

International Politics of the Middle East - V53.0760
New York University
Fall 2005
Tuesdays and Thursdays 11 – 12:15 PM
Silver Building Room 411

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Course Description:

This course is intended as an introduction to politics in the Middle East and therefore provides a general overview of some of the chief issues of contemporary Middle Eastern politics. Consequently, it will examine the interplay of numerous factors that help us to better understand and to critically analyze the Middle East. These include the impact of colonialism, nationalism and nation-state formation, regional crises, the Arab-Israeli conflict, the politics of oil, Islamism, democratization, political economy, globalization, and human rights, etc. Special attention will be given to the historical and contemporary interaction between the Middle East and the United States, the “West,” and the “East.”

The purpose of this course is to discuss the international relations of the Middle East within the larger context of theories on international relations. One central question concerns whether or not IR theoretical literature can account for the behavior of Middle Eastern states and/or whether the study of these cases demands a reevaluation of the literature in the field. The theoretical objective of this course is to demonstrate the political interrelationship between regional political change and international political conflict. Its empirical aim is to give the student the opportunity to develop a deeper comprehension of the exogenous and endogenous factors in the evolution of Middle Eastern politics whose interaction produced the nature of the system of political relations which exist there today.

Requirements:

Students are required to attend each class and to read the syllabus selections assigned for each class session. Students are required to read the appropriate selections on time since the lectures will serve merely as outlines for the readings. Students are responsible for all readings on the syllabus, regardless of whether or not we cover all of the assigned readings. There may be changes to the syllabus during the semester and students are responsible for these changes. If you miss class, you are responsible for finding out what you missed, including handouts, announcements, etc.

Since the topics are generally controversial and multi-faceted, students are encouraged to raise important issues in class and to make comments on the readings. While the class is large, I encourage students to engage in class discussions. There are no right or wrong positions on these issues and the classroom will be an arena of toleration for conflicting viewpoints. I will randomly call on students in class to answer questions about the readings. **Class participation will be worth 10 % of your overall grade.**

Students will also be given a mid-term and a final exam. These exams will be in-class, composed of identifications and essays. **The mid-term is worth 40% and the final exam is worth 50%.** The exams will require students to be able to assess and critique the various theoretical arguments presented by the authors. As such, students are encouraged to take notes on the readings since they are dense and sometimes long.

Students are also responsible for reading news on the Middle East daily. At times, we will focus on issues in the news, depending on their relevance to our course readings.

REQUIRED READINGS

TEXTBOOKS:

Please purchase the *latest* editions of the following texts and bring them to class when they are assigned. They are available at the NYU Bookstore.

William Cleveland, **A History of the Modern Middle East** third edition (Westview Press: 2004) ISBN 0813340489

Rashid Khalidi, **Resurrecting Empire** (Beacon Press: 2005) ISBN 0807002356

Raymond Hinnebusch, **The International Politics of the Middle East** (Manchester University Press: 2003) ISBN 0719053463

COURSEPACK:

Students must also purchase a course pack for the course, composed of a selection of chapters from various texts. It will be available at New University Copy and Graphic- 11 Waverly Place. (212) 473-7369

ONLINE ARTICLES:

Please note that there will be selected articles online. Please follow the links to read the articles online. If the link is unavailable, look up the article by the full citation listed on the syllabus. For easier access to the links, view an online version of this syllabus at: http://www.nyu.edu/gsas/dept/politics/undergrad/undergrad_list.shtml#international_politics

Remote Access to NYU Libraries and Online Sources

Students can gain access to NYU research engines through NYU Home. Log in to your account and follow the “research” links. If NYU Home is down, you can still access the library information sources from a computer system attached to NYU’s network, NYU-NET. If you would like to access NYU libraries and some of the online journals from a remote area (like home), you will need to configure your internet browser to permit full access from an external connection using NYU’s proxy server. See attachment below for detailed instructions on how to do this. It is easy. If you need assistance, contact ITS by phone at (212) 998-3333 or by email at its.clientservices@nyu.edu

Go to:

<http://www.nyu.edu/its/faq/connecting/proxy.html>

Middle East News Sources:

Arabic News.com <http://www.arabicnews.com> Arab world news portal.

Al-Bab.com <http://www.al-bab.com/> provides background information on the Arab world and links to other sources.

Al-Jazeera News, <http://english.aljazeera.net/HomePage>

BBC Online Middle East coverage:

http://news.bbc.co.uk/hi/english/world/middle_east/default.stm

Jerusalem Post, <http://www.jpost.com/>

The Independent Middle East coverage
http://news.independent.co.uk/world/middle_east/

Middle East International <http://meionline.com/front.html> online edition

Middle East Report http://www.merip.org/mer/middle_east_report.html

New York Times <http://www.nyt.com>

COURSE SECHEDULE

Introduction and Overview

Tuesday 9/6

- Lisa Anderson, “Scholarship, Policy, Debate and Conflict: Why We Study the Middle East and Why It Matters,” **Middle East Studies Association Bulletin** Vol. 38, No. 1 (Summer 2004)

<http://fp.arizona.edu/mesassoc/Bulletin/Pres%20Addresses/Anderson.htm>

Understanding the Middle East in the Context of International Politics

Thursday 9/8

- Hinnebusch, pp. 1-13
- Stephen N. Walt. “International Relations: One World, Many Theories,” **Foreign Policy** no. 110 (Spring 1998), pp. 29-47, recommended only

<http://www.jstor.org/view/00157228/ap040110/04a00030/15?frame=noframe&userID=807a8104@nyu.edu/01cce44035005017366a5&dpi=3&config=jstor>

Society and Culture; Islam: Culture, State and Society

Tuesday 9/13

- Cleveland, pp 1-35

The Rise and Fall of the Ottoman Empire; Colonialism and Nationalism

Thursday 9/15

Tuesday 9/20

- Cleveland, pp. 37-56, 119-132, 149-170
- Hinnebusch, pp. 14-53

Struggle for Independence; Emergence of Nation-State System; Political Ideologies; Turbulence, Instability and Regional Wars

Thursday 9/22

Tuesday 9/27

Thursday 9/29- documentary viewing

- Cleveland, pp. 171-173, 175-192, 193-237, 273-274, 301-344
- Hinnebusch, pp. 54-72
- Janice Gross Stein, "War and Security in the Middle East" Ch. 9, pp. 195-214, in Fawcett et al. 2005 (course pack)

The Arab-Israeli Conflict; The Arab-Palestinian Conflict; State and Society Transformations; Negotiations and the Peace Process

Tuesday 10/4

Thursday 10/6

Tuesday 10/11

Thursday 10/13

- Cleveland, pp. 239-271, 345-367, 473-517.
- Khalidi, Walid. "Why Did the Palestinians Leave,? Revisited," **Journal of Palestine Studies** 34:2 (Winter 2005), pp. 42-54
<http://proquest.umi.com/pqdweb?vinst=PROD&fmt=6&startpage=-1&clientid=9269&vname=PQD&RQT=309&did=819120141&scaling=FULL&vtype=PQD&rqt=309&TS=1124211741&clientId=9269>
- Hinnebusch, pp. 154-203
- Milton Viorst, "The Road Map to Nowhere," **The Washington Quarterly** 26:3 (Summer 2003), pp. 177-190.
<http://lysander.ingentaselect.com/vl=11969907/cl=13/nw=1/fm=docpdf/rpsv/cw/mitpress/0163660x/v26n3/s12/p177>

- “ICJ Advisory Opinion on Israeli Security Fence” **The American Journal of International Law** Vol. 98 No 2 (April 2004), pp. 361-364
<http://www.jstor.org/cgi-bin/jstor/printpage/00029300/sp040003/04x0102x/0.pdf?backcontext=page&dowhat=Acrobat&config=jstor&userID=807a8104@nyu.edu/01cc99333c005017b1752&0.pdf>
- Beverly Milton-Edwards and Alastair Crooke, “Waving not Drowning: Strategic Dimensions of Ceasefires and Islamic Movements” **Security Dialogue** Vol. 35 No. 3 (September 2004) pp. 295-310.
http://ft.csa.com/htbin/ids65/process_pdfrequest.cgi?an=10%2e1177%2f0967010604047528&db=sagepol%2dset%2dc&us=1105469830&ssparm=e41d10b4648a2d1739df44f0a3ca9336&issn=0967-0106
- Joel Midgal, “Myths and Models: The State-in-Society Approach and the Experience of Israel” pp. 3-22; “Laying the Basis for a Strong State: the British and Zionists in Palestine” pp. 51-79; “Changing Boundaries and Social Crisis: Israel and the 1967 War” pp. 149-171; “The Odd Man Out; Arabs in Israel” pp.173-194. (course pack)
- Dennis Ross, **The Missing Peace: The Inside Story of the Fight for Middle East Peace** (New York: 2004), pp. 3-45. (course pack)
- Brown, Nathan, “Democracy, History, and the Contest over the Palestinian Curriculum” Prepared for Adam Institute (November 2001)
<http://www.diak.org/Democracy%20in%20the%20Palestinian%20Curriculum.pdf>
- Richard Ben Cramer, **How Israel Lost: The Four Questions** (New York: Simon and Schuster) 2004 pp. 1-92, 139-277. (course pack)

Understanding State-Building and Development in the Middle East: Distinction Between “Political Development” and “Economic Development;” Modernization and Westernization; Globalization: Challenges

Tuesday 10/18

Thursday 10/20

Tuesday 10/25

- Hinnebusch, pp. 73-90, 204-239
- Cleveland, pp. 369-395, 397-421
- Clement M. Henry and Robert Springborg, **Globalization and the Politics of Development in the Middle East** (Cambridge: 2001), pp. 99-167.

- Clement M. Henry, “The Clash of Globalizations in the Middle East” Ch. 5, pp. 105-127 in Fawcett et al. (course pack)
- Babak Rahimi, “Cyberdissent: The Internet in Revolutionary Iran,” **Middle East Review of International Affairs** Vol. 7, No. 3 (September 2003), pp. 101-115.
http://www.ciaonet.org/olj/meria/meria03_rab01.pdf
- Naomi Sakr, “Satellite Television and Development in the Middle East, **Middle East Report** (Spring 1999) (New York and Washington DC: Middle East Research and Information Project), pp. 6-8.
<http://www.jstor.org/view/08992851/di011551/01p0007o/0?frame=noframe&userID=807a8104@nyu.edu/01cce44035005017366a5&dpi=3&config=jstor>
- Edmund Ghareeb, “New Media and the Information Revolution in the Arab World: An Assessment” **The Middle East Journal** 54:3 (Summer 2000), pp. 395-418
<http://proquest.umi.com/pqdweb?index=46&did=57308865&SrchMode=3&sid=2&Fmt=6&VInst=PROD&VType=PQD&RQT=309&VName=PQD&TS=1105412392&clientId=9269&aid=1>

MID-TERM EXAMINATION

Thursday 10/27

Middle Eastern Context: Persistent Authoritarianism, Legitimacy Crises; Liberalization vs. Democratization; Reforms and Regional Experiments; The Islamist Dimension: Organization and Mobilization, Islam and Democracy

Tuesday 11/1

Thursday 11/3

Tuesday 11/8

- Rex Brynen et. al, “Introduction: Theoretical Perspectives on Arab Liberalization and Democratization” pp. 3-57 (course pack)
- Augustus Richard Norton, “The Puzzle of Political Reform in the Middle East” Ch. 6, pp. 131-148 in Fawcett, et al. (course pack)

- Anoushiravan Ehteshami, “Is the Middle East Democratizing?” **British Journal of Middle Eastern Studies** Vol. 26 No. 2 (November 1999), pp. 199-217
<http://www.jstor.org/cgi-bin/jstor/printpage/13530194/ap010009/01a00020/0.pdf?backcontext=table-of-contents&dowhat=Acrobat&config=jstor&userID=807a8019@nyu.edu/01cc99333c005017b6cb4&0.pdf>
- Steven Fish, “Islam and Authoritarianism” **World Politics** 55 (October 2002), pp. 4-37
http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/world_politics/v055/55.1fish.pdf
- Cleveland, pp. 275-300, 423-450
- Michael Hudson, “The Legitimacy Problem in Arab Politics” in **Arab Politics** (New Haven: Yale University Press) 1977, pp.1-30 (course pack)
- Lisa Wedeen, **Ambiguities of Domination: Politics, Rhetoric, and Symbols in Contemporary Syria** (2000) pp. 1-66 (course pack)
- Simon Murden, **Islam, the Middle East and the New Global Hegemony** (Lynne Reiner: 2002), pp.155-183 (course pack)
- Michael M. Laskier, “A Difficult Inheritance: Moroccan Society Under King Muhammad VI,” **Middle East Review of International Affairs** Vol. 7 No. 3 (September 2003) pp. 1-20.
http://www.ciaonet.org/olj/meria/meria03_lam01.pdf
- Jillian Schwedler, “Democratization in the Arab World? Yemen’s Aborted Opening” **Journal of Democracy** Vol. 3 No. 4 (October 2002), pp. 48-55
http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/journal_of_democracy/v013/13.4schwedler.pdf

Middle East Foreign Policy: Perspectives and Dimensions; Domestic, Regional and International Considerations

Thursday 11/10

Tuesday 11/15

Thursday 11/17

- Hinnebusch, pp. 91-153
- Shibley Telhami, and Michael Barnett, **Identity and Foreign Policy in the Middle East** (Ithaca: Cornell University Press) 2002, pp. 1-57 (course pack)

- Leonard Binder, “Introduction: The International Dimensions of Ethnic Conflict in the Middle East” pp. 1-39; Hudson, Michael, “From Consociationalism to the Public Sphere: Recent Evidence from Lebanon” pp. 92-109; Warburg, Gabriel, “Religious and Ethnic Conflict in Sudan: Can National Unity Survive?” pp. 110-128 in Leonard Binder, ed **Ethnic Conflict and International Politics in the Middle East** (University Press) 1999. (course pack)
- Janet Afary, “The Human Rights of Middle Eastern and Muslim Women: A Project for the 21st Century” **Human Rights Quarterly** 26 (2004), pp. 106-125. http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/human_rights_quarterly/v026/26.1afary.pdf
- Yustina Saleh, “Law, the Rule of Law, and Religious Minorities in Egypt.” **The Middle East Review of International Affairs** Vol. 8, No. 4, Article 7 (December 2004) <http://meria.idc.ac.il/journal/2004/issue4/jv8no4a7.html>

The Politics of Oil: National and International Perspectives; The Rentier State and Economy; Oil Wealth and Development in the Middle East; Regional Stratification; The New World Order

Tuesday 11/22

Thursday 11/29

- Cleveland, pp. 451-472, 473-517
- Giacomo Luciani, “Oil and Political Economy in the International Relations of the Middle East” Ch. 4, pp. 79-102 in Fawcett et al. (course pack)
- Larbi Sadiki, “Al-la Nidam: An Arab View of the New World (Dis)order,” **Arab Studies Quarterly** 17 (Summer 1995), pp. 1-22

<http://proquest.umi.com/pqdlink?index=0&did=8659793&SrchMode=3&sid=1&Fmt=3&VInst=PROD&VType=PQD&RQT=309&VName=PQD&TS=1104902747&clientId=9269&aid=1>

Middle East and the “West;” The Role of the US and Great Power Competition- Contemporary Issues

Thursday 12/1

Tuesday 12/6

Thursday 12/8

- Rashid Khalidi, read whole text for discussion on 12/1

- Laurie A. Brand, “Scholarship in the Shadow of Empire,” **MESA Bulletin** Vol. 39, No. 1 forthcoming (Summer 2005)
<http://fp.arizona.edu/mesassoc/Bulletin/Pres%20Addresses/Brand.htm>
- Geoffrey Kemp, “Europe’s Middle East Challenges” **Washington Quarterly** 27:1 (Winter 2003-2004), pp. 163-177.
http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/washington_quarterly/v027/27.1kemp.pdf
- Rosemary Hollis, “Europe in the Middle East” Ch. 14, pp. 307-326 in Fawcett et al. (course pack)
- Josh Pollack, “Saudi Arabia and the United States, 1931-2002,” **Middle East Review of International Affairs** Vol. 6 No. 3 (September 2002)
<http://meria.idc.ac.il/journal/2002/issue3/jv6n3a7.html>
- Timothy Mitchell, “McJihad: Islam in the US Global Order,” **Social Text** 73 Vol. 20 No 4 (Winter 2002), pp. 1-18.
http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/social_text/v020/20.4mitchell.pdf

Conclusion and Review

Tuesday 12/13

- Cleveland, pp. 519-548

Final Exam:

Tuesday December 20

10 AM to 11: 50 AM

