

Fall 2014
THE POLITICS OF MODERN IRAN
Prof. Mehrzad Boroujerdi

PSC/MES 349.M001
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COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course will provide students with a historical and theoretical understanding of modern Iranian politics and society from the late nineteenth century to the present. Students will learn about Iran's cultural ambiance and heritage, ethnic/class/religious cleavages, foreign policy, the causes and consequences of the 1979 revolution, and the nature of the post-revolutionary political system through reading some of the most seminal scholarly essays on these subjects.

COURSE PHILOSOPHY: A Chinese proverb says that "teachers open the door, but you must enter by yourself." A Western sage (Karl Jaspers) supplemented this maxim by maintaining that "university life is no less dependent on students than on professors. The best professors flounder helplessly at a school where the student body is unfit. Hence, it is all up to the young people who are supposedly entitled to study. They must show themselves worthy of this privilege to the best of their ability."

This course has been organized on the premise that you are worthy of this privilege and that the professor only opens the door. The success of this course depends entirely on your continued and sustained participation. Therefore, I ask that you be agile participants and intervene as often as possible in class discussion.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Attendance: Attendance in this class is mandatory! We will take attendance at the beginning of each class and you can be excused from having missed a total of three classes during the term. After that you will be penalized for any class you miss. Also, in light of the fact that my presentations will complement rather than reiterate the assigned readings, you will miss a great deal by not coming to class. Attendance is also mandatory for all exams, and make-ups will be given only for bona fide emergencies (i.e., severe illness documented by a physician).

Participation: In addition to being physically present, I expect you to be mentally present! Hence, you should complete all assigned readings *before* each class meeting so that you are familiar with the concepts, facts, theories, and controversies to be discussed. Furthermore, you can engage in discussion through the course listserv (Iranpolitics@listserv.syr.edu) or

the Blackboard course page (<http://blackboard.syr.edu>). Both you and I will use these venues to (a) post interesting or informative e-mails about the subject matter of the course, and (b) respond to points and issues raised by the instructor or your peers.

Book Reviews: Each student is expected to write a four pages (double-spaced) book review which will address the following questions: (a) what is the author's *thesis*?; (b) what are some *useful concepts* s/he presents?; (c) what do you consider to be the major *strengths and weaknesses* of the work?; and (e) what *questions* have come to your mind in light of the reading? By **October 13**, the students will each choose one of the books listed at the end of this syllabus. The book reviews are due on **November 12**.

Research Papers: Each student is expected to write a 6 to 8 page (typed, and double-spaced) research paper on one of the following Iran related topics: Assembly of Religious Experts (*Khobregan*); Bureaucracy; Cabinet; Class situation (income distribution, inequality); Clerical establishment; civil liberties, rights and freedoms; Constitution; Corruption; Cultural life; Economic performance (employment, inflation, monetary policy, privatization); Educational system; Elections and electoral system, Ethnicity; Exile community; Expediency Council; Foreign Policy; Guardian Council; Legal System and Judiciary; Media; Non-Governmental Organizations; Opposition forces; Legislative politics; Political culture; Political elite; Political parties; Political participation (forms/modes/trends); Population and migration policy; Presidency; Social cleavages; Social movements; Social welfare policies (pension, poverty, education); Sources of political legitimacy; Supreme Leader; Theocracy; Youth; Women and Gender issues.

Each paper should have an elaborate bibliography (books, journal/newspaper articles, Internet sources). By **November 3**, the students will each choose a topic and the papers are due on **December 3**.

In writing your research papers, please keep the following guidelines in mind:

- Choose a topic that interests you and encourages you to think deeply. Remember that you are not asked to write a book review and should develop your own thoughts and argument.
- A good paper has a clear structure with an introduction, a middle section elaborating an argument, and a conclusion. A good introduction guides your reader through the evidence that follows and informs him/her of the overriding purpose of your developed points. I strongly suggest that you have a single sentence that clearly articulates your thesis. It can be as direct as: "The argument of this paper is..." Once you have posed the underlying question and offered a thesis, the body of the essay should be used to defend the thesis.
- Defending your argument means carefully choosing and analyzing specific evidence, not simply repeating unsupported generalizations with slightly different wordings again and again. For an argument to be convincing, it is necessary to evaluate all possible sides of an issue. You cannot ignore significant contradictory

evidence or counter-arguments and will need to address them specifically. The presentation of evidence should not merely be a mindless catalog of facts but rather a selective and careful analysis of details relevant to your case. To decide what evidence to use, lay out the full array of potential evidence in advance of writing your essay. Then choose that which can be best developed.

- Do not repeat entire sections from books or articles. Quotations are occasionally effective, but you should not need the quotations to do the work for you. Quote only selectively, and quote only that which is particularly valuable as evidence. When using quotations you must always indicate them by the use of quotation marks or, if the quotation is fairly long and needs “block quotation,” by a single-spaced indentation and a specific reference with page number.

Your paper will be evaluated on the basis of the following criteria:

- The strength of your basic position and its connection to the course/outside readings
- Coherence and persuasiveness of major thesis and arguments presented
- Ability to counter possible objections
- Form/style (spelling, grammar, and composition)

Papers will be graded down if they:

- Do not have a major thesis
- Are purely descriptive
- Do not show evidence that you have done the readings
- Suffer from sloppy/colloquial writing
- Are full of personal stories not related to the topic
- Rely on excessive quotations

In both the book review and the research paper you should follow the “Four C” rule: clear, concise, coherent, and creative.

Exam: You will have an in-class midterm exam on *October 22*.

Statement Regarding Disability-Related Accommodations:

Students who are in need of disability-related academic accommodations must register with the Office of Disability Services (ODS), 304 University Avenue, Room 309, (315) 443-4498. Students with authorized disability-related accommodations should provide a current Accommodation Authorization Letter from ODS to the instructor and review those accommodations with the instructor. Accommodations, such as exam administration, are not provided retroactively; therefore, planning for accommodations as early as possible is necessary. For further information, see the ODS website, [Office of Disability Services, http://disabilityservices.syr.edu/](http://disabilityservices.syr.edu/).

Academic Integrity Statement:

The Syracuse University Academic Integrity Policy holds students accountable for the integrity of the work they submit. Students should be familiar with the policy (<http://academicintegrity.syr.edu>) and know that it is their responsibility to learn the

instructor's expectations and the general academic rules with regard to proper citation of sources in written work. The policy also governs the integrity of work submitted in exams and assignments, as well as the veracity of signatures on attendance sheets and other verifications of participation in class activities. Serious sanctions can result from academic dishonesty of any sort. For more information and the complete policy, see <http://academicintegrity.syr.edu>. Students found to cheat will receive an F for that assignment. Students have a right to appeal.

Faith Tradition Observance Policy:

Syracuse University recognizes the diverse faith traditions represented among its campus community and supports the rights of faculty, staff, and students to observe according to these traditions. Any student who wishes to observe their religious holiday must notify me by the end of the second week of classes. This notification has to be submitted through MySlice.

GRADING CRITERIA

<u>Assignment</u>	<u>When</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Attendance & class contribution	all the time	10%
Mid-term Exam	Oct. 22	30%
Book Review	Nov. 12	30%
Research Paper	Dec. 3	30%

Extra Credit Assignments: Students who wish to improve their grade in this course have the option of writing an imaginary Sunday style op-ed for the *New York Times*. Students can do up to five op-ed assignments. Each extra-credit assignment will replace 1% of the lowest grade you have received in each individual assignment (midterm, book review, or research paper).

REQUIRED TEXTS (available at SU Bookstore)

- Ervand Abrahamian, *A History of Modern Iran* (Cambridge University Press, 2008). \$29.99
- Said Amir Arjomand, *After Khomeini: Iran Under His Successors* (Oxford University Press, 2009). \$19.95
- Robin Wright, *The Iran Primer: Power, Politics, and U.S. Policy* (United States Institute of Peace & Woodrow Wilson Center, 2010). \$24.95

All required (not recommended) articles are on Blackboard.

All human beings are in truth akin, all in creation share one origin.
 When fate allots a member pangs and pains,
 No ease for other members then remains.
 If, unperturbed, another's grief canst scan, thou are not worthy of the
 name of human.
 Sa'di (13th Century Persian poet)

CLASS ASSIGNMENTS

Aug. 25: **Introduction - The Nature and Structure of the Course**

- Nature and logic of the course; questionnaire
- Iran through Humor <http://thedailyshow.cc.com/videos/xer89g/jason-jones--behind-the-veil---ayatollah-you-so>
- Video: The Paradox that is Persia (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k-y93AZhsBU>)

Aug. 27: **From Pre-Islamic Era to 1800: A Bird's Eye View**

- Peter Avery, "Balancing Factors in Irano-Islamic Politics and Society," Middle East Journal 50, no. 2 (Spring 1996): 177-189.
- Nikki R. Keddie, "Main Trends in Iranian History and Culture." In Qajar Iran and the Rise of Reza Khan 1796-1925 (Mazda, 1999), pp. 1-13.
- Bernard Lewis, "Iran in History," Lecture, Mortimer and Raymond Sackler Institute of Advanced Studies, Tel Aviv University, 18 Jan 1999.

Additional Readings:

- Christopher de Bellaigue, "The Persian Difference," New York Review of Books (December 15, 2005): 16-20.
- Documentary about Iranian culture <http://www.linktv.org/bridgetoiran>

Sept. 1: *No class* (Labor Day)

Sept. 3: **Iran in the Nineteenth Century**

- Abrahamian, pp. 1-62.
- Mangol Bayat, "The Cultural Implications of the Constitutional Revolution." In Edmund Bosworth and Carole Hillenbrand (eds.), Qajar Iran: Political, Social and Cultural Change 1800-1925 (Edinburgh University Press, 1983), pp. 65-75.

Additional Readings:

- Qajar Era Pictures (Blackboard)
- Ann K.S. Lambton, "Persian Society under the Qajars." In Ann K.S. Lambton, Qajar Persia (University of Texas Press, 1988), pp. 87-107.
- Juan R.I. Cole, "Making Boundaries, Marking Time: The Iranian Past and the Construction of the Self by Qajar Thinkers," Iranian Studies 29, nos. 1-2 (Winter/Spring 1996): 35-56.
- Ann Lambton, "The Persian Constitutional Revolution of 1905-6." In Ann Lambton, Qajar Persia (University of Texas Press, 1988), pp. 319-329.

Sept. 8: **The Secular Element of Iranian Identity**

- Nikki R. Keddie, "Religion and Irreligion in Early Iranian Nationalism," Comparative Studies in Society and History 4, no. 3 (April 1962): 265-295.

Additional Readings:

- Mangol Bayat-Philipp, "Mirza Aqa Khan Kirmani: A Nineteenth Century Persian Nationalist." In Elie Kedourie and Sylvia Haim (eds.) Toward A Modern Iran (Frank Cass, 1980), 64-95.
- Mehrdad Kia, "Nationalism, Modernization and Islam in the Writings of Talibov-e Tabrizi," Middle East Studies 30, no. 2 (1994): 201-223.
- Ervand Abrahamian, "Kasravi: The Integrative Nationalist of Iran." In Elie Kedourie and Sylvia Haim (eds.) Towards A Modern Iran (1980), pp. 96-131.

Sept. 10: **A Look at Iran's Religious Ambiance**

- Video: *Mystic Iran: The Unseen World* (DVD 11109; 52 minutes).
- Leonard Binder, "The Proofs of Islam: Religion and Politics in Iran." In George Makdisi (ed.), Arabic Studies and Islamic Studies in Honor of H.A.R. Gibb (Harvard University Press, 1965), pp. 118-140.

Sept. 15: **Reza Shah and the Formation of the Modern Bureaucratic State**

- Abrahamian, pp. 63-96.
- Mehrzad Boroujerdi, "Triumphs and Travails of Authoritarian Modernization in Iran." In Stephanie Cronin (ed.), The Making of Modern Iran: State and Society under Reza Shah, 1921-1941 (Routledge, 2003), pp. 146-154.

Additional Readings:

- Lois Beck, "Tribes and the State in Nineteenth- and Twentieth-Century Iran." In Philip S. Khouri and Joseph Kostiner (eds.) Tribes and State Formation in the Middle East (University of California Press, 1990), pp. 185-225.
- Firoozeh Kashani-Sabet, "Patriotic Womanhood: The Culture of Feminism in Modern Iran, 1900-1941," British Journal of Middle Eastern Studies 32, no. 1 (May 2005).
- Mohammad H. Faghfoory, "The Ulama-State Relations in Iran: 1921-1941," International Journal of Middle East Studies 19, no. 4 (Nov. 1987): 413-432.
- Houchang E. Chehabi, "Staging the Emperor's New Clothes: Dress Codes and Nation-Building under Reza Shah," Iranian Studies 26, nos. 3-4 (Summer-Fall 1993): 209-229.

Sept. 17: **Iranian Nationalism**

- Abrahamian, pp. 97-122.
- Mehrzad Boroujerdi, "Contesting Nationalist Constructions of Iranian Identity," Critique: Journal for Critical Studies of the Middle East no. 12 (Spring 1998): 43-55.

Additional Readings:

- Charles Kurzman, "Weaving Iran into the Tree of Nations," International Journal of Middle East Studies 37, no. 2 (May 2005): 137-166.
- Firoozeh Kashani-Sabet, "Perceptions of the Land in Iranian Nationalism," Critique: Journal for Critical Studies of the Middle East no. 10 (Spring 1997): 19-37.
- L.P. Elwell-Sutton, "Nationalism and Neutralism in Iran," Middle East Journal 12, no. 1 (Winter 1958): 20-32.

Sept. 22: **Political Elite, Parties, Elections under Mohammad Reza Shah**

- Abrahamian, pp. 123-154.
- Khosrow Fatemi, "Leadership by Distrust: The Shah's Modus Operandi," Middle East Journal 36, no. 1 (Winter 1982): 48-61.
- Leonard Binder, "The Cabinet of Iran: A Case Study in Institutional Adaptation," Middle East Journal 16, no. 1 (Winter 1962): 29-47.

Additional Readings:

- James A. Bill, "The Plasticity of Informal Politics: The Case of Iran," Middle East Journal 27, no. 2 (Spring 1973): 131-151.
- William Green Miller, "Political Organization in Iran: From Dowreh to Political Party: Part I," Middle East Journal 23, no. 2 (Spring 1969): 159-167; and "Part II," Middle East Journal 23, no. 3 (Summer 1969): 343-350.
- Roger M. Savory, "The Principle of Homeostasis Considered in Relation to Political Events in Iran in the 1960's," International Journal of Middle East Studies 3, no. 3 (July 1972): 282-302.
- L.P. Elwell-Sutton, "Political Parties in Iran: 1941-1948," Middle East Journal 3, no. 1 (January 1949): 45-62.

Sept. 24: **Theoretical Approaches on the 1979 Revolution (I)**

- Amir Arjomand, pp. 16-35.
- Abrahamian, pp. 155-169.
- John Foran, "A Century of Revolution: Comparative, Historical, and Theoretical Perspectives on Social Movements in Iran." In John Foran (ed.), A Century of Revolution: Social Movements in Iran (University of Minnesota Press, 1994), pp. 223-237.

Additional Readings:

- Graphics of Revolution and War: Iranian Poster Arts
<http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/webexhibits/iranianposters/index.html>
- History of the 1979 Revolution (<http://www.bbc.co.uk/persian/revolution/>)
- Fred Halliday, "The Iranian Revolution in Comparative Perspective." In Fred Halliday, Islam & The Myth of Confrontation (I.B. Tauris, 1999), pp. 42-75.
- Mangol Bayat, "The Iranian Revolution of 1978-79: Fundamentalist or Modern?" Middle East Journal 37, no. 1 (Winter 1983): 30-42.
- G. H. Razi, "The Nexus of Legitimacy and Performance: The Lessons of Iranian Revolution," Comparative Politics 19, no. 4 (July 1987): 453-69.
- Val Moghadam, "The Left and Revolution in Iran: A Critical Analysis." In Hooshang Amirahmadi and Manoucher Parvin (eds.), Post-Revolutionary Iran (Westview Press, 1988), pp. 23-40.
- Shahrough Akhavi, "Shi'ism, Corporatism and Rentierism in the Iranian Revolution." In Juan Cole (ed.), Comparing Muslim Societies: Knowledge and the State in a World Civilization (University of Michigan Press, 1992), pp. 261-293.

Sept. 29: **Theoretical Approaches on the 1979 Revolution (II)**

- Theda Skocpol, "Rentier State and Shi'a Islam in the Iranian Revolution," Theory and Society 11, no. 3 (May 1982): 265-283.
- Misagh Parsa, "Theories of Collective Action and the Iranian Revolution," Sociological Forum 3, no. 1 (Winter 1988): 44-71.
- Charles Kurzman, "Structural Opportunity and Perceived Opportunity in Social-Movement Theory: The Iranian Revolution of 1979," American Sociological Review 61 (February 1996): 153-170.

Oct. 1: **Ayatollah Khomeini and Charismatic Politics**

- Abrahamian, pp. 169-182.
- Amir Arjomand, pp. 36-55.

Additional Readings:

- Hamid Enayat, "Iran: Khomeini's Concept of the 'Guardianship of the Jurisconsult'." In James Piscatori (ed.), Islam in the Political Process (Cambridge University Press, 1983), pp. 160-180.

Oct. 6: **Iran's Political Institutions**

- Wright, pp. 1-30.
- Kazem Alamdari, "The Power Structure of Islamic Republic of Iran: Transition from Populism to Clientelism, and Militarization of the Government," Third World Quarterly 26, no. 8 (December 2005): 1285-1301.

Additional Readings:

- Shahrough Akhavi, "Elite Factionalism in the Islamic Republic of Iran." Middle East Journal 41, no. 2 (1987): 181-217.
- Anthony Gill and Arang Keshavarzian, "State Building and Religious Resources: An Institutional Theory of Church-State Relations in Iran and Mexico," Politics & Society 27, no. 3 (September 1999): 431-465.

Oct. 8: **Civil-Military Relations**

- Wright, pp. 59-73.

Additional Readings:

- Rand Corporation. The Rise of the Pasdaran: Assessing the Domestic Roles of Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps (Rand Corporation, 2009).
- Nader Entessar, "The Military and Politics in the Islamic Republic of Iran." In Houshang Amirahmadi and Manoucher Parvin (eds.), Post-Revolutionary Iran (Westview, 1988), pp. 56-74.

Oct. 13: **Social and Political Consequences of the Revolution**

- Amir Arjomand, pp. 112-132.

Oct. 15: **Iran's Economy**

- Wright, pp. 95-126.
- Rand Corporation. Mullahs, Guards, and Bonyads: An Exploration of Iranian Leadership Dynamics (Rand Corporation, 2010).

Oct. 20: Understanding Iranian Foreign Policy

- Amir Arjomand, pp. 133-148.
- Fred Halliday, "Iranian Foreign Policy since 1979: Internationalism and Nationalism in the Islamic Revolution," in Juan Cole and Nikki Keddie (Eds.), Shi'ism and Social Protest (Yale University Press, 1986), pp. 88-107.

Oct. 22: Midterm Examination

Oct. 27: American-Iranian Relations (I)

- Video: The Hostage Crisis (10 min.)
- History: (videosift.com/video/History-of-Iran-US-political-relations)
- Mark J. Gasiorowski, "The 1953 coup d'état in Iran," International Journal of Middle East Studies 19, no. 3 (August 1987): 261-286.

Additional Readings:

- Chronology of Iran-US Relations (<http://www.nytimes.com/library/world/mideast/041600iran-us-timeline.html>)
- The Coup in Archives (<http://www.nytimes.com/library/world/mideast/041600iran-archive-articles.html>)
- "The Iranian Revolution 25 years Later: An Oral History with Henry Precht, then State Department Desk Officer," Middle East Journal 58, no. 1 (Winter 2004): 9-31.
- William Beeman, "Images of the Great Satan: Representations of the United States in the Iranian Revolution." In Nikki R. Keddie (ed.), Religion and Politics in Iran (Yale University Press, 1983), pp. 191-217.

Oct. 29: American-Iranian Relations (II)

- Wright, pp. 129-148; 199-215.
- John W. Limbert, "Negotiating with the Islamic Republic of Iran," United States Institute of Peace Special Report (January 2008).
- William Beeman, "Iran and the United States: Postmodern Culture Conflict in Action," Anthropological Quarterly (November 15, 2003): 671-691.

Nov. 3: Iran's Foreign Policy toward Lebanon

Wright, pp. 151-196.

Nov. 5: Iran's Foreign Policy toward Iraq

- Video: *Plastic Flowers Never Die* (DVD 15885; 35 min.)

Nov. 10: Iran's Foreign Policy toward Turkey

Nov. 12: Iran's Foreign Policy toward Syria *(Book reviews are due)*

- Mohsen Milani, "Why Tehran Won't Abandon Assad(ism)," The Washington Quarterly, vol. 36, no. 4 (2013): 79-93.

Nov. 17: **The Iranian Nuclear Controversy**

- Wright, pp. 77-92
- Amir Arjomand, pp. 192-206.

Nov. 19: **Paradoxes of a Modern Day Theocratic State**

- Wright, pp. 31-38.
- Amir Arjomand, pp. 72-111.
- H.E. Chehabi, "The Impossible Republic: Contradictions of Iran's Islamic State," Contention: Debates in Society, Culture, and Science 5, no. 3 (Spring 1996): 135-154.
- Mehrzad Boroujerdi, "The Paradoxes of Politics in Postrevolutionary Iran." In John L. Esposito and R. K. Ramazani (eds.), Iran at the Crossroads (Palgrave, 2001), pp. 13-27.

Additional Readings:

- Video: *Letters to the President* (DVD 14773; 72 min.)
- Oliver Roy, "The Crisis of Religious Legitimacy in Iran," Middle East Journal 53, no. 2 (Spring 1999): 201-216.
- Said Amir Arjomand, "Shi'ite Jurisprudence and Constitution Making in the Islamic Republic of Iran." In Martin E. Marty and R. Scott Appleby (eds.), Fundamentalisms and the State: Remaking Politics, Economies and Militancy, (University of Chicago Press, 1993), pp. 88-109.

Nov. 24-26: *No class* (Thanksgiving)

Dec. 1: **Youths and Dissidents**

- Wright, pp. 41-44; 49-56.
- The Economist, "The Revolution is Over," (October 2014).
- Norma Claire Moruzzi, "Tied Up in Iran: A Metaphor," Middle East Report, no. 250 (<http://www.merip.org/mer/mer250/tied-tehran>)
- Laura Secor, "Fugitives: Young Iranians Confront the Collapse of the Reform Movement," The New Yorker (December 21, 2005): 62-75.

Additional Readings:

- Djavad Salehi-Isfahani, "Iranian Youth in Times of Economic Crisis," Iranian Studies 44, no. 6 (November 2011): 789-806.
- John Kelly and Bruce Etling, Mapping Iran's Online Public: Politics and Culture in the Persian Blogosphere (Harvard University: Berkman Center for Internet & Society, 2008).

Dec. 3: **Women and Politics**

(Research papers are due)

- Wright, pp. 45-48.
- Valentine Moghadam, "Islamic Feminism and Its Discontents: Toward a Resolution of the Debate," Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society 27, no. 4 (Summer 2002): 1135-1171.
- Ziba Mir-Hosseini, "Women, Marriage and the Law in Post-Revolutionary

Iran.” In Haleh Afshar (ed.), Women in the Middle East: Perceptions, Realities and Struggles for Liberation (Macmillan, 1993), pp. 59-84.

Additional Readings:

- Video: *Zinat, One Special Day* (VC 11628 ; 54 minutes)
- Parvin Alizadeh and Barry Harper, “The Feminisation of the Labour Force in Iran.” In Ali Mohammadi (ed.), Iran Encounters Globalization: Problems and Prospects (Routledge Curzon, 2003), pp. 180-196.
- Homa Hoodfar, “Devices and Desires: Population Policy and Gender Roles in the Islamic Republic,” Middle East Report no. 190 (September-October 1994): 11-17.
- Shahla Haeri, “Temporary Marriage: An Islamic Discourse on Female Sexuality in Iran.” In Mahnaz Afkhami and Erika Friedl (eds.), In the Eye of the Storm: Women in Post-revolutionary Iran (Syracuse University Press, 1994), pp. 98-114.
- Camelia Entekhabi-Fard, “Behind the Veil,” Mother Jones (May/June 2001). <http://www.motherjones.com/news/feature/2001/05/iran.html>

SELECTED WEBSITES

DATA:

Iran Data Portal <http://www.princeton.edu/irandataportal/>
US Department of State <http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/5314.htm>
Size Comparison with US http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/atlas_middle_east/iran_area.jpg
Land Use http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/atlas_middle_east/iran_land.jpg
Library of Congress Country Study <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/frd/cs/cshome.html>
Statistics on Iran <http://www.nationmaster.com/country/ir-iran>

GOVERNMENT:

Governments on the WWW: Iran <http://www.gksoft.com/govt/en/ir.html>
Iranian Mission to the UN <http://iran-un.org/en/>
Presidency of the Islamic Republic <http://www.president.ir>
Iranian Parliament <http://www.parliran.ir/>

HISTORY:

In depth history of ancient Iran up until the establishment of the Islamic Republic
http://www.iranchamber.com/history/historic_periods.php
Modern History: <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/tehran/etc/cron.html>

MAPS:

Iran in Maps
http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/shared/spl/hi/middle_east/06/iran_maps/html/default.stm
Strait of Hormuz http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/middle_east_and_asia/hormuz_80.jpg

NEWS:

Iranian Media Directory www.gooya.com

News and Views about Iran www.Iranian.com
Iran Daily <http://www.iran-daily.com/>

PICTURES:

Pictures of Iran <http://www.riccardozipoli.com/>

Pictures of Iran <http://www.theatlantic.com/infocus/2012/01/a-view-inside-iran/100219/>

OTHER:

Encyclopædia Iranica <http://www.iranicaonline.org/>

Sample Persian Miniatures http://www.superluminal.com/cookbook/index_gallery.html

Selected Videos and Films about Iran available at SU Library

Arusi: Persian Wedding (DVD 15536; 63 min.)

Bashu: The Little Stranger (VC 10125; 115 minutes)

Children of Heaven (VC 10312; 83 minutes)

Color of Paradise (VC 10214; 90 min.)

Divorce Iranian Style (VC 10254; 80 min.)

Football under Cover (DVD 14728; 86 min.)

Grass: A Nation's Battle for Life (VC 6194; 70 min.)

Hājji Vāshingtun [Haji Washington] (DVD 14729; 94 min.)

Iran: Cyber Dissidents (DVD 14738; 25 min.)

Iran: une revolution cinematographique (DVD 14157; 98 min.)

Iran: Veiled Appearances (VC 11340; 59 min.).

Jews of Iran (DVD 12949; 52 min.)

Khanah Siyah Ast [The House is Black] (DVD 12681; 22 min.)

Leila (VC 8694; 102 minutes)

Letters to the President (DVD 14773; 72 min.)

Mrs. President: Women and Political Leadership in Iran (VC 10295; 46 minutes)

Pearls on the Ocean Floor (DVD 16539; 77 min.)

Persepolis (DVD 14189; 95 minutes)

Pilgrimage to Karbala (DVD 14932; 87 min.)

Plastic Flowers Never Die (DVD 15885; 35 min.)

Roozi keh zan shodam [The Day I Became a Woman] (DVD 12197; 78 min.)

Santouri: The Music Man (DVD 14244; 106 min.)

Two Women (VC 10171; 96 min.)

The Glass House (DVD 16018; 93 min.)

Turtles Can Fly (DVD 12897; 97 min.)

Where is My Friend's House? (VC 8720; 90 min.)

Women Without Men (DVD 16119; 95 min.)

Zinat One Special Day (VC 11628; 54 min.)

Books suitable for the Book Review Project

Ervand Abrahamian, Tortured Confessions: Prisons and Public Recantations in Modern Iran (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1999).

Fariba Adelkhah, Being Modern in Iran (New York: Columbia University Press, 2000).

Janet Afary and Kevin B. Anderson, Foucault and the Iranian Revolution: Gender and the Seductions of Islamism (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2005).

Gholam R. Afkhami, The Iranian Revolution: Thanatos on a National Scale (Washington, DC: Middle East Institute, 1985).

Reza Afshari, Human Rights in Iran: The Abuse of Cultural Relativism (Univ. of Pennsylvania Press, 2001).

Jalal Al-i Ahmad, Occidentosis: A Plague From the West (1983).

Said Amir Arjomand, The Turban for the Crown: The Islamic Revolution in Iran (New York: Oxford University Press, 1988).

Ali M. Ansari, Confronting Iran: The Failure of American Foreign Policy and the Next Great Conflict in the Middle East (New York: Basic Books, 2006).

Bahman Baktiari, Parliamentary Politics in Revolutionary Iran (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 1996).

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