Exam Grading Guidelines
SOSANT 2110 Regional Ethnography Middle East

Course Overview:
Anthropology of the Middle East often portrays the region through a lens of poverty, political disasters, wars and displacements, gendered and sectarian grievances, and failed attempts at democratization. Such narratives often neglect culture, leisure, and the daily lives of ordinary people. This class on regional ethnographies from the Middle East shifts the focus. With the students, we investigate human and other-than-human ethnographies through leisure and pleasure.

The reading list explores the relationship between leisure and constructs like work, family, community, and nation, and examine how categories like ethnicity, gender, and class shaped and were shaped by leisure culture. In lectures and class conversations we have considered how processes such as modernization, urbanization, and national identity formation influenced local leisure patterns, affecting ordinary people's daily lives with other humans and non-humans. Through lectures, discussions, collaborative assignments, and close readings, including deep reading sessions, we explored various aspects of public and private space, cafés, cinemas, beaches, popular culture, fashion, sex, and desire.

<u>Guides to Grading:</u>

Student composition:

- Exchange students added diversity, creating a dynamic exchange between various disciplines such as Arabic studies, history, law, political science, development studies, media, and anthropology. Encourage students to leverage these disciplinary perspectives in their essays.

- When reading and grading the essays, consider the skills and experiences students have developed from reflection papers, class discussions, and interdisciplinary exchanges. This cumulative knowledge should reflect in their essays.

In Class preparation:

- Reflection Papers: These exercises have helped students develop regular writing habits and understand the structure of academic texts, including argument formulation and analyses.
- Class Discussions: During lectures, students engaged actively with the reading list. Different disciplinary perspectives were encouraged, as more than half the class lacked an anthropology background.

Use of References:

- While students may use additional references, it is not mandatory.
- Evaluate how they incorporate and interact with the primary texts.

Evaluation Criteria:

- Assess the students' ability to articulate their thoughts and engage with the literature.
- Look for the type of conversations and critical reflections the monograph has inspired in the student. Given the strong multi-disciplinary compositions of the class they were told to engage with the author of the monograph and elaborate one or two issues of interest to them as a reader.

Encouragement of Intellectual Freedom:

- Recognize the effort students put into constructing arguments and producing academic texts.
- Consider their intellectual enjoyment and confidence as part of the grading process.

Kind regards
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