

COURSE PROFILE

Course Name	Code	Semester	Term	Theory+PS+Lab (hour/week)	Local Credits	ECTS
Middle East in International Politics	POLS 346	Spring	6	3+0+0	3	6

Prerequisites	None
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Course Language	English
Course Type	Elective
Course Lecturer	Asst. Prof. Seda Demiralp
Course Assistant	Mehmet Turan Çağlar
Course Objectives	The main goal of the course is to provide a theoretical base to understand important issues in Middle East politics. An important target of the course will be to challenge the “Middle East exceptionalism” problem where Middle East politics is typically explained by the “distinct” political culture of the region, namely Islam. In contrast, this class will employ a comparative politics perspective and seek to understand the Middle East through a variety of theoretical approaches developed in the field of comparative politics. The class will introduce cases from different parts of the Middle East and try to connect the theories covered in class to the outside world. Some of the important topics we will cover in this class include: authoritarianism, political liberalization, civil society and democratization; oil and the <i>rentier</i> state; Islamist movements and political parties; and Islamic financial actors and institutions.
Course Learning Outcomes	By the end of this course, students will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow and interpret major developments in Middle East politics • Understand the sources of tension between the West and the Middle East • Understand the historical processes and economic-cultural context of political institutions and processes in the Middle East • Overcome the problem of “Middle East exceptionalism” and be able to understand Middle East politics through a comparative approach, using major theories developed in political science • Apply course information to analyze and explain new cases and deliver class presentations
Course Content	Historical background of the social and institutional structures and development issues in the Middle East. Concept and ideologies like Arabism, Islam and Modernization. Contemporary conflicts and treaties that formed modern delimitation of the region.

COURSE CONTENT

Week	Subjects	Related
1	The Study of the Middle East	
2	Cultural and Historical Background	
3	Islam in the Middle East I	
4	Islam in the Middle East II	
5	Jihad: Muslim Perspectives	
6	Gender and Middle East Politics	
7	State in the Middle East I	
8	State in the Middle East II	
9	Development in the Middle East: State-Led Growth and its Discontents	
10	Islamic Activism: Terrorism or Politics from Below?	
11	A Political Economy of Islamism	
12	Democratization in the Middle East	
13	Where We Are in Middle Eastern Studies	
14	Overcoming Middle East Exceptionalism	
15	Review	

Course Textbook	reader provided by the instructor
Recommended References	

Semester Requirements	Number	Percentage of Grade
Attendance/Participation		10
Laboratory		
Application		
Special Course Internship (Work Placement)		
Quizzes/Studio Critics	6	30
Homework Assignments	1	15
Presentation		
Project		
Seminar/Workshop		
Midterms/Oral Exams		
Final/Resit Exam	1	45
Total	8	100

Percentage of Semester Work	7	55
Percentage of Final Work	1	45
Total	8	100

COURSE'S CONTRIBUTION TO PROGRAM

#	Program Qualifications / Outcomes	Level of Contribution *				
		1	2	3	4	5
IR 1	Understand the fundamental concepts and theories of the field of International Relations and be able to apply them to historical and current events					X
IR 2	Understand the historical processes of political structures and institutions					X
IR 3	Be able to follow the world political conjuncture					X
IR 4	Grasp the structures and functions of international/regional/intergovernmental organizations		X			
IR 5	Be able to analyze the dynamics that form the political substructure of various events and phenomena, as well as their effects				X	
IR 6	Understand the international legal framework	X				
IR 7	Grasp and question the causes and consequences of economic developments and their impact on international relations				X	
PS 1	Understand the fundamental concepts and theories of the field of Political Science and be able to apply them to historical and current events		X			
PS 2	Understand the historical processes, structures, and functions of political institutions				X	
PS 3	Be able to analyze the dynamics that form the political substructure of various events and phenomena, as well as their effects			X		
PS 4	Understand the mechanisms of political change (such as voting, lobbying, political movements, legal reforms, revolution, etc.)					X
PS	Possess knowledge about those fundamental issues that					X

5	shape political and societal life (such as race, gender, class, environment, security, religion, identity, etc.)					
PS 6	Acknowledge that political phenomena can be explained differently by different schools of thought				X	
PS 7	Grasp and question the causes and consequences of economic developments and their impact on politics					X
8	Think independently, creatively, and critically					X
9	Be an entrepreneur and take initiative				X	
10	Have self-confidence				X	
11	Have the ability to carry out systematic comparisons and rightly differentiate similarities and differences					X
12	Be open-minded and prepared to work together with people from different cultures and groups				X	
13	Be aware and a follower of social responsibilities as well as political rights and freedoms			X		
14	Internalize work ethics and behave accordingly			X		
15	Be able to speak and deliver presentations in front of public					X
16	Understand, read, and write in English				X	
17	Have the ability to observe, analyze, and report				X	
18	Be able to implement the principles and methods of scientific research		X			
19	Understand and interpret statistical data	X				
20	Be prone to team work				X	
21	Possess computer and technological literacy	X				

*1 Lowest, 2 Low, 3 Average, 4 High, 5 Highest

**ECTS ALLOCATED BASED ON STUDENT WORKLOAD BY THE COURSE
DESCRIPTION**

Activities	Number	Duration (Hours)	Total Workload
Course Hours (Including Exams)			40
Tutorials			
Laboratory			
Application			
Special Course Internship (Work Placement)			
Field Work			
Study Hours Out of Class			
Presentations / Seminar			
Project			
Preparatory reading			70
Homework Assignments	1	30	30
Quizzes	6	1	6
Midterm Exams			
Final / Resit Exam	1	4	4
Total Workload			150

COURSE CATEGORY

ISCED GENERAL AREA CODES	GENERAL AREAS	ISCED BASIC AREA CODES	BASIC EDUCATIONAL AREAS	
1	Education	14	Teacher training and education science	0
2	Humanities and Arts	21	Arts	0
		22	Humanities	0
3	Social sciences, Business and Law	31	Social and behavioural science	100
		32	Journalism and information	0
		34	Business and administration	0
		38	Law	0
4	Science, Mathematics and Computing	42	Life science	0
		44	Physical science	0
		46	Mathematics and statistics	0
		48	Computing	0
5	Engineering, Manufacturing and Construction	52	Engineering and Engineering Trades	0
		54	Manufacturing and processing	0
		58	Architecture and building	0
6	Agriculture and Veterinary	62	Agriculture, forestry and fishery	0
		64	Veterinary	0
7	Health and Welfare	72	Health	0
		76	Social services	0
8	Services	81	Personal services	0

		84	Transport services	0
		85	Environmental protection	0
		86	Security services	0