

Carleton University  
Summer 2014  
Department of Political Science

**PSCI 3203 A**  
**Government and Politics in the Middle East**  
**Tuesday and Thursday, 18h05–20h55**  
**Please confirm location on Carleton Central**

SUBJECT TO MINOR REVISIONS UP TO AND INCLUDING THE FIRST  
SCHEDULED CLASS

Instructor: Matthew A. MacDonald  
Office: Loeb B641  
Office Hours: Tuesday, 16h00–18h00, or by appointment  
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**Course Description**

This course aims to introduce students to the political development of the Middle East since the First World War. We will focus on certain key themes and examine the role they play or have played in the political development of the Middle East in general and of certain states in particular. These include Islam and religion in general; European colonialism; the influence of Western, and especially Enlightenment and modern, political philosophy; nationalism and Pan-Arabism; the Cold War; American foreign policy; state/society relations; economic development; war; terrorism; and democratization.

Class sessions will typically include:

- A thematic discussion to put a subsequent discussion of a specific country, group of countries, or issue in context;
- A discussion of a specific country, group of countries, or issue, typically with reference to the required readings;
- An open class debate or discussion, presentation, or the viewing of a motion picture (documentary or other movie of specific relevance)

The following resources may be useful in helping you follow developments in the Middle East and to gain further insight into topics covered in this course:

- Al-Jazeera English (<http://english.aljazeera.net/news/middleeast/>)
- The Middle East Channel, Foreign Policy (<http://mideast.foreignpolicy.com/>)
- BBC ([http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world/middle\\_east/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world/middle_east/))
- The New York Times (<http://www.nytimes.com/pages/world/middleeast/index.html>)
- The Guardian (<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/middleeast/roundup>)

- The Arabist blog (www.arabist.net)
- The Daily Star – Lebanon (http://www.dailystar.com.lb)
- The Jordan Times (www.jordantimes.com)
- Ha'aretz – Israel (www.haaretz.com)
- The National – UAE (www.thenational.ae)

## **Readings**

Mehran Kamrava (2013). *The Modern Middle East: A Political History Since the First World War*. Third edition. Berkley and Los Angeles: University of California Press. Available at the Carleton University Book Store.

Other readings are either available electronically on the Carleton University Library website or freely available on other websites, as indicated.

## **Course Evaluation**

1. **Essay Proposal** (due in class on Tuesday, July 22, 2014) – 10%  
Develop an “interesting question” related to a theme or issue discussed in this course, propose a “compelling answer” to this question (your thesis statement), explain briefly how you intend to research and defend your argument in your essay, explain briefly some of the challenges you anticipate in researching and writing your essay, and identify at least four sources you intend to rely on in researching and writing your essay. 4–6 pages double-spaced, page numbers, cover page, 12-point Times New Roman, Chicago style.  
*Additional instructions to be given in class.*
2. **Test** (30 minutes, in class on Tuesday, July 29, 2014) – 10%  
Multiple choice and short answer, designed to test knowledge gained to date of key figures, events, dates, and concepts. Helpful as a review for the final exam and in keeping things straight in your mind.
3. **Essay** (due in class 12 August 2014) – 35%  
Topics and evaluation criteria will be discussed in class. Paper must be 12 pages (single-sided, double-spaced, 12-point type size, Times New Roman font, normal one inch margins, Chicago citation format–reviews not meeting these basic criteria will not be marked, although you may reformat and reprint your document and resubmit it, although it will be considered late and assessed the appropriate penalty. If in doubt, please see instructor prior to due date).
4. **Final Exam** (take home, instructions given in class) – 35%
5. **Attendance** (–1% for each unexcused absence) – 10%

All assignments, tests, and exams must be completed and submitted to receive a passing grade in this course. **If an assignment is not submitted in class on the due date, without a valid medical excuse, it is considered late.** Late assignments will be accepted

only up to one week after the due date and will be assessed a penalty of 5% (approximately half a letter grade) per day they are late. **There will be no make-up test without a valid medical excuse.**

### **Weekly Program and Associated Required Readings**

#### **Class 1 (Thursday, July 3, 2014): Introduction, Islam 101**

- Kamrava, Introduction
- Kamrava, Chapter 1 (From Islam to the Great War)

#### **Class 2 (Tuesday, July 8, 2014): Colonialism and Independence**

**MOVIE IN CLASS:** *The Battle of Algiers* (1966)

- Kamrava, Chapter 2 (From Territories to Independent States)
- David Prochaska (1990). "Making Algeria French and Unmaking French Algeria," *Journal of Historical Sociology* Vol. 3, No. 4, December, 305–328.

#### **Class 3 (Thursday, July 10, 2014): Nationalism in the Middle East**

- Kamrava, Chapter 3 (The Age of Nationalism)
- Kamrava, Chapter 4 (The Arab-Israeli Wars)

#### **Class 4 (Tuesday, July 15, 2014): Israel/Palestine**

- Kamrava, Chapter 9 (The Palestinian-Israeli Conflict)
- Yosef Kuperwasser and Shalom Lipner (2011). "The Problem is Palestinian Rejectionism," *Foreign Affairs*, November/December, 2-9.
- Ronald Krebs (2011). "Israel's Bunker Mentality," *Foreign Affairs*, November/December, 10-18.
- Robert Home (2003). "An 'Irreversible Conquest'? Colonial and Postcolonial Land Law in Israel/Palestine," *Social & Legal Studies* Vol. 12, No. 3, 291–310.

#### **Class 5 (Thursday, July 17, 2014): Revolutionary Iran**

- Kamrava, Chapters 5 (The Iranian Revolution)
- Ruhollah (Imam) Khomeini (1970). "Program for the Establishment of an Islamic Government," from *Islamic Government*, pp. 78–94, translated by Hamid Algar, available for free at [http://www.iranchamber.com/history/rkhomeini/books/velayat\\_faqaeh.pdf](http://www.iranchamber.com/history/rkhomeini/books/velayat_faqaeh.pdf)
- Akbar Ganji (2013). "Who Is Ali Khamenei? The Worldview of Iran's Supreme Leader," *Foreign Affairs*, September/October, 24–48.

#### **Class 6 (Tuesday, July 22, 2014): The Gulf Wars Then, Now, and Yet to Come**

**DUE IN CLASS: Essay Proposal**

**MOVIE IN CLASS:** *Iraq in Fragments* (2006)

- Kamrava, Chapter 6 (The Gulf Wars and Beyond)
- Ben Rich (2012). "Gulf War 4.0: Iran, Saudi Arabia and the complexification of the Persian Gulf equation," *Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations* Vol. 24, No. 4, 471–486.

**Class 7 (Thursday, July 24, 2014): States and Their Opponents**

- Kamrava, Chapter 7 (States and Their Opponents)
- Mona El-Ghobashy (2005). “The Metamorphosis of the Egyptian Muslim Brothers,” *International Journal of Middle East Studies* 37, 373–395.
- Simon Haddad (2013). “Explaining Lebanese Shii adherence to Hezbollah: alienation, religiosity and welfare provision,” *Defense & Security Analysis* Vol. 29, No. 1, 16–29.
- Jason Burke (2004). “Al Qaeda,” *Foreign Policy* May/June, 18–26.

**Class 8 (Tuesday, July 29, 2014): The Challenge of Economic Development  
TEST IN CLASS (30 MINUTES)**

- Kamrava, Chapter 10 (The Challenge of Economic Development)
- Martin Hvidt (2011). “Economic and Institutional Reforms in the Arab Gulf Countries,” *Middle East Journal* Vol. 65, No. 1, 85-102.

**Class 9 (Thursday, July 31, 2014): Oil, Corruption, and the CIA in the Middle East  
MOVIE IN CLASS: *Syriana* (2005)**

- Douglas Little (2004). “Mission Impossible: The CIA and the Cult of Covert Action in the Middle East,” *Diplomatic History* Vol. 28, No. 5, 663–701.

**Class 10 (Tuesday, August 5, 2014): Social Change in the Middle East**

- Pinar Ilkkaracan (2002). “Women, Sexuality, and Social Change in the Middle East and the Maghreb,” *Social Research* Vol. 69, No. 3, 753–779.
- Asef Bayat (2002). “Activism and Social Development in the Middle East,” *International Journal of Middle East Studies* Vol. 34, No. 1, 1–28.
- Mansoor Moaddel (2006). “The Saudi Public Speaks: Religion, Gender, and Politics,” *International Journal of Middle East Studies* 38, 79–108.

**Class 11 (Thursday, August 7, 2014): The Arab Spring I**

- Kamrava, Chapter 8 (Repression and Rebellion)
- Jack Goldstone (2011). “Understanding the Revolutions of 2011,” *Foreign Affairs*, May/June, 8-16.
- Gregory Gause (2011). “Why Middle East Studies Missed the Arab Spring,” *Foreign Affairs*, July/August, 81-90.
- Ann Lesch (2011). “Egypt’s Spring: Causes of the Revolution,” *Middle East Policy*, 18(3), 35-48.
- Olivier Roy (2012). “The Transformation of the Arab World,” *Journal of Democracy* 23(3), 5-18.

**Class 12 (Tuesday, August 12, 2014): The Arab Spring II  
ESSAY DUE IN CLASS**

- Seth Jones (2013). “The Mirage of the Arab Spring,” *Foreign Affairs*, January/February, 55-63.
- David Lesch (2012). “Prudence Suggests Staying Out of Syria,” *Current History* November, 299-304.

- Stephen Kinzer (2012). “Libya and the Limits of Intervention,” *Current History*, November, 305-309.
- Nabeel Khoury (2013). “The Arab Cold War Revisited: The Regional Impact of the Arab Uprising,” *Middle East Policy* 20(2), 73-87.

### **Class 13 (Thursday, August 14, 2014): Review, Instructions for Take-Home Exam**

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#### **Academic Accommodations**

The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or [pmc@carleton.ca](mailto:pmc@carleton.ca) for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your **Letter of Accommodation** at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (*if applicable*). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (*if applicable*).

**For Religious Observance:** Students requesting accommodation for religious observances should apply in writing to their instructor for alternate dates and/or means of satisfying academic requirements. Such requests should be made during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist, but no later than two weeks before the compulsory academic event. Accommodation is to be worked out directly and on an individual basis between the student and the instructor(s) involved. Instructors will make accommodations in a way that avoids academic disadvantage to the student. Instructors and students may contact an Equity Services Advisor for assistance ([www.carleton.ca/equity](http://www.carleton.ca/equity)).

**For Pregnancy:** Pregnant students requiring academic accommodations are encouraged to contact an Equity Advisor in Equity Services to complete a *letter of accommodation*. Then, make an appointment to discuss your needs with the instructor at least two weeks prior to the first academic event in which it is anticipated the accommodation will be required.

**Plagiarism:** The University Senate defines plagiarism as “presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.” This can include:

- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s works and/or failing to use quotation marks;

- handing in "substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs.

Plagiarism is a serious offence which cannot be resolved directly with the course's instructor. The Associate Deans of the Faculty conduct a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They include a mark of zero for the plagiarized work or a final grade of "F" for the course.

**Oral Examination:** At the discretion of the instructor, students may be required to pass a brief oral examination on research papers and essays.

**Submission and Return of Term Work:** Papers must be handed directly to the instructor and will not be date-stamped in the departmental office. Late assignments may be submitted to the drop box in the corridor outside B640 Loeb. Assignments will be retrieved every business day at **4 p.m.**, stamped with that day's date, and then distributed to the instructor. For essays not returned in class please attach a **stamped, self-addressed envelope** if you wish to have your assignment returned by mail. Please note that assignments sent via fax or email will not be accepted. Final exams are intended solely for the purpose of evaluation and will not be returned.

**Grading:** Assignments and exams will be graded with a percentage grade. To convert this to a letter grade or to the university 12-point system, please refer to the following table.

Percentage	Letter grade	12-point scale	Percentage	Letter grade	12-point scale
90-100	A+	12	67-69	C+	6
85-89	A	11	63-66	C	5
80-84	A-	10	60-62	C-	4
77-79	B+	9	57-59	D+	3
73-76	B	8	53-56	D	2
70-72	B-	7	50-52	D-	1

**Grades:** Final grades are derived from the completion of course assignments. Failure to write the final exam will result in the grade ABS. Deferred final exams are available **ONLY** if the student is in good standing in the course.

**Approval of final grades:** Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by an instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

**Carleton E-mail Accounts:** All email communication to students from the Department of Political Science will be via official Carleton university e-mail accounts and/or cuLearn. As important course and University information is distributed this way, it is the student's responsibility to monitor their Carleton and cuLearn accounts.

**Carleton Political Science Society:** The Carleton Political Science Society (CPSS) has made its mission to provide a social environment for politically inclined students and faculty. Holding social events, debates, and panel discussions, CPSS aims to involve all political science students at Carleton University. Our mandate is to arrange social and academic activities in order to instill

a sense of belonging within the Department and the larger University community. Members can benefit through numerous opportunities which will complement both academic and social life at Carleton University. To find out more, visit <http://facebook.com/CarletonPoliticalScienceSociety> or come to our office in Loeb D688.

**Official Course Outline:** The course outline posted to the Political Science website is the official course outline.