on two-hour loan at the library.

**Grading Scheme:**
- In-Class Quizzes: 20%
- Class Participation: 20%
- Midterm (Week 7): 30%
- Take-Home Final Exam (Dec. 15): 30%
Evaluation

All assignments are due in class on the assigned week.

Students must be acquainted with SFU’s plagiarism policy. If you are not it is highly recommended that you take SFU’s Plagiarism tutorial at: https://canvas.sfu.ca/courses/15986

Participation: 20%
Attendance is mandatory, and does not in itself constitute part of the participation grade. A student without a valid excuse will receive an automatic zero in participation. Basis for Participation Grade each week:

Active involvement and quality contributions: A
Active involvement and one or two quality contributions: B
Active involvement: C
Minimal involvement: D

In–class quizzes 20%
Students will be given one week notice before each quiz. Quizzes will consist of short answers as well as identifying key terms.

Mid-term 30%
Midterm will be given in Week 7 of the course. Midterm will consist of three equally weighted parts. Part 1 will consist of identifying key terms. Part 2 will consist of short answers based on questions covered in the course. Part 3 will be a short essay question where students will respond to one of three topics.

Take Home Final Exam
The exam will be given during tutorials of week 12, and is due on 15 December. The final will consist of three equally weighted parts. Part 1 will consist of short answers based on questions covered in the course. Part 2 and 3 will be short essay questions where students will respond to two of four topics.