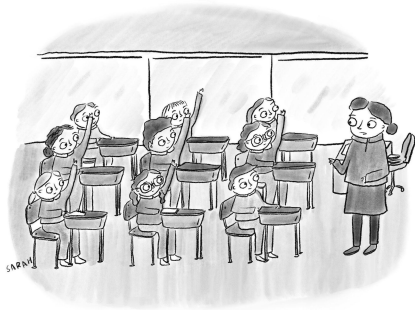


The Crusades: Representations of the (Un)Civilized

What does “Civilization” *look* like?



Class Review



Session 1 – The Crusades as a trope

Session 2 – The Holy Land

Session 3 – Sacred Violence

Session 4 – Civilization

Session Goals and main questions



How has the Crusades shaped contemporary understandings of “Civilization”?

**What does Civilization look like to you?
What do you think when you think of the term civilization?**

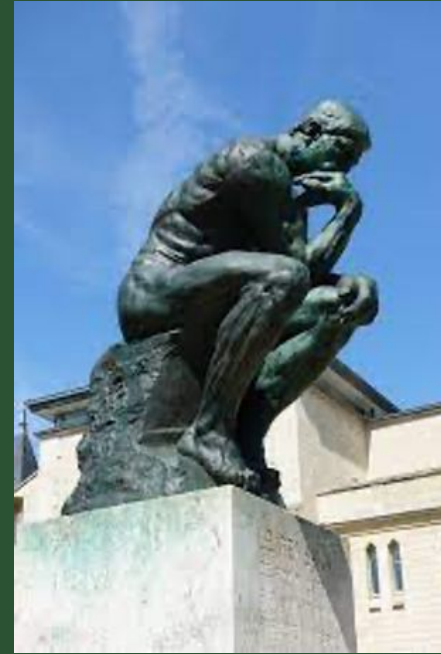
What are the aesthetics shaping our values and creating outsiders?

Discussion Guidelines

- We value everyone's voices, so please speak up and allow space for others to do the same.
- Speak from your own experiences; don't try to tell someone else's story.
- Listen to learn, not to respond.
- Remember that we all come from different identities and backgrounds, so please expect a difference of perspective and respect others' rights to have opinions and views that differ from your own. Don't invalidate others' experiences.
- In order to promote an open, honest exchange, please respect confidentiality within the small group. Identifying stories should stay, but lessons can leave.
- This is a learning space, so ask questions and feel free to participate even if you don't have all the answers.



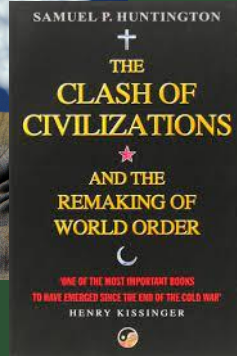
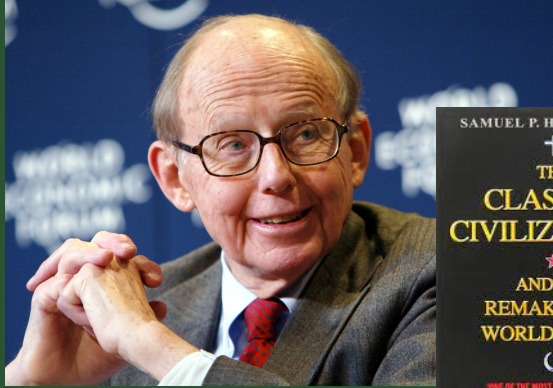
What Makes a Civilization?



How do the (un)civilized look like?



Revisiting Samuel Huntington's "Clash of Civilization"



"A civilization is a cultural entity....(It is) the highest cultural grouping of people, and the broadest level of cultural identity people have short of that which distinguishes humans from other species. It is defined both by common objective elements, such as language, history, religion, customs, institutions, and by the subjective self-identification of people." ("Clash of Civilizations?" *World Affairs*)

"Civilization identity will be increasingly important in the future, and the world will be shaped in large measure by the interaction among seven or eight major civilizations. These include, Western, Confucian, Japanese Islamic, Hindu, Slavic Orthodox, Latin American and possibly African civilization. The most important conflicts of the future will occur along the cultural fault lines separating these civilizations from one another."

Western civilization is both Western and modern. Non-Western civilizations have attempted to become modern without becoming Western.

"Good" and "Bad" civilizations are based on religious identities; Islam and the West.

Clash of Civilization in Practice: The Bush Administration



States like these, and their terrorist allies, constitute an **axis of evil**... They could attack our allies or attempt to blackmail the United States. In any of these cases, the price of indifference would be catastrophic.

Clash of Civilization in Practice: Ben Laden and al-Qaeda

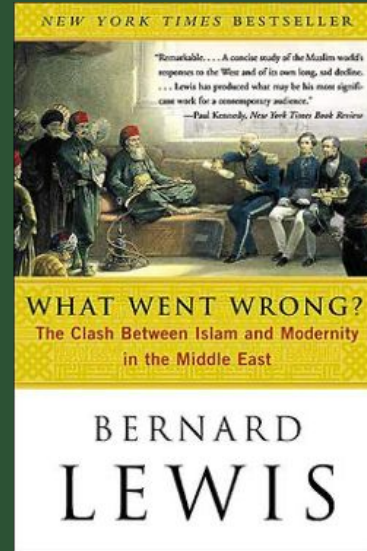
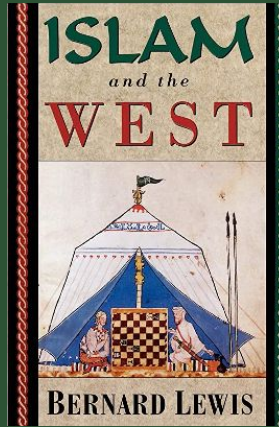


“The ultimate **clash of civilizations** and a mighty, apocalyptic battle between the ‘Crusaders’ and the “Believers,” which is won by the latter who then establish a global caliphate.”

Clash of Civilization singles our Islam



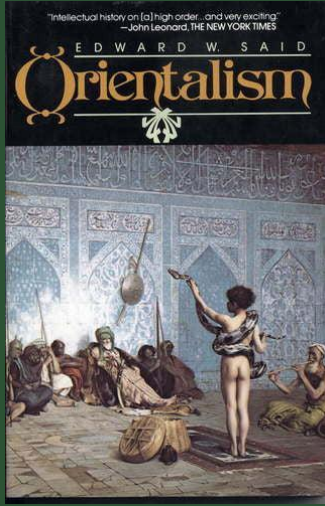
Bernard Lewis



"To a Western observer, schooled in the theory and practice of Western freedom, it is precisely the lack of freedom—freedom of the mind from constraint and indoctrination, to question and inquire and speak; freedom of the economy from corrupt and pervasive mismanagement; freedom of women from male oppression; freedom of citizens from tyranny—that underlies so many of the troubles of the Muslim world."



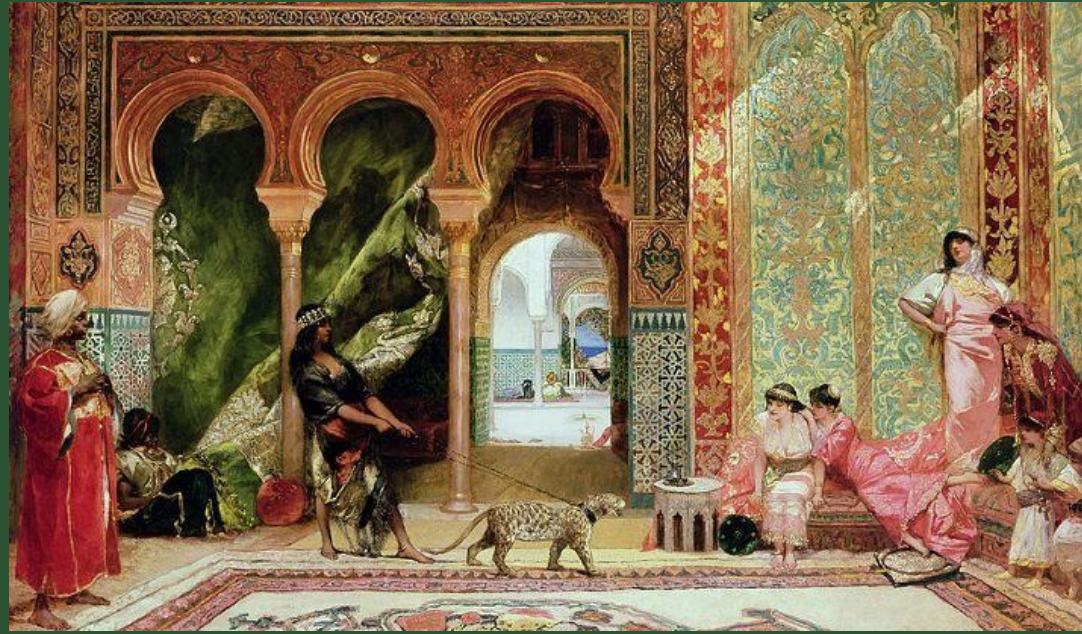
Civilization and Edward Said's Orientalism



“the Orient has helped to define Europe (or the West) as its contrasting image, idea, personality experience. Yet none of the Orient is merely imaginative. The Orient is an integral part of European *material* civilization and culture. Orientalism expresses and represents that part culturally and even ideologically as a mode of discourse with supporting institutions, vocabulary, scholarship, imagery, doctrines, even colonial bureaucracies and colonial styles.”

Clash of civilization as a biased enterprise that is rooted in centuries of European (and eventually American) imperialism.

From European Colonial Imagination to Hollywood Movies



Viewing Islam Through the Lens of “Clash of Civilizations”/Orientalism

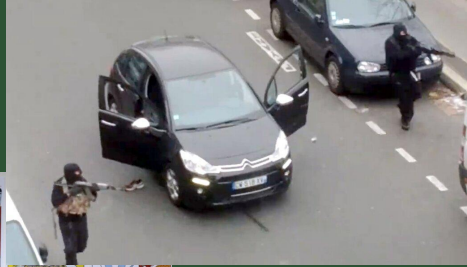
Islam and the “Western” Gaze

Clash of
Civilizations

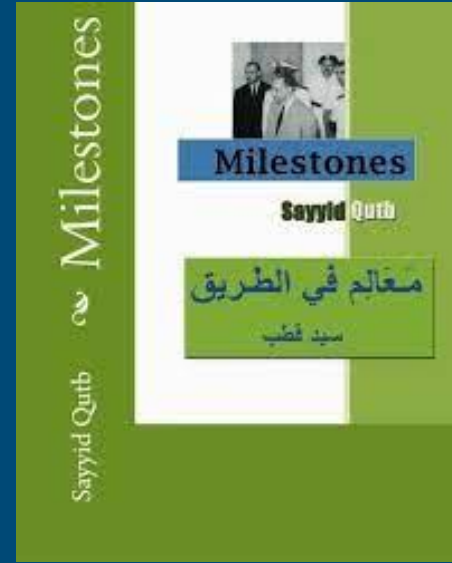
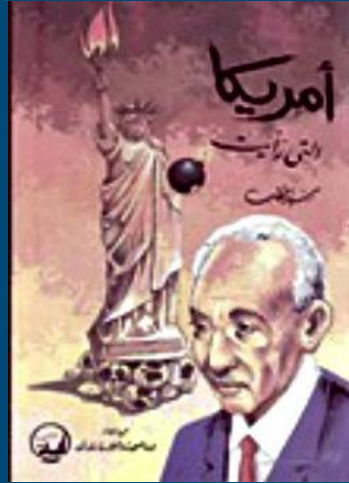
The Crusades

Orientalism

Sacred Violence



Sayyid Qutub's America



America, and American men and women, as the “Barbaric” and “Primitive” other

<https://www.npr.org/2003/05/06/1253796/sayyid-qutbs-america>

Breakout Room 2



Is it possible to think outside of the binary
civilized/barbarous?

Can we change the lens inherited from the
Crusades, which continues to direct our gaze?

How can interreligious understanding help in
this process? Are there other lenses or ideas
discussed in this class that you think can
help?