

HIST 230/PSCI 257: Introduction to the Middle East

Department of History/Political Science
Arts Lecture Hall Room 211
Spring 2015

AL 9:30-11:20 am Wednesdays (Matthew) and Fridays (Yelena)
See Quest for assigned DIS sessions

Instructor: Dr. B. Momani

Office Room: Hagey Hall 302

Office Hours: Wednesday 12:00 – 1:00 pm (From May 7 to June 11)

Exception: Wednesday May 13th Office hours are cancelled

Contact Policy: Please try to come and see me during my office hours to talk. Let's not use email.

Course Description: This course examines the modern political history of the Middle East, with an emphasis on international affairs. This course attempts to demonstrate how the Middle East can best be understood as the result of complex historical and political interactions between factors at the national, regional, and global levels. We will examine colonization of the Middle East, self-determination, the rise of nation-states, enduring Arab-Israeli conflicts, the Cold War, and the history of US foreign policy in shaping the modern Middle East.

Pre-Requisites: Level at least 2A.

Course Objectives:

By the end of this course students shall have a basic understanding of:

- Political History of the Middle East North Africa (MENA) region;
- Arab – Israeli Conflicts;
- History of foreign policy towards MENA region;
- Revolution and democratic transition in the MENA region.

Teaching Assistants:

Matthew Gayford

Email : mgayford@uwaterloo.ca

Office Room: HH 120

Office Hours: Thursday 1-2:30 PM

Yelena Abdullayeva

Email: y4abdull@uwaterloo.ca

Office Room: HH 378

Office Hours: Monday 2-3:30 PM

Contact Policy: Email is the best way to get in touch with your TA outside of usually scheduled office hours. A few things to remember when emailing:

- Please use UW Learn email services for contacting your TA's.
- Please remember to sign your email with a first and last name and your student number.
- Please allow up to 48 hours for a response to your email.
- Please note that your TA's generally do not answer emails after 4:00pm on weekdays or on weekends (4:00pm Friday to 9:00am Monday).
- **Email should be used for brief questions that can be answered quickly.** If you want to discuss course material, assignments, or another matter in greater detail, please see the TA during his or her office hours or make an appointment to meet at some other time convenient for both.

Note: This course is recognized as a PACS Content Course that fulfills requirements in the interdisciplinary Peace and Conflict Studies plan. For information about doing a PACS concentration (Major, Minor or Option) visit: <http://grebel.uwaterloo.ca/academic/undergrad/pacs/plans.shtml>. Cross-listed course:

Please note that a cross-listed course will count in all respective averages no matter under which rubric it has been taken. For example, a PHIL/PSCI cross-list will count in a Philosophy major average, even if the course was taken under the Political Science rubric.

Academic Integrity: In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility.

Discipline: A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about "rules" for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course professor, academic advisor, or the Undergraduate Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under Policy 71 – Student Discipline. For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to Policy 71 - Student Discipline, [Student Discipline](#) <http://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-71>.

Grievance: A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances, Section 4, [Student Petitions](#) <http://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-70>.

Appeals: A student may appeal the finding and/or penalty in a decision made under Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances (other than regarding a petition) or Policy 71 - Student Discipline if a ground for an appeal can be established. Read Policy 72 - Student Appeals, [Student Appeals](#) <http://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-72>.

Academic Integrity website (Arts): [Academic Integrity \[http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/arts/ugrad/academic_responsibility.html\]\(http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/arts/ugrad/academic_responsibility.html\)](http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/arts/ugrad/academic_responsibility.html)

Academic Integrity Office (uWaterloo): [Academic Integrity Office <http://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/>](http://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/)

Note for students with disabilities: The Office for Persons with Disabilities (OPD), located in Needles Hall, Room 1132, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the OPD at the beginning of each academic term.

Turnitin.com: Plagiarism detection software (Turnitin) will be used to screen assignments in this course. This is being done to verify that use of all material and sources in assignments is documented. In the first week of the term, details will be provided about the arrangements for the use of Turnitin in this course. Note: students must be given a reasonable option if they do not want to have their assignment screened by Turnitin. See [Turnitin http://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/integrity-waterloo-faculty/turnitin-waterloo](http://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/integrity-waterloo-faculty/turnitin-waterloo) for more information.

Course Text (Required):

- 1) Mehran Kamrava. *MODERN MIDDLE EAST*. University of California Press 2013. Third Edition (2nd edition does not include updated material in chapters 7-11). ISBN: 978-0-520-27781-6

Texts are available for purchase at the University of Waterloo bookstore.

It is expected that you have read the course readings **prior to the week's lectures**. Note that lectures will not repeat the readings, but rather complement the readings. If you have questions regarding the readings, please address them during my office hours. Exams and tests will be based on readings and lectures. If you miss a class, it is recommended that you borrow notes from a fellow student. Lecture notes will be placed on UW LEARN. Note that due to the large number of students in this class, *I will not give lecture notes to students to photocopy or borrow*. Also, please do not request a copy electronically. Again, it is ideal to either borrow from a fellow student or to consult UW LEARN.

Course Requirements, Expectations, and Standards:

Overview

Assignment	Due Date	Value
Tutorial Participation & Attendance	Ongoing	10%
Middle East Conference Reaction Paper	Monday June 8, 4pm	20%
Film Analysis	Monday June 15, 4pm	20%
Final Exam (closed book)	Wednesday June 24, 10:00 AM- 12:50 PM Location: AL 105/211	50%

Attendance and Participation in Discussion Sessions:

This grade is based on attendance, participation in discussion sessions, paying attention to your colleagues who are speaking and general discussion manner. Please note tutorials will begin the first week of class. **Note:** participation grades cannot be made-up due to missed classes, regardless of the reason (illness, interviews, etc). If you are not there, then you did not participate. Please do not email me or your TAs your reasons for simple absences. You will be rewarded for both physical attendance of the class and intellectual attendance in the class.

Middle East Conference Reaction Paper

In this assignment you are expected to provide a concise analysis and reaction to the Middle East conference taking place on Wednesday May 27th. You should reflect upon the issues raised by the participants and connect it to ideas and materials presented in class. You may choose **one of the panel sessions** to write on. Students who cannot attend will be given the opportunity to view the conference via web-link/Youtube video recording. This may take the form of commentary, questions, agreements, disagreements, and points of discussion. Please note that reaction papers are *not* about providing a summary of the articles. They are to help you recognize your own interests in and questions about the course material and to help direct class discussions toward issues that are of interest to the class or questions that need to be more fully explored in class. Try not to make your comments too specific, be sure to try to link your ideas to the broader themes being addressed that week. These reaction papers are not research papers - there is no need to consult any sources beyond the required readings throughout the semester.

Assignment rubric is posted on UW D2L.

The conference will be held at the Balsillie School of International Affairs in room 1-42. If you plan on attending any part of the conference, please register with this link here: [Registration https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/current-politics-of-the-middle-east-registration-16844471267](https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/current-politics-of-the-middle-east-registration-16844471267)

Must be submitted on **Monday June 8th** in the UW Learn drop box by 4pm. Papers **WILL NOT** be accepted after **Monday June 8th** at 4 pm and a mark of zero will be applied. More information to follow.

Film Analysis

Description: In this assignment you are expected to provide a concise analysis and reaction to the film, *Red Lines (2012)*, which will be screened on Monday, June 8th. It should discuss the issues raised by the film, address the film's importance and purpose, state reactions to the content and quality of the film, and connect it to ideas and material presented in class. It should be a minimum of 4 pages double-spaced with standardized margins and 12-point font.

Assignment rubric is posted on UW D2L.

Please register for the event with this link here: [Registration https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/cinema-series-red-lines-tickets-16335181969](https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/cinema-series-red-lines-tickets-16335181969)

Must be submitted on Monday June 15th in the UW Learn drop box by 4pm. Papers **WILL NOT** be accepted after Monday June 15th at 4 pm and a mark of zero will be applied. More information to follow.

Final Exam- Closed Book Exam

Wednesday June 24th 10:00 AM- 12:50 PM

Arts Lecture Hall; Rooms 105 & 211. More information to follow.

Lecture Outline and Schedule:

May 6: The Middle East – An Introduction

Lecture Topic: Who, What, Where, Why Study the Middle East?

Readings: Kamrava, Ch. 11

May 8: WW1 and its Aftermath in the ME

Lecture Topic: Fall of the Ottoman Empire, Rise of Kemal Ataturk in Turkey

Readings: Kamrava, Ch. 1

May 13: European Colonialism in the Middle East [Dr. Daniel Gorman, Guest Lecture]

Lecture Topics: Treaty of Leve, Balfour Declaration, Sykes-Picot Agreement, Carving the Middle East, Neocolonialism

Readings: Kamrava, Ch 2.

May 15: Arab Nationalism

Lecture Topics: Nasser's Pan-Arabism; Suez Canal Crisis

Readings: Kamrava, Ch 3. + Ch 7.

May 20: Arab-Israeli Conflicts

Lecture Topics: 1948 to 1973 Wars, Intifada I and II,

Readings Kamrava, Ch.4

May 22: Arab-Israeli Interlude of Peace

Lecture Topics: Camp David I and II, and Oslo

Readings: Kamrava, Ch.9

May 27:

The Current Politics of the Middle East Conference (See Conference Agenda, Page 7)

Location: Balsillie School of International Affairs

Room 1-42 (Multi-purpose room)

67 Erb Street West, Waterloo ON N2L 6C2

Tutorials cancelled this week

May 29: The Oil Factor

Lecture Topics: Oil Connection, the Reinter State & Petrodollars Then and Now

Readings: Kamrava, Ch.10

June 3: Islamic Revivalism in the Middle East

Lecture Topics: Iranian Revolution and its regional implications

Readings: Kamrava, Ch.5

June 5: Conflicts in the Persian Gulf

Lecture Topics: Iran- Iraq War, Persian Gulf War I and II

Readings: Kamrava, Ch. 6

June 8:

*The screening of *Redlines* 7:00 PM at the CIGI Campus Auditorium

Address: 67 Erb Street West, Waterloo

For further information and directions, see link here:

[Events https://www.cigionline.org/events/cigi-cinema-series-red-lines](https://www.cigionline.org/events/cigi-cinema-series-red-lines)

June 10: Democratization

Lecture Topics: Invasion of Iraq 2003

Readings: Kamrava, Ch. 8

June 12: The Arab Spring

Lecture Topics: Arab Awakening/Spring of 2011

Readings: POMEPS Studies 11, "The Arab Thermidor: The Resurgence of the Security State". Washington, D.C. Feb 2015.

Pages 1-40; 45-49

See link here: [Readings http://pomeps.org/wp-](http://pomeps.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/POMEPS-Studies-11-Thermidor-Web.pdf)

[content/uploads/2015/03/POMEPS Studies 11 Thermidor Web.pdf](http://pomeps.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/POMEPS-Studies-11-Thermidor-Web.pdf)

June 24: Final Exam (closed book)

10:00 AM- 12:50 PM

Arts Lecture Hall

Rooms 105 & 211

**The Current Politics of the Middle East
Conference Agenda
Wednesday May 27th, 2015
The Balsillie School of International Affairs (BSIA)
Room 1-42 (Multipurpose Room)
67 Erb Street West Waterloo ON N2L 6C2**

The aim of the conference is to host local scholars who discuss the current state of affairs in the Middle East, discuss trends and developments in Egypt, Syria, Israel/Palestine, Turkey and debate opportunities and challenges, like ISIS, facing this geopolitically sensitive part of the world. The conference provides a unique opportunity for students and academics interested in the region to interact and listen to insights from local experts in our academic community.

Breakfast, Lunch & Snacks provided

9:00 AM Welcome & Introduction

Dr. Bessma Momani (UW/BSIA/CIGI)

9:15-10:45 AM Panel #1 Egypt

Is the current President Sisi seen as a savior or a tyrant of democracy?
Has the political opposition to Sisi and the military become radicalized?
Where do you see Egypt politically in 5 years?

- Dr. Eid Mohamed (UofG/Doha Institute)
- Dr. Wael Haddara (Former Senior Advisor to Mohamed Morsi)
- Dr. Dalia Fahmy (Long Island University)

10:45-11:45 AM Panel #2 Syria

Is there a viable opposition other than ISIS and AL-Qaeda/Jabhat Al-Nusra?
What would need to happen in global or regional politics to see a resolution come to force?
What are some of the creative solutions that could be used toward conflict resolution?

- Mr. Omar Alghabra (Former MP/Liberal Candidate Mississauga Centre)
- Dr. Bessma Momani (UW/BSIA/CIGI)
- Mr. Simon Palamar (CIGI)

12:00-1:00 PM Lunch Keynote-Turkish Foreign Policy

Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey to Canada-Mr. Selcuk Ünal

1:15-2:30 PM Panel #3 The Role of ISIS

Why has ISIS gained so much strength (ideology, recruitment, and finances)?
Can military intervention be enough to fight ISIS?
Is ISIS going to spread or decline in the region over time?

- Dr. Paul Freston (WLU/BSIA/CIGI)
- Dr. Lorne Dawson (UW)
- Dr. Omar Ramahi (UW)

2:45-4:00 PM Panel #4 Israel-Palestine

Will Palestine's international negotiations with the UN, ICC, and other organizations help or hinder its pursuit of statehood?

Who are the viable peace partners in Israel and Palestine?

How would characterize US policy under President Obama to this issue?

- Dr. Jasmin Habib (UW/BSIA)
- Dr. David Dewitt (CIGI/York University)
- Dr. Rhoda Howard-Hassmann (WLU/BSIA/CIGI)
- Dr. Yehonatan Alsheh (Post Doctoral Fellow WLU/BSIA)

4:00-4:15 PM Closing Remarks