

Course Name	Course Code	Academic Semester	T+U (hours per week)	Local Credit	ECTS	
History, Politics and Society in the Middle East	PSIR 460	1	3 + 0	3	6	

Academic Department	Department of Political Science and International Relations
Prerequisites	None
Type & Level of Course Unit	Elective, Undergraduate
Language of Instruction	English
Academic Year and Semester	2024-2025 Spring
Meeting Time and Place	On Wednesdays: FEAS 203, at: 13.30-16.30
Course Objectives	 This course aims to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the Middle East by exploring its history, politics, and society. The objectives of the course are as follows: 1. To develop foundational knowledge of the geographical, cultural, and social features of the Middle East. 2. To introduce theoretical frameworks for analyzing the political and societal dynamics of the region. 3. To examine the historical evolution of the Middle East, focusing on the end of empires and the emergence of the modern state system. 4. To analyze the role of global and regional politics in shaping the Middle East during and after the Cold War. 5. To investigate key issues such as identity, nationalism, Islam, oil politics, and political economy to understand contemporary Middle East politics and society. 6. To explore deep-rooted struggles and contemporary security problems, fostering analytical skills for evaluating ongoing conflicts in the region.
Course Description	The course introduces Middle East politics, history and society. It can be divided into three broad topics including descriptive geographical knowledge on region and theoretical background of analysis, history and politics of the Middle East; the issues concerning modern Middle East politics; analysis of deep-rooted struggles and contemporary security problems in the Middle East. After touching upon Middle East geography, culture and some descriptive features of the region, various approaches employed by international relations theories on issues of the region will be studied. The course proceeds by end of empires and emergence of modern state system in the Middle East. Global and regional politics during and after cold war in the Middle East will be discussed later. The much-debated issues concerning Middle East such as identity, nationalism, Islam, oil politics and political economy will be examined to have insight on current politics and society of the region. Last part of the course encompasses the elaboration of deep-rooted and relatively new security problems.
Learning Outcomes	Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to: 1. CLO1: Recognize physical setting and descriptive geographical features of the Middle East. (PLO1/PY1: Basic concepts and theories, PLO2/PY2: Research methods)



	 CLO2: Describe the Middle East politics and society by basic approaches proposed by international relations theory. (PLO1/PY1: Basic concepts and theories, PLO2/PY2: Research methods, PLO3/PY3: Be Updated, PLO4/PY4: Interdisciplinary Study, PLO5/PY5: Independent Studying). CLO3: Recognize the historical and societal foundation of state system in the Middle East. (PLO1/PY1: Basic concepts and theories, PLO4/PY4: Interdisciplinary Study, PLO5/PY5: Independent Studying, PLO8/PY8: Be able to construct intercultural relations). CLO4: Identify underlying sources of identity and nationalism on Middle East politics (PLO1/PY1: Basic concepts and theories, PLO4/PY4: Interdisciplinary Study, PLO5/PY5: Independent Studying, PLO8/PY8: Be able to construct intercultural relations) CLO5: Determine the influence of Islam on the society and politics of Middle East. (PLO1/PY1: Basic concepts and theories, PLO4/PY4: Interdisciplinary Study, PLO5/PY5: Independent Studying, PLO8/PY8: Be able to construct intercultural relations) CLO5: Determine the influence of Islam on the society and politics of Middle East. (PLO1/PY1: Basic concepts and theories, PLO4/PY4: Interdisciplinary Study, PLO5/PY5: Independent Studying, PLO8/PY8: Be able to construct intercultural relations) CLO6: Understand the economical underpinnings of the Middle East politics. (PLO1/PY1: Basic concepts and theories, PLO4/PY4: Interdisciplinary Study, PLO5/PY5: Independent Studying). CLO7: Recognize the foundations of Arab-Israeli conflict (PLO1/PY1: Basic concepts and theories, PLO4/PY4: Interdisciplinary Study, PLO5/PY5: Independent Studying) CLO8: Analyze the current security problems of the Middle East by identifying political, social, historical and geopolitical grounds. (PLO1/PY1: Basic concepts and theories, PLO2/PY2: Research Methods, PLO3/PY3: Be updated, PLO4/PY4: Interdisciplinary Study, PLO5/PY5: Independent Studying, PLO6/PY6 Taking Responsibility, PL
Course Rules	A minimum attendance of 70% is required for this course. Students are expected to focus solely on course-related activities during class sessions. Active participation will positively contribute to the final grade.
Planned Learning Activities and Teaching Methods	Lecture Discussion based lecture Case study

INSTRUCTOR

Name of Lecturer	Prof.Dr. Cenker Korhan DEMİR			
Office	FEAS 304/C			
Office Hours	Tuesdays: 14.00-16.00			
e-mail	ckorhan.demir@hku.edu.tr			
Teaching Assistant(s)				
e-mail				



WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Weeks	Topics	Assignments	Learning Outcomes CLO1	
1.	Course Overview: an Introduction Where is the Middle East? Descriptive geography The Middle East and International Relations	Fawcett (ed.) (2016), pp.1-17.		
2.	International Relations Theory and the Middle East	Fawcett (ed.) (2016), Ch.1, pp.21-38. Halliday (2005), Ch.1, pp.21-40.	CLO2	
3.	Emergence of Modern State System in the Middle East End of empires State formation and World War	Fawcett (ed.) (2016), Ch.2, pp.39-61. Halliday (2005), Ch.3, pp.77-96.	CLO3	
4.	The Cold War in the Middle East Oil in the Middle East The clash of ideologies Global conflict, regional upheavals	Fawcett (ed.) (2016), Ch.3, pp.62-78. Halliday (2005), Ch.4, pp.97-129.	CLO3, CLO4	
5.	The Middle East after the Cold War The multilayered (in)security dilemma The greater west Asian crisis	Fawcett (ed.) (2016), Ch.4, pp.79-104. Halliday (2005), Ch.3, pp.130-166.	CLO3, CLO4	
6.	Identity, Nationalism, and Islam The politics of identity Arab nationalism	Fawcett (ed.) (2016), Ch.7, pp.155-175.	CLO3, CLO4, CLO5	
7.	Identity, Nationalism, and Islam From Umma to Nation State The Iranian Revolution	Fawcett (ed.) (2016), Ch.8, pp.176-195. Kamrava (2011), Ch.5, pp.140-169.	CLO3, CLO4, CLO5	
8.	MIDTERM EXAM	MIDTERM EXAM	EXAM	
9.	Political Economy in the Middle East Oil and political economy International political economy: regional and global	Fawcett (ed.) (2016), Ch.8, pp.105-130. Halliday (2005), Ch.9, pp.261-302.	CLO3, CLO6	
10.	Arab-Israeli Conflict From the creation of Israel to the 1967 War Camp David agreement Oslo Peace process	Fawcett (ed.) (2016), Ch.12-13, pp.259- 303.	CLO4, CLO5, CLO7	
11.	Wars in The Gulf and Beyond The Iran-Iraq War Invasion of Kuwait and Gulf War The U.S. Invasion and Occupation of Iraq	Fawcett (ed.) (2016), Ch.14, pp.304-323. Kamrava (2011), Ch.6, pp.170-211.	CLO4, CLO5, CLO6, CLO8	
12.	The Arab Spring and Repercussions The Arab spring	Fawcett (ed.) (2016), Ch.15, pp.324-355.	CLO4, CLO5, CLO6,CLO8	
13.	Country Analysis	Student presentations	CLO3, CLO4, CLO5, CLO6,	



			CLO8
14.	Country Analysis	Student presentations	CLO3, CLO4, CLO5, CLO6, CLO8
15.	Overview of the course	No assignment	CLO1, CLO6
16.	FINAL EXAM	FINAL EXAM	EXAM

COURSE RESOURCES

Required: Louise Fawcett (ed.) (2016). *International Relations of the Middle East* (Oxford: Oxford University Press), (selected chapters).

Required: Fred Halliday (2005), *The Middle East in International Relations: Power, Politics and Ideology* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press), (selected chapters).

Required: Mehran Kamrava (2011). *The Modern Middle East: A Political History since the First World War* (California: University of California Press), (selected chapters).

Recommended: Roger Owen (2004). *State, Power and Politics in the Making of the Modern Middle East* (London: Routledge)

GRADING

Types of Activity	Frequency	Percentage in Grading	
Attendance	14	5	
Practice			
Fieldwork			
Internship			
(Pop-) Quizzes	1	5	
Homework/Paper	2	10	
Presentation	1	10	
Classroom Performance			
Projects			
Seminars			
Mid-term Exam(s)	1	30	
Final Exam	1	40	
Total		100	



ECTS ALLOCATION

Learning Activities	Frequency	Time (hours)	Workload
Attendance	(14*3)+3	3	45
Practice			
Fieldwork			
Internship			
(Pop-) Quizzes	1	10	10
Homework	2	10	20
Presentation	1	25	25
Classroom Performance			
Projects			
Seminars			
Mid-term Exam	1	30	30
Final Exam	1	50	50
Total Workload			180
Total Workload / 30 hours			6
ECTS			6



PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES (PLO) AND COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLO)

Please note that a learning outcome should reflect at least one of the program qualifications in EK-1. Also specify the strength of the relation between the Course Outcome and Program Learning Outcome as follows:

- 1= Very Slightly Related
- 2= Slightly Related
- 3= Related
- 4=Strongly Related
- 5=Very Strongly Related

	PLO1	PLO2	PLO3	PLO4	PLO5	PLO6	PLO7	PLO8	PLO9	PLO10
CLO1	4		4							
CLO2	5	3	4	3	3					
CLO3	4			4	3			3		
CLO4	3			4	2			3		
CLO5	3			3				4		
CLO6	3			3	4					
CLO7	3			3	4					
CLO8		2	3	3		4	4		2	2