

IR 603
MIDDLE EAST IN WORLD AFFAIRS

Middle East Technical University
Department of International Relations
Fall 2005
Instructor: Dr. Meliha Benli Altunışık
Office Hours: Wed. 13:30-15:30
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Course Description

This seminar is designed primarily for Ph.D. students who concentrate on Middle Eastern studies as one of their core areas. Therefore, it covers range of issues related to the Middle East politics. One underlying theme throughout the course will be to identify different approaches to the topics at hand. The course, indeed, starts with a general discussion on approaches to the Middle East studies. This focus on theoretical perspectives will also be kept in the discussions of more specific topics listed in the syllabus.

This course requires background information on the politics, economics, and international relations of the Middle East. Therefore, the students are urged to refresh their memories by relying some general books on the Middle East, such as:

William Cleveland, *A History of the Modern Middle East*
Roger Owen, *State, Power and Politics in the Making of the Modern Middle East*
James A. Bill and Carl Leiden, *Politics in the Middle East*

Requirements:

The major seminar requirement is an original research paper due not later than the scheduled final examination period. Incomplete will be given ONLY in the most compelling circumstances requiring exceptional hardship as the only valid reason. The paper can deal with any of the issues discussed in the seminar. However, topics must be specific in their focus. At the Ph.D. level it would be superfluous to set a minimal page length, but the body of the papers should not exceed 5,000 words. No later than the sixth class meeting, each student must submit a statement of his/her research topic, along with a bibliography of scholarly references. Students are also expected to give a 'work in progress' report (20-minute presentation and a 4-6-page written overview) on their topics before the end of the semester. All submissions are to be in typescript, double-spaced, carefully proofread and should conform to accepted scholarly standards. (The basic guide is the Chicago Style Manual)

In addition to the writing of the research paper, each seminar participant will make a presentation on assigned readings for that particular week summarizing the salient points of the readings. This presentation is expected to be an analytical summary and critical evaluation of the readings. The presentation will be no more than twenty or thirty minutes in length, to be followed by questions and discussion.

Finally, students must be full participants, committed to doing readings and contributing to class discussions each week.

Thus, the course grading will be distributed as follows:

Topic statement and 'work-in-progress presentation'	15%
Paper	45%
Presentation	30%
Participation	10%

Schedule of Topics for Discussion and Readings

Week 1: Introduction

Week 2: Approaches to the Study of the Middle East

*Edward Said, *Orientalism* (NY: Penguin, 1995).

*Hisham Sharabi (Ed) *Theory, Politics and the Arab World: Critical Responses* (NY: Routledge, 1990) Ch. 1.

*Lisa Anderson, 'Politics in the Middle East: Opportunities and Limits in the Quest for Theory,' in Mark Tessler (Ed) *Area Studies and Social Science: Strategies for Understanding Middle East Politics* (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1999).

*Martin Kramer, *Ivory Towers on Sand: The Failure of Middle Eastern Studies in America* (Washington, DC: Washington Institute of Near East Policy, 2001).

*Zachary Lockman, *Contending Visions of the Middle East* (UK: Cambridge University Press, 2004)

Week 3: Issues of State Formation

*Simon Bromley, *Rethinking Middle East Politics* (Austin, TX: University of Texas Press, 1994) Chs. 2-4.

*Philip S. Khoury and Joseph Kostiner (eds.) *Tribes and State Formation in the Middle East* (Berkeley, LA: University of California Press, 1990) Introduction and Conclusion.

*Nazih Ayubi, *Over-Stating the Arab State* (London: I.B.Tauris, 1995) Ch.1, 4, 8.

*Iliya Harik, 'The Origins of the Arab State System' in G. Luciani (ed) *The Arab State* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1990)

*L. Anderson, 'The State in the Middle East and North Africa' *Comparative Politics*, vol. 20, no. 1 (October 1987), pp.1-18.

*L. Anderson, 'Absolutism and the Resilience of Monarchy in the Middle East,' *Political Science Quarterly*, vol. 106, no. 1 (Spring 1991).

Week 4: Nationalism in the Middle East

*James Jankowski and Israel Gershoni (Eds.) *Rethinking Nationalism in the Arab Middle East* (Columbia, NY: Columbia University Press, 1997) Ch. 1.

*Fred Halliday, *Nation and Religion in the Middle East* (Colorado: Lynne Rienner, 2000), Part I, Ch. 2.

*Fouad Ajami, 'The End of Pan-Arabism,' *Foreign Affairs*, vol. 57, Winter 1978-79.

*M. Hudson, 'Arab integration: An Overview,' in M. Hudson (ed) *Middle East Dilemma* (Tauris and co. Ltd, 1999), Ch. 1

Week 5: Political Economy

- *Alan Richards and John Waterbury, *A Political Economy of the Middle East*, (Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 1990), Chs. 2,3,10,11.
- *Hamza Beblawi and Guicomo Luciani (eds.) *The Rentier State* (NY: Croom Helm, 1987), Chs. 2-4.
- *Rex Brynen, Bahgat Korany and Paul Noble (eds.) *Political Liberalization & Democratization in the Arab World: Volume 1, Theoretical Perspectives* (Boulder: Lynne Rienner Publishers, 1995), Ch. 11
- or
- Giacomo Luciani, "The Oil Rent, the Fiscal Crisis of the State and Democratization," in Ghassan Salame, (ed.) *Democracy without Democrats: The Renewal of Politics in the Muslim World* (London: I. B. Tauris, 1994) Ch. 5.
- *Kiren Aziz Chaudhry, *The Price of Wealth* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1997), Ch. 1 and 8.
- *Gwen Ohrulik, "Rentier Wealth, Unruly Law, and the Rise of Opposition: The Political Economy of Oil states" *Comparative Politics*, April 1999.

Week 6: Issues in Economic Restructuring

- *Iliya Harik and Denis Sullivan (eds.) *Privatization and Liberalization in the Middle East*, (Indiana: Indiana University Press, 1992), Intro, skim the rest.
- * 'Reform or Reaction? Dilemmas of Economic Development in the Middle East', *Middle East Report*, No. 210, Spring 1999.
- *Patrick Clawson, 'What's so good about Stability?' in Henri Barkey (ed) *The Politics of Economic Reform in the Middle East* (NY: St.Martin's Press, 1992), Ch.9.
- *C. M. Henry and R. Springborg, *Globalization and the Politics of Development in the Middle East* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2001), Ch. 1.

Week 7: Political Islam

- *Fred Halliday, *Islam and the Myth of Confrontation: Religion and Politics in the Middle East* (London: I.B. Tauris, 1996), Chapter 1.
- *Gudrun Kramer, "Islam and Pluralism," in , Augustus Richard Norton, (ed.) *Civil Society in the Middle East*, vol. 1 (Leiden: E.J. Brill, 1994), pp. 113-128.
- *Ahmad Moussalli, 'Modern Islamic Fundamentalist Discourses on Civil Society, Pluralism and Democracy,' in. 79-119.
- *Nazih Ayubi, *Political Islam* (London: Routledge, 1991) Ch. 1
- *Lisa Anderson, 'Fulfilling Prophecies: State Policy and Islamist Radicalism' in John L. Esposito (ed) *Political Islam: Radicalism or Reform?* Boulder: Lynne Rienner Publishers, 1997.
- *Olivier Roy, *The Failure of Political Islam*, translated by Carol Volk, London: I.B. Tauris, 1994.

Week 8: Issues in Democratization

*Rex Brynen, et. al. (eds.) *Political Liberalization and Democratization in the Arab World*, Vol. 1 (Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner, 1995) Chs.1, 3, 4, 6.

*Ghassan Salame (ed.) *Democracy without Democrats* (London: I.B. Tauris, 1994) Chs. 1, 2.

*Augustus Richard Norton (ed.) *Civil Society in the Middle East*, vol. I (Leiden: E. J. Brill, 1995), Introduction.

*Jill Crystal, 'Authoritarianism and Its Adversaries in the Arab World,' *World Politics* 46, no. 2 (January 1994): 262-289.

*Yahya Sadowski, 'The New Orientalism and the Democracy Debate,' *Middle East Report*, no.183 (July-August 1993): 14-21 & 40.

*Broader Middle East Initiative

Week 9: Regional and International Politics

*Fawaz A. Gerges, 'The Study of Middle East International Relations: A Critique' *British Journal of Middle Eastern Studies*, Vol. 18, No. 2, 1991.

*L. Carl Brown, *International Politics and the Middle East* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1984) Part 3 and Conclusion.

*Michael Barnett, *Dialogues in Arab Politics* (NY: Columbia University Press, 1998) Chs. 1-2 and 7-8.

*Bahgat Korany, 'International Relations Theory: Contributions from Research in the Middle East' in Mark Tessler (ed) *Area Studies and Social Science*, Indiana: Indiana University Press, 1999.

*Fred Gause III, 'Sovereignty, Statecraft and Stability in the Middle East,' *Journal of International Affairs*, Winter 1992, Vol. 45, Issue 2.

Week 10: Foreign Policy of the Middle East States

*S. Telhami and M. Barnett (eds) *Identity and Foreign Policy in the Middle East* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2002) Introduction (Telhami and Barnett) and Conclusion (Seideman).

*R. Hinnebusch and A. Ehteshami (eds) *The Foreign Policies of the Middle East States* (Boulder: Lynne Rienner, 2002) Introduction (Hinnebusch) and Conclusion (Ehteshami).

*Marc Lynch, *State Interests and Public Spheres*, NY: Columbia University Press, 1999, 1-2 and 7-9.

*Stephan Walt, *The Origin of Alliances*, (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1987), Intro. and Conclusion.

*Malik Mufti, *Sovereign Creations* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1996), Intro.

*Laurie Brand, 'Economics and Shifting Alliances: Jordan's Relations with Syria and Iraq, 1975-81', *IJMES*, Vol. 26, (1994).

Week 11: Gender Politics

*Afsaneh Najmabandi, 'Hazards of Modernity and Morality: Women, State and Ideology in Contemporary Iran', in A. Hourani, *et.al.*(eds.) *The Modern Middle East* (London: I. B. Tauris, 1993).

*Fatma Mernissi, *Beyond the Veil: Male-Female Dynamics in Modern Muslim Society*, (Indiana: Indiana University Press, 1985) Revised ed.

*'Gender and Citizenship in the Middle East', *Middle East Report*, Vol. 198, January-March 1996.

*Deniz Kandiyoti (Ed) *Gendering the Middle East* (London: I.B. Tauris, 1996), Ch. 1.

Week 12: Minorities: Ethnic and Religious

*Power and Politics of Difference: Minorities in the Middle East, *Middle East Report*, Summer 1996, No. 200.

*Ofra Bengio and Gabriel Ben-Dor (eds) *Minorities and the State in the Arab World* (Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner Publishers, 1999), Introduction and Conclusion and skim the rest.

Week 13. Work in Progress Presentations and Conclusions