EXAM INFORMATION
This exam was developed to enable schools to award credit to students for knowledge equivalent to that learned by students taking the course. The exam covers core knowledge of 19th-century European impact; 20th-century Western influences; World Wars I and II; new nations; social and cultural changes (1900-1960); and the Middle East through the 20th century.

The exam contains 100 questions to be answered in 2 hours.

EXAM CONTENT OUTLINE
The following is an outline of the content areas covered in the examination. The approximate percentage of the examination devoted to each content area is also noted.

I. Physical and Cultural Geography – 5%
   a. Topography and climate
   b. Demographics
   c. Ethnic groups
   d. Religions
   e. Languages

II. The Ottoman Empire (1500-1800) – 15%
   a. State traditions
      1. The Millets system
      2. The religious establishment
      3. Dynamic traditions
      4. The bureaucracy
   b. Opposition movements
   c. Economics and trade
   d. Social structure and social issues
   e. Changes in the 18th century

III. The Nineteenth Century – 20%
   a. Economic developments
      1. Changing trade patterns
      2. Changing agricultural patterns-the rise of monocultures
      3. Deindustrialization
   b. Political movements; state versus society
      1. Ottoman
      2. Egypt
      3. Iran
      4. The Gulf States
   c. Cultural change and conflict
      1. Issues of women and gender
      2. Urbanization
      3. Religious developments
      4. Language issues
      5. Nationalism, including Zionism

IV. The First World War and its Effects – 10%
   a. Political changes
      1. Solidification of liberalism
      2. Mandate system
   b. Economic shifts
      1. Emergence of oil
      2. Market disruption
      3. Emergence of national economies
   c. Turkey

V. Building Independent States (late 1800's to 1960) – 20%
   a. Colonial States
      1. Mandates
      2. Egypt
      3. Israel
   b. Egypt, Iran, Turkey, Saudi Arabia

VI. Social and Cultural Changes 1900-1960 – 15%
   a. Emergence of the left and Arab socialism
   b. Emergence of feminism
   c. Trends in Islam
   d. Nationalism
   e. Mass urbanization
   f. Landlessness/refugees
   g. Cultural developments
      1. Rise of the novel
      2. Newspapers

VII. The Middle East from 1960 to the present – 15%
   a. Economic dependence-the oil regimes
   b. Emergence of United States influence
   c. Emergence and decline of Soviet influence
   d. Decline in legitimacy of the United Nations
   e. Rise of Islamists
   f. The issue of Israel and Palestine
   g. The water crisis
   h. Status of women

REFERENCES
Below is a list of reference publications that were either used as a reference to create the exam, or were
used as textbooks in college courses of the same or similar title at the time the test was developed. You may reference either the current edition of these titles or textbooks currently used at a local college or university for the same class title. It is recommended that you reference more than one textbook on the topics outlined in this fact sheet. You should begin by checking textbook content against the content outline provided before selecting textbooks that cover the test content from which to study.

Sources for study material are suggested but not limited to the following:


SUPPLEMENTAL READING

INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES


WOMEN IN THE MIDDLE EAST


NATIONALISM


OTTOMAN EMPIRE


LABOR AND OIL

**NOVELS**


**SAMPLE QUESTIONS**

All test questions are in a multiple-choice format, with one correct answer and three incorrect options. These are samples of the types of questions that may appear on the exam. Other sample questions can be found in the form of practice exams by visiting our website at [www.getcollegecredit.com/testprep](http://www.getcollegecredit.com/testprep).

Questions on the test require test takers to demonstrate the following abilities. Some questions require more than one of the abilities.

- Knowledge of basic facts and terms (about 70-80% of the examination)
- Understanding of concepts and principles (about 20-30% of the examination)
- Ability to apply knowledge to specific problems and situations (about 1-5% of the examination)

1. The Maronites are a Christian sect found mainly in
   a. Turkey
   b. Egypt
   c. Jordan
   d. Lebanon

2. In the course of expansion, the early Ottoman Empire developed the Devshirme system, which entailed the
   a. conversion of Christian boys in order to train them as elite guards and administrators
   b. institutionalization of the traditional Turkish system of land tenure and ownership
   c. circumcision of boys of the royal family at age seven
   d. prohibition of mixed marriages

3. The height of Safavid power came under the reign of
   a. Shah Sultan Hussein
   b. Safi Shah
   c. Shah Abbas I
   d. Shah Tahmasp

4. Which of the following represent Ottoman legal reform in the 19th century?
   I. 1839 Reform Decree (Gulhane)
   II. 1858 Land Law
   III. 1876 Constitution
   IV. 1841 Treaty of London
   a. I and III only
   b. II and IV only
   c. I, II, and III only
   d. II, III, and IV only

5. In the 1930’s, Egypt did which of the following?
   a. Regained control of the Sudan.
   b. Protested against German influence.
   c. Abolished capitulation rights.
   d. Established close ties with Italy

6. After the First World War, urban educated Arabs who had embraced Western concepts of freedom and self-determination were
   a. disappointed and angry about Western nations’ callous division of the “spoils of war”
   b. pleased by the assignment to France of mandates over Middle Eastern lands
   c. determined to play a greater role in governing the Ottoman Empire
   d. present in greater numbers in Saudi Arabia and Yemen than in Syria and Egypt

7. New elites emerged in the 19th century Middle East as a result of
   a. the establishment of new kinds of educational institutions
   b. widespread industrialization
   c. the elimination of mosque-based education
   d. government tax breaks for the middle class

8. Which of the following best describes the 19th century Ottoman reform movement known as the Tanzimat?
   a. A program of economic and social changes intended to strengthen the empire
b. A series of edicts issued by the Ottoman ruler emancipating all serfs in the empire

c. A religious movement that rejected secularization and required strict adherence to Islamic law

d. A blueprint for granting independence to the non-Muslim provinces of the empire

9. The most accurate and objective generalization about the treaties and agreements on the Middle East just before and after the First World War is that they

a. were designed mainly to thwart an expanding Bolshevik world revolution

b. were primarily designed to protect religious minorities against Islamic persecution

c. had the goal of carving up the middle east into Great Power spheres of influence

d. followed the Wilsonian principles of self-determination

10. Which of the following mandates was first to win independence and to join the League of Nations?

a. Lebanon

b. Iraq

c. Palestine

d. Transjordan

11. By 1924, all of the following nations had been formed from the former Ottoman Empire EXCEPT

a. Syria and Turkey

b. Lebanon and Iraq

c. Israel and Iran

d. Transjordan

12. In 1924, women were formally granted legal equality in family law issues such as marriage, divorce and inheritance in which Middle Eastern county?

a. Saudi Arabia

b. Egypt

c. Jordan

d. Turkey

13. Hamas draws its support from the

a. absence of female participation in the intifada

b. perceived failure of the national struggle

c. growing prosperity of Muslims on the West Bank

d. alliance with the Palestine Liberation Organization

14. After the Second World War, all of the following provided evidence that the Middle East would experience the effects of intense Soviet-United States rivalry for many decades EXCEPT

a. Soviet pressures on Turkey in regard to the eastern provinces and the Straits

b. Soviet and United States attitudes toward the partitioning of Palestine

c. the 1945 Tudeh uprising in Tabriz with the help of Soviet troops then occupying northern Iran

d. the announcement of the Truman Doctrine and the provision of United States aid to Greece and Turkey

CREDIT RECOMMENDATIONS

The American Council on Education’s College Credit Recommendation Service (ACE CREDIT) has evaluated the DSST test development process and content of this exam. It has made the following recommendations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area or Course Equivalent</th>
<th>Introduction to the Modern Middle East</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Level</td>
<td>Lower-level baccalaureate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount of Credit</td>
<td>Three (3) semester hours</td>
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<td>Minimum Score</td>
<td>400</td>
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<tr>
<td>Source</td>
<td>American Council on Education – College Credit Recommendation Service</td>
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</table>

ACE evaluations and credit recommendations have expired for this exam. As of December 31, 2014 DSST testing centers will no longer offer this exam.

Answers to sample questions: 1-D; 2-A; 3-C; 4-C; 5-C; 6-A; 7-A; 8-A, 9-C; 10-B; 11-C; 12-D; 13-B; 14-B.