

POLITICAL SCIENCE 321/521: POLITICS OF THE MIDDLE EAST
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-EAU CLAIRE, FALL 2005
Mondays/Wednesdays 3:00-4:15, SSS 202

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COURSE OBJECTIVES

The goal of this course is to enrich our understanding of contemporary politics in the Middle East. The core objective of the course deals with the question of "how Middle Eastern is politics in the Middle East." Although there are many characteristics particular to the region that make specialization in the region necessary, Middle Eastern countries share characteristics with other countries in the developing world. We will therefore concentrate on selected topics that are pertinent to understanding politics in this region but are within the broader context of comparative and international politics. Given the time constraints and many issues to cover, our approach will be broad and general rather than narrow and focused. Students should be aware that there is a great deal of reading involved in this class, and they are expected to actively participate in class discussions. Students will be asked to summarize reading materials pertinent to class lectures and discussions, and be prepared to give oral presentation when asked. Among important topics we shall deal with are: (1) the General Features and Characteristics of the Region; (2) Islam and Politics; (3) The Impact of Colonialism, Nationalism, and the Rise of Modern State; (4) the Challenge of Modernization and Development, and (5) the Arab-Israeli Conflict within the Arab State System and Global Politics.

[The goals of this class will match the following University's Baccalaureate Goals: Goal 3, An ability to inquire, think, and analyze; Goal 6, An historical consciousness; Goal 7, International and intercultural experience; Goal 10, An understanding of values; Goal 11, An understanding of human behavior and human institutions.] For a complete list of Baccalaureate goals, go to <http://webportfolio.uwec.edu>

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

All students are required to do the reading assignments prior to class meetings. Students are responsible for both the specified reading requirements and the materials covered in class lectures, but please note that class lectures do not necessarily follow the same exact materials discussed in the assigned readings. I will randomly call on students to comment on particular issues addressed in class lectures and the recommended readings and to this end, class participation and presentation will contribute 10% to your final grade.

Students are also required to write a well-researched 15-20 Page term paper for this class. I will provide you with some possible topics for your research papers. **A paper abstract of 1-2 pages in length is due by the end of Week Ten**, outlining the topic, thesis, and methodology of the paper.

[Your research paper in this class will fulfill goals 3a, 3b, or 3c for your portfolio in meeting the Baccalaureate Goals.] If time permits and beginning in week XII, interested students will have the opportunity to earn extra points by sharing their research findings with the rest of the class through a ten-minute presentation. The precise outline of topics and reading assignments for each week is provided for your use. We will follow the outlined schedule, but I will inform you of necessary amendments should there be any. There will be no make-up exams given unless a prior written notice is provided by the student, explaining the circumstances under which he or she is forced to miss an exam. Make up exams will be harder. Arrangements for additional assignments will be made for Graduate students, should there be any.

EXAMINATIONS AND GRADING:

Your final grade will be based on two examinations (50%), class participation and presentation (10%) and a 15-20 Page term paper (40%), the abstract of which is due by Week 10. Both midterm and final exams are weighed equally, each contributing 25% to your final grade. Exams will consist of short and long essay questions and are based on study guide questions that I will distribute to the class about a week prior to the examination. The term paper must deal with a topic of interest and importance to the Middle East, the subject of which must be approved by me. Research papers are due no later than last Monday of the semester, **December 12**. Late papers will be penalized. I will give you more information on this later in the course. The final calculation of your grade is, thus, based on the following:

MIDTERM	-----25%
FINAL	-----25%
CLASS PARTICIPATION/	-----10%
PRESENTATION	
TERM PAPER	-----40%

ABOUT ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

In accordance to the University handbook, “I consider any academic misconduct in this course as a serious offense, and I will pursue the strongest possible academic penalties for such behavior.” The disciplinary procedures and penalties for academic misconduct are described in the UW-Eau Claire *Student Services and Standards Handbook* (<http://www.uwec.edu/sdd/publications.htm>) in the section titled, “Chapter UWS 14— Student Academic Disciplinary Procedures.”

REQUIRED BOOKS AND ARTICLES:

1. Long, David and Bernard Reich, eds., *The Government and Politics of the Middle East and North Africa*, 4th ed. (Boulder, Colorado: Westview Press, 2002) —**Rental Book**

2. Gerner, Deborah, J. and Jillian Schwedler, eds., *Understanding the Contemporary Middle East*, 2nd ed. (Boulder, CO.: Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2004).
3. Fawcett, Louise, *International Relations of the Middle East* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2005).
4. Emailed and Selected Articles on the Web

FOR 2006 CLASS:

The Contemporary Middle East by Goldshmidt and Shibly Telhami
 The Government of and Politics of the ME by David Lesch, edited.
 Arab Nationalism by Adeed Dawisha

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:
Midterm Exam-----Wed., October 26
Paper abstract due-----Wed., November 9
Research Paper due-----Monday, Dec. 12
Final Exam Week-----Friday-Thursday, December 16-22
PS 321-----Monday, Dec. 19, 3:00 P.M.

SOME BOOKS OF INTEREST YOU MAY WANT TO READ ARE:

- Rubin, Barry, ed., *Revolutionaries and Reformers: Contemporary Islamist Movements in the Middle East* (New York: SUNY Press, 2002)
- Henry, Clement M. and Robert Springborg, *Globalization and the Politics of Development in the Middle East* (Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 2002)
- Hinnebusch, Raymond and Anoushiravan Ehteshami, eds., *The Foreign Policies of Middle Eastern States* (Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner, 2002).
- Tibi, Bassam, *Islam between Culture and Politics* (New York: Palgrave, 2001).
- Murden, Simon W., *Islam, the Middle East, and the New Global Hegemony* (Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner, 2002).

- Adelkhah, Fariba. Being Modern in Iran. Columbia University Press, 2000.
- Bill, James A. and Robert Springborg, *Politics in the Middle East*, 5th ed. (New York: Longman, 1999).
- Esposito, John L. Islam and Secularism in the Middle East. New York University Press.
- Esposito, John L. The Oxford History of Islam. Oxford University Press, 2000.
- Chomsky, Noam. Fateful Triangle. South End Press
- Chomsky, Noam, *Pirates and Emperors, Old and New: International Terrorism in the Real World* (Cambridge, MA: South End Press, 2002)
- Ozbudan, Ergun. Contemporary Turkish Politics: Challenges to Democratic Consolidation. Lynne Rienner, February 2000.
- Sadri, Mahmoud and Sadri, Ahmad. *Reason, Freedom, and Democracy in Islam: Essential Writings of Abdolkarim Soroush*. Oxford University Press, May 2000.
- Smith, Jane I. Islam in America. Columbia University Press, 2000.
- Esposito, John & R.K. Ramazani, eds. Iran at the Crossroads. Palgrave, 2001.
- Fandy, Mamoun. Saudi Arabia and the Politics of Dissent. Palgrave, 1999.
- Joseph, Saud & Slyomovics, Susan, eds. Women and Power in the Middle East. University of Pennsylvania Press, 2001.
- Quandt, William B. Peace Process: American Diplomacy and the Arab-Israeli Conflict Since 1967. Brookings, 2001.
- Halliday, Fred. Nation and Religion in the Middle East. Lynne Rienner, 2000.
- Bromley, Simon, *Rethinking Middle East Politics* (Austin, TX: University of Texas Press, 1994).
- Brynen, Rex, Bahgat Korany, and Paul Noble, eds., *Political Liberalization and Democratization in the Arab World: Theoretical Perspectives*, Vol. 1 (Boulder, Colorado: Lynne Rienner, 1995).
- Esposito, John L., ed., *Political Islam: Revolution, Radicalism, or Reform?* (Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner, 1997).
- Fernea, Elizabeth Warnock and Robert A. Fernea, *The Arab World: Forty Years of Change* ((NY: Anchor Books, 1997)
- Giacaman, George and Dag Jorund Lonning, ed., *After Oslo: New Realities, Old Problems* (Chicago: Pluto Press, 1998).
- Halliday, Fred, *Islam and the Myth of Confrontation: Religion and Politics in the Middle East* (New York: I.B. Tauris, 1996).
- Hudson, Michael C., ed., *Middle East Dilemma: The Politics and Economics of Arab Integration* (New York: Columbia University Press, 1999)
- Lesch, David W., ed., *The Middle East and the United States: A Historical and Political Reassessment* (Boulder, Colorado: Westview Press, 1996).
- Makovsky, David, *Making Peace With the PLO: The Robin Government's Road to the Oslo Accord* (Boulder, Colorado: Westview Press, 1996).
- Zubaida, Sami, *Islam, The People and the State: Political Ideas and Movements in the Middle East* (New York: I.B. Tauris & Co., 1993).

Week I-III (September 6-23)

No Classes on Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 5

1) Syllabus and warm up

2) Some Major Characteristics of the Region?

- Geopolitics, ethnic, demographic, and socio-religious aspects
- Political Systems Characteristics

3) How Middle Eastern is Politics in the Middle East?

1. The Prominence of culture and belief systems?
2. The Historical politics of groups, kinship and Families
3. Patrimonialism, military rule and authoritarianism
4. The state-society relations in modern times

Readings:

1. Begin reading Long and Reich
2. Gerner, et al., Chs. 1-2, pp. 1-32
3. Gerner, et al., Ch. 4, pp. 79-129
4. Gerner, et al. Ch. 10, pp. 299-334
5. Fawcett, Introduction and chs. 1-3, pp. 17-78

INTERNET ARTICLES:

Barry Rubin, "The Politics of the New Middle East," Volume 1, No. 3 - September 1997
<http://www.biu.ac.il/SOC/besa/meria/journal/1997/issue3/jv1n3a8.html>

Barry Rubin, "The Triumph of the "Old Middle East," Volume 6, No. 2 - June 2002
<http://meria.idc.ac.il/journal/2002/issue2/brubin.pdf>

Week IV-VII (Sept. 26-October 21)

Islam and Politics: Traditional and Modern

- The Socioeconomic Environment of Mecca in 570 AD
- Muhammad: The Prophet and the Statesman
- Islam as a Religion OR as a Way of Life
- Civil War and the Sunni/Shi'a Split

- The Question of Succession and Legitimate governorship
- The Rise and Fall of the Islamic Civilization
- Challenge of the West and the Islamic Response: Fundamentalism, Reformation or Secularism
- Contemporary Islam and the West

Readings:

- 1) Gerner et al., Ch. 12, pp. 363-386
- 2) Continue reading Long and Reich's Government and Politics of the Middle East
- 3) Fawcett, ch. 7, pp. 151-72

INTERNET ARTICLES:

Bernard Lewis, "A Historical Overview" Journal of Democracy 7.2 (1996) 52-63 @ http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/journal_of_democracy/v007/7.2lewis.html

Dale F. Eickelman, THE COMING TRANSFORMATION OF THE MUSLIM WORLD
Volume 3, No. 3 September 1999
<http://meria.idc.ac.il/journal/1999/issue3/jv3n3a8.html>

Ali R. Abootalebi, ISLAM, ISLAMISTS, AND DEMOCRACY, Volume 3, No. 1 - March 1999
<http://meria.idc.ac.il/journal/1999/issue1/jv3n1a2.html>

By Bulent Aras, "TRANSFORMATION OF THE IRANIAN POLITICAL SYSTEM:
TOWARDS A NEW MODEL? @ <http://meria.idc.ac.il/journal/2001/issue3/aras.pdf>

Week VIII-IX (Oct. 24-November 4)

Colonialism, Nationalism, and the Rise of Modern State

- The Disintegration of the Ottomans
- The Rise of Arab, Turkish, Iranian and Jewish Nationalism
- Leaders and Change in the 20th Century

Readings:

- 1) Finish reading Long and Reich's Government and Politics of the Middle East
- 2) Gerner, Ch. 3, pp. 33-78

INTERNET DOCUMENT SITE:

Sykes-Picot Agreement
<http://www.lib.byu.edu/~rdh/wwi/1916/sykespicot.html>

Balfour Declaration

<http://www.lib.byu.edu/~rdh/wwi/1917/balfour.html>

(Treaty of Sevres, Section I)

<http://www.lib.byu.edu/~rdh/wwi/versa/sevres1.html>

Treaty of Sevres, Section II

<http://www.lib.byu.edu/~rdh/wwi/versa/sevres2.html>

Britain and Arab Nationalists

<http://www.lib.byu.edu/~rdh/wwi/1914m/arabetuk.html>

MIDTERM EXAMINATION ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26

Week X-XII (Nov. 7-25)

THANX-GIVING BEAK NOV. 24-25

Development and the Challenge of Modernization,

- Economic Growth or Development
- Political Development and Democracy
- Goals of Development
- Prospects for Economic Integration

Readings:

1. Gerner et al., Chs. 7 & 8 & 9, pp. 211-297
2. Gerner, Ch. 11, pp. 335-362
3. Gerner, Ch. 13, pp. 387-423
4. Fawcett, chs. 4-6, pp. 79-149

INTERNET ARTICLES:

Ali R. Abootalebi, Civil Society, Democracy, and the Middle East, MERIA, Volume 2, No. 3 - September 1998 @

<http://www.biu.ac.il/SOC/besa/meria/journal/1998/issue3/jv2n3a8.html>

Ali R. Abootalebi, Middle East Economies: A Survey of Current Problems and Issues, MERIA, Volume 3, No. 3 September 1999 @

<http://www.biu.ac.il/SOC/besa/meria/journal/1999/issue3/jv3n3a6.html>

Ali R. Abootalebi, Iran's Struggle for Democracy Continues: An Evaluation of Twenty-Five Years After the Revolution, MERIA, Volume 8, No. 2 - June 2004

<http://meria.idc.ac.il/journal/2004/issue2/abootalebi.pdf>

PAPER ABSTRACTS ARE DUE ON WEDNESDAY, NOV. 9

Week XIII-XV (Nov. 22-December 10)

Arab-Israeli Conflict and the Middle East in Global Politics

Readings:

- 1) Gerner et al., Ch. 6, pp. 169-210
- 2) Gerner et al., Ch. 5, pp. 131-168
- 3) Gerner, Ch. 14, pp. 425-437
- 4) Fawcett, chs. 10-11, pp. 217-61
- 5) Fawcett, chs. 8,9, 12-14, pp. 173-214 and pp. 263-327

INTERNET ARTICLES:

Toufic Haddad, "The Middle East and the United States: An Unpleasant Tale of Irony, Hypocrisy, and Misunderstanding, 1996" Trincoll Journal @

<http://www.trincoll.edu/~tj/tj9.19.96/articles/cover.html>

Mark L. Kleinman, Questioning Cold War Fundamentalism, Reviews in American History 23.2 (1995) 330-335 @

http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/reviews_in_american_history/v023/23.2kleinman.html

Michael Eisenstadt, "U.S. MILITARY CAPABILITIES IN THE POST COLD-WAR ERA: IMPLICATIONS FOR MIDDLE EAST ALLIES," MERIA, Volume 2, No. 4 - November 1998

<http://www.biu.ac.il/Besa/meria/journal/1998/issue4/jv2n4a5.html>

Gerald M. Steinberg, "ISRAEL AND THE UNITED STATES: CAN THE SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP SURVIVE THE NEW STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENT,?" MERIA, Volume 2, No. 4 - November 1998 @

<http://www.biu.ac.il/Besa/meria/journal/1998/issue4/jv2n4a7.html>

Efraim Inbar, "REGIONAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE ISRAELI-TURKISH STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP, MERIA, Volume 5, No. 2 - June 2001 @

<http://www.biu.ac.il/SOC/besa/meria/journal/2001/issue2/jv5n2a5.html>

RESEARCH PAPERS ARE DUE ON MONDAY, DEC. 12