

Yosra Sultan

CILAS SPRING 2021

Tentative Course Flow

“I curse my own child but I hate whoever says amen”:

A History of the Family in the Modern Middle East

1. The Institution of the Family as an object of historical inquiry

-1.1. Overview of the Field of Family History

-1.2. Historiography of Family History in the Middle East

2. Premodern family structures/ The family in the premodern Islamic Middle East

-2.1. Premodern Families: A global perspective

-2.2. The Family in Islamic Writings and Texts

3. Western Colonialism and the Family

-3.1. The Bourgeois Metropolitan Family

-3.2. Case Studies from the Middle East

4. The Family and the Formation of the Modern State

-4.1. The Emergence of “population” as an object of governance

4..2. The Post-Colonial State and the Family

5. Nationalisms, Anti-colonialisms, and the Family

5.1. “Modernizing” and “Liberating” the Muslim Family

RAMADAN BREAK/ Primary Source Assignment on History of the Egyptian Family

5.2. Motherhood and Childhood as anticolonial projects

6. The Family and Modern Science

6.1. Producing Knowledge about Families in Modern Egypt /Medicalizing gender and the family

6.2 Presentation of Final Reflection Paper: How can we study the history of the Family/ What can history of the Family tell us about broader historical processes.