

Spring 2008
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OF THE MIDDLE EAST
Prof. Joshua Stacher

PSC 300.203/MES 300.001

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Class Time: T,TH 2-3:20pm

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The international relations of the Middle East are primarily characterized as mired unendingly in conflict and political underdevelopment. Rich natural resources, external interventions, wars, local political upheavals, and sectarian tension are but some of the region's persisting historical contingents. The region's legacy is compounded by the competing claims of nationalist, secular, and religious movements that struggle against military-backed authoritarian regimes.

This course's objective is to introduce some of the central issues of contemporary Middle Eastern politics while discussing the region within the larger framework of international relations theory. This course will specifically emphasize the historical and contemporary interaction between the Middle East and the United States.

Theoretically, the course will demonstrate the interconnectedness of regional and international political conflict and change. In the process, the students will be given the opportunity to develop a deeper appreciation of the internal and external factors that contributed to the emergence of the Middle East state system as well as how they continue to influence its politics.

Central themes that we will address are:

- 1) The Emergence of the Middle East State System
- 2) The Cold War in the Middle East
- 3) The Arab-Israeli Conflict
- 4) Identity Politics and its Effects on International Relations
- 5) Ideologies: Nationalism, Secularism, & Islamism
- 6) The Pursuit of Political Reform & Democratization
- 7) Challenging the State
- 8) The Politics of the Gulf and International Economy of Oil
- 9) War & Security in the Middle East
- 10) The Middle East Since the End of the Cold War
- 11) The United States in the Middle East
- 12) Alliances, Cooperation, and Regionalism in the Middle East

Requirements

Participation & Attendance: During class meetings, the instructor will introduce the week's topic and indicate how it relates to the overall course objectives. The remainder of each class is more interactive and requires active and informed participation from the students. As such, it is imperative that students read the set texts closely to prepare for focused discussion.

Since a close reading of the material is required, attendance is mandatory. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class. You can be excused for two classes without an explanation. Given that my presentations will complement and supplement the assigned reading, you will miss a great deal if you are absent. Only reading the text will not be enough.

Attendance is also mandatory for all exams. Make-ups will only be given in emergency situations in a case-by-case basis.

Map Quiz: On **January 24**, you will be given a blank map of the region and asked to identify twenty countries in the region. For the countries you identify, you will also be asked to identify their capital city.

Mid-Term Exam: You will have an in-class mid-term examination on **March 6**.

Research Paper: On **April 3**, each student is expected to submit a 7-to-10 page (typed & double-spaced) paper to the instructor. Students are expected to undertake an in-depth examination of a particular event, dilemma, or controversy concerning the international relations of the Middle East. In the paper, students will be assessed on how they critically engage with the classroom material (assigned readings & lectures) as well as external materials (including the supplemental reading suggested in the syllabus or researched in the library). Each paper should have an extensive bibliography (books, journal articles, newspaper articles, Internet sources, etc). Papers should contain academic citations, be structured, and have a clear argument.

The topic of the paper needs to be cleared with the instructor. Each student needs to deliver a one-page (minimum) outline of his/her paper to me no later than **February 19**. The outline needs to include a title, an argument, and a preliminary bibliography. Further details on how to write this paper will be given during class.

Final Exam: The Final Exam is scheduled for Friday **May 2** between 8-10am.

Extra Credit: Students that wish to improve their grade in their course can attend Middle Eastern related campus activities (films, speakers, conferences, art exhibitions, etc) during the semester. To get credit, you must produce a 2-page response to the event. Each two-page response will be counted as 1-percent of the courses overall grade. You can only improve your grade by 5-percent overall throughout the semester.

Following Regional Events: With the increasing amount of electronic media and coverage from the Arab world, students are expected to be active participants when learning about the Middle East.

This includes following events and news coverage in a wide array of medium. So in addition to major American and British coverage of the Middle East (New York Times <http://nytimes.com>, Washington Post <http://www.washingtonpost.com>, LA Times <http://www.latimes.com/>, Christian Science Monitor <http://www.csmonitor.com/>, Guardian <http://www.guardian.co.uk/>, Times of London <http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/global>, National Public Radio <http://www.npr.org>) monitoring events from English-language sources from the region is important. These could include news (from among others) from Al-Jazeera English <http://english.aljazeera.net/English>, Egypt's Al-Ahram Weekly <http://weekly.ahram.org.eg/index.htm>, and Israel's Haaretz <http://www.haaretz.com>

Evaluation & Assessment:

This course's assessment will be distributed accordingly:

- 1) Class Attendance and Participation: 10%
- 2) Map Quiz (January 24): 10%
- 3) Mid-Term Exam (March 6): 20%
- 4) Research Paper (April 3): 30%
- 5) Final Exam (May): 30%

The research essay and exams will be assessed according to the following criteria:

- *Relevance to question;
- * Sound ordering and structuring of material;
- * Quality and clarity of written expression;
- * Effective use of evidence;
- * Demonstration of sound understanding of topic;
- * Identification of major themes and arguments.
- * Critical evaluation and judgment;
- *Range of sources used;
- *insight and originality.

A note on **Plagiarism**:

The act of taking (and/or appropriating) another person's idea/s without academically citing it as well as copying verbatim, or cutting and pasting another person's existing written work is plagiarism. In short, it is intellectual theft. All work submitted for assessment **MUST** be the product solely of the student concerned. Any breach of this principle is an act of academic fraud and will be treated as a serious offense. The core of fraud is to deceive and that deception can be practiced in several ways:

- A. Plagiarism. By this is meant the unacknowledged citing of published works, or of theses or dissertations submitted by a second person for a degree;
- B. Copying. The use of material from a source, which cannot be acknowledged;
- C. Falsification. The presentation of a set of data created by the student and presented as a result of work reported to have been carried out by the student.

The discovery of any instance of plagiarism will be referred to the university administration and result in an automatic failure of the project in question (*at least*). If you are uncertain about the definition of plagiarism, please ask the instructor before submitting work for this course. I view this offense to be extremely serious and will treat all incidents without exception or negotiation.

The Syracuse University Academic Integrity Policy holds students accountable for the integrity of the work they submit. Students should be familiar with the Policy and know that it is their responsibility to learn about instructor and general academic expectations with regard to proper citation of sources in written work. The policy also governs the integrity of work submitted in exams and assignments as well as the veracity of signatures on attendance sheets and other verifications of participation in class activities. Serious sanctions can result from academic dishonesty of any sort. For more information and the complete policy, see <http://academicintegrity.syr.edu>

Students who may need academic accommodations due to a disability are encouraged to discuss their needs with the instructor at the beginning of the semester. In order to obtain authorized accommodations, students should be registered with the Office of Disability Services (ODS), 804 University Avenue, Room 309, 315-443-4498 and have an updated accommodation letter for the instructor. Accommodations and related support services such as exam administration are not provided retroactively and must be requested in advance.

Required Texts: (Available at Orange and Schine SU Bookstore)

Louise Fawcett (ed.), *International Relations of the Middle East* (Oxford: Oxford UP, 2005)

Recommended Texts (On reserve in Bird Library):

William Cleveland, *A History of the Middle East* (Boulder: Westview Press, 2004 – 3rd Edition)

Raymond Hinnebusch, *International Politics of the Middle East* (Manchester UP, 2003)

Raymond Hinnebusch and Anoushiravan Ehteshami, *The Foreign Policies of Middle Eastern States* (Lynne Rienner, 2002).

Rashid Khalidi, *Resurrecting Empire: Western Footprints and America's Perilous Path in the Middle East* (Boston: Beacon Press, 2005)

All of the course's articles and suggested reading material is available through Blackboard. Please check your "my slice" account.

If you have any questions or wish to have additional reading, feel free to approach the instructor for suggestions.

Course Schedule

January 15: PSC 300.203/MES 300.001 Course Introduction

Topic 1: The Creation of the Middle East

January 17: Framework of Analysis

Topics:

- 1) Framework of Analysis
- 2) Historical Context and Inherited Contingents
- 3) The Shaping of the Modern Middle East

Questions:

- 1) How does the ME fit within IR theory?
- 2) How Ottoman were the pre-independent ME State colonies?

Required Reading:

Eugene Rogan, "The Emergence of the Middle East State System," in Fawcett, pgs. 17-38.

Hinnebusch, *International Politics of Middle East (IP of ME)*, pages. 1-13. (Blackboard)

Suggested Reading:

Albert Hourani, "The Ottoman Background of the Modern Middle East," in *The Emergence of the Modern Middle East*, pgs. 1-18. (Blackboard)

January 22

Questions:

- 1) Why is the ME worth of study?
- 2) How does the ME fit within IR Theory?

Required Reading:

Fred Halliday, *The Myth of Confrontation: Religion and Politics in the Middle East*, pgs. 11-41, "The Middle East in International Politics" (Blackboard)

Hinnebusch, *IP of ME*, pgs. 14-53. (Blackboard)

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://w3fp.arizona.edu/mesassoc/Bulletin/Pres%20Addresses/Anderson.htm>
(Blackboard)

Suggested Reading:

William Cleveland, *A History of the Modern Middle East*, pgs. 37-56, 119-132-149-170.
(Blackboard)

Topic 2: Independence, The Cold War, and Struggle for the Arab World

Questions & Topics:

- 1) Did Independence eliminate dependence?
- 2) Was a non-aligned movement even possible?
- 3) Pan-Arabism and its aspirations
- 4) An Arab System – Not a Middle Eastern System.

January 24 & 29: The affect of the Cold War and Inter-Arab competition on political development.

MAP QUIZ ON January 24

Required Reading:

Peter Sluggett, "The Cold War in the Middle East," in Fawcett, pgs. 41-56.

Mark Gasiorowski, "The CIA Looks Back at the 1953 Coup," *Middle East Report*, Fall 2000.
(Blackboard)

Suggested Reading:

David Lesch, *The Middle East and the United States*, TBD (Blackboard)

Topic 3: The Arab-Israeli Conflict and its Evolution

January 31

Topics:

- 1) The Role of the US, UN, and UK in the Formation of Israel
- 2) The Role of Neighboring Arab Counties in the conflict
- 3) Israel-Arab History between 1948-1967
- 4) The Effect of the Six-Day War in 1967

Questions:

- 1) How did the context of international politics encourage the establishment of Israel?
- 2) What role did Israel's establishment lead to the Arab Nationalism and Independence?
- 3) How did the 1967 war contribute to a radicalization of the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO)?

Required Reading:

Charles Smith, "The Arab-Israeli Conflict," in Fawcett, pgs. 217-240.

Suggested Reading:

Ray Hinnebusch, *IP of ME*, pgs. 154-175. (Blackboard)

Ian Pappé, *A History of Modern Palestine: One Land, Two Peoples*, pgs. 123-136. (Blackboard)

Simha Flapan, *The Birth of Israel: Myths and Realities* pgs. 201-233. (Blackboard)

Rashid Khalidi, *Resurrecting Empire*, Chapter 4, "The United States and Palestine," pgs. 118-151. (Blackboard)

Walid Khalidi, "Why Did the Palestinians Leave? Revisited," *Journal of Palestine Studies* 34: 2 (Winter 2005) (Blackboard)

February 5

Topics:

- 1) The Role of the US in Middle East Politics after 1973
- 2) Israel-Arab History 1973-present

Question:

- 1) How did the 1973 war and subsequent Egyptian-Israeli peace transform the Arab Regional System into a Middle Eastern System?

Required Reading:

Ray Hinnebusch, *IP of ME*, pgs. 175-203. (Blackboard)

February 7

Topics:

- 1) The Oslo Agreement: Autonomy, Statehood, or Colonization?
- 2) Camp David II: Clinton, Arafat, and Barak.
- 3) The Road-Map

Questions:

- 1) Has the Peace Process Failed?
- 2) Is the US a dishonest broker?
- 3) What is the effect on the region where the Arab-Israeli conflict persists?

Required Reading:

Avi Shlaim, "The Rise and Fall of the Oslo Peace Process," in Fawcett, pgs. 242-261.

Hussein Agha and Robert Malley, "Camp David: The Tragedy of Errors," *The New York Review of Books*, August 9, 2001. <http://www.nybooks.com/articles/14380> (Blackboard)

Milton Viorst, "The Road Map to Nowhere," *The Washington Quarterly* 26:3 (Summer 2003), pgs. 177-190. (Blackboard)

Suggested Reading:

William Quandt, "Clinton and the Arab-Israeli Conflict," *Journal of Palestine Studies* 30:2 (Winter 2001), pgs. 27-40. (Blackboard)

Clayton Swisher, *The Truth About Camp David* (Nation Books, 2004). (Library Reserve)

Dennis Ross, *The Missing Peace: The Inside Story of the Fight for Middle East Peace* (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2005). (Library Reserve)

Topic 4: The Politics of Identity and its Effect on the Middle East

February 12

Topics:

- 1) The role of history and how it conditions possibilities
- 2) Does state nationalism always trump ethnic nationalism?

Questions:

- 1) What is Identity and Why Does it Matter?
- 2) Does sharing a religion and language indicate sameness?

Required Readings:

Hinnebusch, "The Politics of Identity in Middle East Relations," in Fawcett, pgs. 151-171

Sami Zubaida, "The Fragments Imagine the Nation: The Case of Iraq" *International Journal of Middle Eastern Studies* (34: 2 May 2002): 205-215. (Blackboard)

Suggested Reading:

Shibley Telhami and Michael Barnett, *Identity and Foreign Policy in the Middle East* (Ithaca: Cornell UP, 2002): pgs. 1-57 (Blackboard)

Ray Hinnebusch and Anoushiravan Etheshami (eds.) *The Foreign Policies of Middle Eastern States* (Boulder: Lynne Rienner, 2002): pgs. 29-53. (Blackboard)

February 14

Topics:

- 1) Ideologies in the Middle East
- 2) The Difference between the Arab World and Arab States
- 3) A Middle Eastern Political System with an Arab Core

Questions

- 1) How are ideologies produced?
- 2) Is the Middle East Exceptional in comparison to other regions?
- 3) Is there room in the Middle East for Turkey, Israel, and Iran?

Required Reading:

Israel Gershoni, "Rethinking the Formation of Arab Nationalism in the Middle East 1920-1945: Old and New Narratives," in Gershoni & Jankowski (ed.) *Rethinking Nationalism in the Arab Middle East* (New York: Columbia University, 1997): pgs. 3-25 (Blackboard)

Suggested Reading:

Sami Zubaida, *Islam, The People, and the State* (I.B. Tauris, 1993) pgs. 38-63. (Blackboard)

Rashid Khalidi (ed.) *The Origins of Arab Nationalism* (New York: Columbia UP): Introduction and Chapter 1. (Blackboard)

Aziz al-Azmeh, "Nationalism and the Arabs," *Arab Studies Quarterly* 17:1-2 (winter-spring 1995): pgs. 1-17. (Blackboard)

Fouad Ajami, "The End of Arab Nationalism," *The New Republic* 23 (August 12, 1991). (Blackboard)

Topic 5: Governance in the Middle East: Authoritarianism, Political Reform, Democratization, and US Pressure

February 19 (Paper Proposals are Due)

Topics:

- 1) The Persistence and Adaptation of Authoritarianism in the Arab world
- 2) The Differences between Iran, Turkey, and Israel vs. the Arab world
- 3) Endless Political Reform and Doses of Democracy

Questions:

- 1) What is the Relationship between Economic and Political Reform?
- 2) Why is authoritarianism so resilient in the Middle East?

Required Reading:

Augustus Richard Norton, "The Puzzle of Political Reform in the Middle East," in Fawcett, pgs. 131-148.

Steven Heydemann, "Upgrading Authoritarianism in the Arab World," Brookings Paper, October 2007. Available at: <http://www.brookings.edu/papers/2007/10arabworld.aspx> (Blackboard)

Suggested Reading:

John Waterbury, "Democracy without Democrats?: in Ghassan Salame (ed.) *Democracy without Democrats: Renewal of Politics in the Muslim World* (London: I.B. Tauris, 1994): pgs. 23-47. (Blackboard)

Fouad Ajami, "The Autumn of the Autocrats," *Foreign Affairs* (May/June 2005) <http://www.foreignaffairs.org/20050501faessay84304/fouad-ajami/the-autumn-of-the-autocrats.html> (Blackboard)

February 21

Topics:

- 1) The State and Culture
- 2) Middle Eastern Exceptionalism?
- 3) The Phenomenon of Hereditary Succession in Arab Republics

Questions:

- 1) Is the Arab world inhospitable to Democracy?
- 2) Is it Arab or Muslim problem?
- 3) Is Hereditary Succession Peculiar to Arab Culture?
- 4) Are different succession processes producing the same end?
- 5) How does the US treat inherited successions?

Required Reading:

Alfred Stepan and Robertson, "An Arab more than Muslim Electoral Gap," *Journal of Democracy*, 14:1 (July 2003). (Blackboard)

Steven Fish, "Islam and Authoritarianism," *World Politics* 55 (October 2002), pgs. 4-37. (Blackboard)

"Political Succession in the Arab World" issue, *Middle East Policy*, September 2002. Articles by Shehata, Cantori, Jacoby, and Carapico. (Blackboard)

“Mubarak’s Son met with Cheney, Others,” *Washington Post*, May 16, 2006
<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/05/15/AR2006051501534.html>
(Blackboard)

Suggested Reading

Lisa Wedeen, “Seeing like a Citizen, Acting like a State, Exemplary Events from Unified Yemen,” *Society for Comparative Study of Society and History* (2003): pgs. 680-713.
(Blackboard)

Lisa Wedeen, *Ambiguities of Domination: Power, Rhetoric, and Symbols in Contemporary Syria* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1999): pgs. 1-66 (Blackboard)

Jason Brownlee, “A New Generation of Autocracy in Egypt,” *Brown Journal of World Affairs*, Volume XIV, issue 1 (Fall/Winter 2007) (Blackboard)

Volker Perthes, “The Political Economy of Syrian Succession” *Survival* Volume 43, Issue 1, January 2001. (Blackboard)

February 26

Topics

- 1) US pressure and its effect on Middle Eastern Regime

Questions:

- 1) Is US support for democracy contributing to better governance?

Required Reading:

Robert Vitalis, “The Democratization Industry of the New Interventionism,” *Middle East Report* (March-June 1994) (Blackboard)

George W. Bush, “Remarks By the President at the 20th Anniversary of the National Endowment for Democracy,” Washington, DC.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2003/11/20031106-3.html> (Blackboard)

Lisa Anderson, “Arab Democracy: Dismal Prospects,” *World Policy Journal*, 2001
<http://www.worldpolicy.org/journal/anderson.html> (Blackboard)

Suggested Reading:

F. Gregory Gause, “Can Democracy Stop Terrorism?” *Foreign Affairs* (September/October 2005) <http://www.foreignaffairs.org/20050901faessay84506/f-gregory-gause-iii/can-democracy-stop-terrorism.html> (Blackboard)

Topic 6: Opposition in the Middle East: The Case of Egypt

February 28

Topics:

- 1) Demonstrations & Repression
- 2) Authoritarian By-products: Secular and Islamist Opposition
- 3) The Role of the US Pressure and Its effect on Middle East Opposition:

Questions:

- 1) Can Islamists be Democrats?
- 2) Can authoritarianism lead to democratic opposition?
- 3) Why is secular opposition so weak?
- 4) When US support hurts more than helps?

Required Reading:

Mona El-Ghobasy, "Egypt Looks Ahead to Portentous Year" *Middle East Report Online* February 2, 2005: <http://www.merip.org/mero/mero020205.html> (Blackboard)

Samer Shehata & Joshua Stacher, "The Brotherhood Goes to Parliament," *Middle East Report* (Fall 2006): http://www.merip.org/mer/mer240/shehata_stacher.html (Blackboard)

Suggested Reading:

Asef Bayat, "The 'Street' and the Politics of Dissent in the Arab World," *Middle East Report* (Spring 2003): http://www.merip.org/mer/mer226/226_bayat.html (Blackboard)

Joshua Stacher, "Parties Over: The Demise of Egypt's Opposition Parties" *The British Journal of Middle Eastern Studies* (November 2004, Vol 31, No 2, pgs. 215-233 (Blackboard)

REVIEW & EXAM

March 4: Revision and Review for Exam

March 6: In-class Mid-Term Exam

Spring Break – March 8-16

Topic 7: The Politics of the Gulf & The Politics of Oil

March 18

Topics:

- 1) Governance & Society
- 2) Elite politics in the Gulf

Questions:

- 1) Are Gulf monarchies governed differently than Arab republics and constitutional monarchies?

Required Reading:

Greg Gause, "The International Politics of the Gulf," in Fawcett, pgs. 263-280.

Suggested Reading:

Michael Herb, *All in the Family: Absolutism, Revolution, and Democratic Prospects in Middle Eastern Monarchies* (SUNY Press, 1999), pgs. 1-50 (Blackboard)

March 20

Topics:

- 1) Rentier States
- 2) The role of oil in identity and political development
- 3) The US and political development in the Gulf.

Questions:

- 1) Does oil disadvantage development?
- 2) What role do external forces have on the oil states?

Required Reading:

Hazem Behlawi, "The Rentier State in the Arab World," in *The Arab State*, ed. Giacomo Luciano (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1990): pgs. 85-98. (Blackboard)

Suggested Reading:

Michael Ross, "Does Oil Hinder Democracy?" *World Politics* 53 (April 2001): pgs. 325-361 (Blackboard)

March 25

Topics:

- 1) Rentier State Continued
- 2) International Political Economy of the Middle East

Required Reading:

Giacomo Luciani, "Oil and Political Economy in the International Relations of the Middle East," in Fawcett, pgs. 79-102.

Robert Vitalis, "Black Gold, White Crude: An Essay on American Exceptionalism, Hierarchy, and Hegemony in the Gulf," *Diplomatic History*, 26, 2 (Spring 2002), pp. 185-213. (Blackboard)

Suggested Reading:

William Cleveland, *A History of the Modern Middle East*, pgs. 451-517. (Blackboard)

Topic 8: War, Revolution, & Security in the Middle East

March 27

Topics:

- 1) The Iranian Revolution
- 2) The Return of Political Islam
- 3) Governance in Iran

Questions:

- 1) Why was the Islamic Revolution so Anti-Western?
- 2) Why did the clergy win?
- 3) What does the Islamic Republic say about Political Islam?

Required Reading:

Nikki Keddie, *Modern Iran: Roots and Results of the Revolution* (New Haven: Yale UP, 2006): pgs. 214-239. (Blackboard)

Cleveland, *A History of the Modern Middle East*, Section on Iranian Revolution (Blackboard).

April 1

Topics:

- 1) Civil War in Lebanon 1975-1989
- 2) The role of the US and Israel in the war

Questions:

- 1) Why did Lebanon of the Middle East implode?
- 2) How did the region's politics contribute to Lebanon's civil war?
- 3) Was the resolution of the conflict successful?

Required Reading:

Martha Menger and Julie Denney, "Lebanon's Fifteen-Year War," *Middle East Report* (January-February 1990): 23-25. (Blackboard)

Michael Hudson, "Lebanon after Ta'if" Another reform opportunity lost?" *Arab Studies Quarterly* 21:1 (Winter 1999): 27-41. (Blackboard)

Augustus Richard Norton, "Lebanon's Conundrum," *Arab Studies Quarterly* 21:1 (Winter 1999): 42-53. (Blackboard)

April 3

Topics:

- 1) Saddam's Iraq
- 2) The Iran-Iraq War
- 3) The Invasion of Kuwait
- 4) Sanctions

Questions:

- 1) How did Saddam stay in power?
- 2) What were the causes of the Iran-Iraq War?
- 3) How did the US contribute to protracting that war?
- 4) Why did Saddam invade Kuwait?
- 5) Did sanctions work against Saddam's regime?

Required Reading:

Per Oskar Klevnas, "Sanctions and the 'Moral Case' for War," *Middle East Report* (March 4, 2003). Available at: <http://www.merip.org/mero/mero030403.html> (Blackboard)

Topic 9: The Middle East After the Cold War

April 8

Topics:

- 1) Economic Reform in Middle Eastern States
- 2) The Middle East and Global Market
- 3) Globalization and the challenge of development

Questions:

- 1) What is globalization?
- 2) What are the advantages and disadvantages of globalization in the Middle East?
- 3) Why does the Middle East continue to suffer from economic stagnation and poverty?
- 4) Is Globalization a new name for imperialism?
- 5) What are the domestic implications of globalization on the Middle East?

Required Reading:

Clement M. Henry and Robert Springborg, *Globalization and the Politics of Development in the Middle East* (Cambridge: Cambridge UP): pgs. 1-29. (Blackboard)

Bahgat Korany, "The Middle East Since the Cold War: Torn Between Geopolitics and Geo-economics," in Fawcett (ed.), pgs. 59-75.

Suggested Reading:

Clement H. Moore, "The Clash of Globalisations in the Middle East," in Fawcett (ed.), pgs. 105-127.

Topic 10: The US in the Middle East

April 10

Topics:

- 1) The role of the US as the world's lone superpower
- 2) The role of ideas in foreign policy creation
- 3) The US's interests in the region

Questions:

- 1) Is the US a productive or repressive agent in the Middle East?
- 2) Does the American political establishment really want democracy in the Middle East?
- 3) Is Stability the answer?
- 4) Why do "they" hate "us"?

Required Reading:

Michael Hudson, "The United States in the Middle East," in Fawcett (ed.), pgs. 283-305.

Robert Blecher, "'Free People Will Set the Course of History': Intellectuals, Democracy, and American Empire," *Middle East Report* (March 2003). Available at:

http://www.merip.org/mero/interventions/blecher_interv.html (Blackboard)

Suggested Reading:

Rashid Khalidi, *Resurrecting Empire: Western Footprints and America's Perilous Path in the Middle East*, pgs. 1-37. (Blackboard)

W. Patrick Lang, "Drinking the Kool-Aid," *Middle East Policy*, vol. XI, no. 2 (Summer 2004). (Blackboard)

April 15

Topics:

- 1) The influence of lobbies on US policy formation towards the region
- 2) Balancing Israel against oil, Palestine, and authoritarianism
- 3) Explaining double-standards in US Foreign Policy in the Middle East

Questions:

- 1) Is the Israeli lobby responsible for US policy in the Middle East?
- 2) Why a special relationship with Israel?
- 3) What are the benefits and costs of the US-Israeli relation in the region?

Required Reading:

John Mearsheimer and Stephen Walt, "The Israeli Lobby and US Foreign Policy,"

<http://ksgnotes1.harvard.edu/Research/wpaper.nsf/rwp/RWP06-011> (Blackboard)

Michael Massing, "The Storm over the Israel Lobby," *New York Review of Books*, Volume 53, number 10 (June 8, 2006): Available at: <http://www.nybooks.com/articles/19062>

(Blackboard)

April 17

Topics:

- 1) A close examination of the US policy of opposing 'one-man, one-vote, one-time'.
- 2) The contradiction between wanting stability and democracy in the Middle East

Questions:

- 1) Why the US dislikes Islamists?
- 2) Are Islamists hostile to US interests in the region?
- 3) Are Islamists group antithetical to democratization in the region?

Required Reading:

Timothy Mitchell, "McJihad: Islam in the US Global Order," *Social Text* Vol. 73: No 4 (Winter 2002): pgs. 1-18. (Blackboard)

Suggested Reading:

Fawaz Gerges, *American and Political Islam: Clash of Civilizations or Clash of Interests?* (Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 1999), chapters 1 & 2 pgs. 1-36. (Blackboard)

Nathan Brown, Amr Hamzawy, and Marina Ottaway, "Islamist Movements and the Democratic Process in the Arab World: Exploring the Gray Zones," Carnegie Paper Number 67, March 2006. Available at:

<http://www.carnegieendowment.org/files/CP67.Brown.FINAL.pdf> (Blackboard)

Topic 11: Alliances, Co-operation, and Regionalism

April 22

Topics:

- 1) An examination of Arab political and economic co-operation
- 2) Reviewing advancing economic co-operation between Jordan and Israel and Egypt and Israel (particularly Qualified Industrial Zones or QIZs)
- 3) The role of identity in slowing cooperation.

Questions:

- 1) If they are all Arab, why not an Arab Union?
- 2) Is regional cooperation – in terms of economic free zones, security cooperation or ideological agreement -- even possible at this stage?

Required Reading:

Louise Fawcett, "Alliance, Co-operation, and Regionalism," in Fawcett (ed.), pgs. 173-195.

Suggested Reading:

Hinnebusch and Etheshami, *Foreign Policies of Middle Eastern States* (Boulder: Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2002): pgs. 335-350. (Blackboard)

April 25

Topics:

- 1) An examination of the importance of natural resources as a base of potential economic and security cooperation
- 2) Keeping regional states dependent on US security

Questions:

- 1) Can OPEC ever use the 'oil weapon' again?
- 2) Can the 'oil weapon' work?

Required Reading:

Michael Hudson, "Arab Integration: An Overview," in Hudson (ed.), *Middle East Dilemma: The Politics and Economics of Arab Integration* (New York: Columbia UP, 1999): Chapter 1. (Blackboard)

Suggested Reading:

Raad Al-Kadiri and Fareed Mohamedi, "World Oil Markets and the Invasion of Iraq," *Middle East Report*(Summer 2003): Available at:

http://www.merip.org/mer/mer227/227_alkadiri_mohamed.html (Blackboard)

April 29: Review and Revision for Final Exam

May 2: The Exam is scheduled between 8-10am.