

IR 363:

The Political Economy of the Middle East and North Africa

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This lecture/discussion course is intended to introduce students to the historical background to and the current pressing issues in the domestic and foreign economic relations of people and states in the region. We begin with a brief historical introduction to the integration of the region into the world economy. We then move on to consider a series of developing country political economy concerns such as population growth, oil, debt, and the like, all within the regional context.

Course Requirements:

There will be two mid-term exams, each worth 30% of the grade. The mid-terms will cover BOTH LECTURE MATERIAL AND MATERIAL FROM THE READINGS. A 5-page *research design*, due the final day of class, will be worth 20%. The last three days of class, each student will present his/her research design to the class (10%), and participation in those sessions will be worth 10% of the grade.

Required Texts:

The following books are available for purchase in the bookstore:

Charles Issawi, *An Economic History of the Middle East and North Africa*
Alan Richards and John Waterbury, *A Political Economy of the Middle East: State, Class and Economic Development*, 2nd edition.

In addition, numerous supplementary readings are available on electronic reserve.

Introduction

January 13: no readings.

Historical Background

January 20: Issawi, chapters

January 25: Issawi, chapters

Contemporary Political Economy

January 27: Overview of Change and Growth
Richards and Waterbury, ch. 3

- February 1-3: Population and Human Capital
Richards and Waterbury, chs. 4 and 5
Philippe Fargues, "From Demographic Explosion to Social Rupture," *Middle East Report*, September-October 1994.
Youssef Courbage, "Demographic Change in the Arab World," *Middle East Report*, September-October 1994.
Georges Sabagh, "The Challenge of Population Growth in Morocco," *Middle East Report*, March-April 1993.
- February 8: The Urban Sector
Richards and Waterbury, ch. 10.
Asef Bayat, "Cairo's Poor: Dilemmas of Survival and Solidarity," *Middle East Report*, Winter 1997.
Eric Denis, "Urban Planning and Growth in Cairo," *Middle East Report*, Winter 1997.
- February 10: Agriculture and Food Security
Richards and Waterbury, ch. 6
Raymond Hinnebusch, "Class, State and the Reversal of Egypt's Agrarian Reform," *Middle East Report*, September-October 1993.
- February 17: The State: The Emergence of the Public Sector
Richards and Waterbury, ch. 7.
- February 22: The State: Contradictions of State-Led Growth
Richards and Waterbury, ch. 8.
- February 24: The State: The Course of Economic Reform
Richards and Waterbury, ch. 9.
Michael Shalev, "The Contradictions of Economic Reform in Israel," *Middle East Report*, summer 1998.
Deborah Harrold, "The Menace and Appeal of Algeria's Parallel Economy," *Middle East Report*, January-February 1995.
- March 1-3: The Oil Economies and the Future of the Gulf States
Fareed Mohamedi, "Oil, Gas and the Future of Arab Gulf Countries," *Middle East Report*, July-September 1997.
Yahya Sadowski, "The End of the Counterrevolution? The Politics of Economic Adjustment in Kuwait," *Middle East Report*, July-September 1997.
F. Gregory Gause III, "Arms Supplies and Military Spending in the Gulf," *Middle East Report*, July-September 1997.
Robert Vitalis, "The Closing of the Arabian Oil Frontier and the Future of Saudi-American Relations," *Middle East Report*, July-September 1997.
Fareed Mohamedi, "The Saudi Economy," *Middle East Report*, November-December 1993.
- March 8: Migration
Richards and Waterbury, ch. 15.
Michael Humphrey, "Migrants, Workers and Refugees," *Middle East Report*, March-April 1993.
Thomas Stevenson, "Yemeni Workers Come Home," *Middle East Report*, March-April 1993.

March 8: Review for **Mid-term**

March 10: **Mid-term examination**

March 15-19: **SPRING BREAK**

March 22: The Islamic Republic of Iran

Kaveh Ehsani, "Till but don't spill: Iran's Development and Reconstruction Dilemma," *Middle East Report*, November-December 1994.

Homa Hoodfar, "Devices and Desires: Population Policy and Gender Roles in the Islamic Republic," *Middle East Report*, September-October 1994.

March 24-29: The Iraqi Sanctions Dilemma

Sarah Graham-Brown, "Intervention, Sovereignty and Responsibility," *Middle East Report*, March-April 1995.

Rend Rahim Francke, "The Iraqi Opposition and the Sanctions Debate," *Middle East Report*, March-April 1995.

Fareed Mohamedi and Roger Diwan, "The Saudis, the French, and the Embargo," *Middle East Report*, March-April 1995.

March 31: Regional Integration

Doug Henwood, "Global Economic Integration: the Missing Middle East," *Middle East Report*, September-October 1993.

Sheila Carapico, "The Economic Dimension of Yemeni Unity," *Middle East Report*, September-October 1993.

Robert Mortimer, "Regionalism and Geopolitics in the Maghrib," *Middle East Report*, September-October 1993.

The Political Economy of Regional Peace

April 5: The Arab-Israeli Conflict: Historical Overview

No readings

April 7: The Political Economy of the Conflict

Jennifer Olmstead, "Thwarting Palestinian Development," *Middle East Report*, October-December 1996.

Yoav Peled, "From Zionism to Capitalism," *Middle East Report*, May-August 1995.

April 12-14: The Coming of Peace?

Graham Usher, "Palestinian Trade Unions and the Struggle for Independence," *Middle East Report*, May-August 1995.

Amira Hass, "Gaza Workers and the Palestinian Authority," *Middle East Report*, May-August 1995.

Emma Murphy, "Stacking the Deck: The Economics of the Israeli-PLO Accord," *Middle East Report*, May-August 1995.

Asher Davidi, "Israel's Economic Strategy for Palestinian Independence," *Middle East Report*, September-October 1993.

Stanley Fischer (interview), "Economic Transition in the Occupied Territories," *Journal of Palestine Studies*, summer 1994.

Sharif Elmusa and Mahmud El-Jaafari, "Power and Trade: The Israeli-Palestinian Economic Protocol," *Journal of Palestine Studies*, winter 1995.

Rex Brynen, "Buying Peace? A Critical Assessment of International Aid to the West Bank and Gaza," *Journal of Palestine Studies*, spring 1996.

April 19: Review for **Second mid-term**

April 21: **Second mid-term**

April 26 – 3 May: Class presentations

May 3: Research designs are due.