



**Boston University Study Abroad**  
London

**Boston University Study Abroad London**  
**Political Economy of the Middle East and North Africa**  
**CAS EC 322 (Elective A)**  
**Spring 2016**

**Instructor Information**

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B. Day and Time	Mondays and Tuesdays, 1.15-5.15pm
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**Course Objectives**

- Conceptualize the importance of initial conditions and historical development in shaping the present structure of the countries in the MENA regions.
- Have a conceptual framework for understanding the economic challenges and the role of policy in countries with different human and natural resource availabilities.
- Classify countries in the region according to their structural characteristics (oil-based and non-oil –based economies, labour surplus and labour deficit countries, etc)
- Understand the connection and interdependence among MENA countries through labour, capital flows and trade.
- Have a conceptual framework for analyzing the problems of industrialization and corruption in a resource based economy.

**Course Overview**

The focal point of this course is on the economic structure, institutional evolution and political configuration in the countries of the Middle East and North Africa (MENA). MENA includes the Arab countries, Iran and Turkey. The course provides an analytical framework for understanding the structural characteristics of MENA region in the context of its human and natural resource availability and historical development. The course address selected issues including; legacies of the colonial era, the impact of oil income, demographic transition, dilemma of industrialization and economic growth in resources based economies, and labour migration and capital flows.

**Methodology**

The course will be taught over nine 4-hour sessions by the selective use of lectures and seminars. Lectures will identify the main points of each topic and provide an explanation of, and comment on the relevant analytical material. Seminars require you to have read the recommended material, enabling you to participate fully in class discussion.

## **Assessment**

1. 1500 word paper (35% of the total marks)
2. Group presentation (10% of the total mark).
3. Mid-term test (20% of the total marks) in Week 3 during Lecture 6
4. Essay-based, three-question examination (35% of the total marks)

For the essay you will be offered a choice of questions, with associated reading. The paper must be submitted by **1.15pm, Friday 12 February, Exam is on 16 February**

## **Grading**

Please refer to the Academic Handbook for detailed grading criteria and policies on plagiarism:

<http://www.bu.edu/london/current-semester>

*\* Final Grades are subject to deductions by the Academic Affairs Office due to unauthorised absences.*

## **Attendance**

*Important note for students on the Internship Programme:*

The rules governing Internship Programme students' UK visas are strict and require, as a condition of the student's presence in the United Kingdom, that the student participates fully in all classes and in the placement. If a student does not attend classes or his/her placement as required the student will be considered to be in breach of the visa and can be deported. As the sponsor of our students' visas, Boston University has the legal obligation to ensure that each student complies with visa requirements.

For that reason Boston University Study Abroad London Programmes requires full attendance in classes and placements. Any student who does not comply with this policy may be sent home from the program at the discretion of the programme directors, and will result in a forfeit of credit and program costs for part or all of the semester.

## **Classes**

All Boston University Study Abroad London Programme students are expected to attend each and every class session, tutorial, and field trip in order to fulfill the required course contact hours and receive course credit. Any student that has been absent from two class sessions (whether authorised or unauthorised) will need to meet with the Directors to discuss their continued participation on the programme.

*Authorised Absence:*

Students who expect to be absent from any class should notify a member of Academic Affairs and complete an Authorized Absence Approval Form 10 working days in advance of the class date (except in the case of absence due to illness, for which students should submit the Authorized Absence Approval Form with the required doctor's note as soon as possible). **Please note: Submitting an Authorised Absence Approval Form does not guarantee an authorised absence**

Students may apply for an authorised absence only under the following circumstances:

- Illness, supported by a local London doctor's note (submitted with Authorised Absence Approval Form).

- Important placement event that clashes with a class (verified by internship supervisor)
- Special circumstances which have been approved by the Directors (see note below).

**The Directors will only in the most extreme cases allow students to leave the programme early or for a significant break.**

#### *Unauthorised Absence:*

Any student to miss a class due to an unauthorised absence will receive a **4% grade penalty** to their final grade for the course whose class was missed. This grade penalty will be applied by the Academic Affairs office to the final grade at the end of the course. As stated above, any student that has missed two classes will need to meet with the Directors to discuss their participation on the programme as excessive absences may result in a 'Fail' in the class and therefore expulsion from the programme.

#### *Lateness*

Students arriving more than 15 minutes after the posted class start time will be marked as late. Any student with irregular class attendance (more than two late arrivals to class) will be required to meet with the Assistant Director of Academic Affairs and if the lateness continues, may have his/her final grade penalised.

### **Required Reading**

The required reading for each class session is indicated in the Course Chronology from the following texts. All readings are available through the BU London library.

Richards, A. and J. Waterbury (2007), *A Political Economy of the Middle East*, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, Boulder Colorado: Westview

Plus the following books/chapters which will be available the course webpage:

Roger Owen (1993), *The Middle East in the World Economy, 1800-1914*. I.B. Tauris,. Introduction and Ch 1, pp 1-57

Owen, Roger and Sevket Pamuk (1998) *A History of the Middle East Economies in the Twentieth Century*, London: I. B. Tauris. Chapters 1-4

Galpem Steven G(2013), *Money, Oil and Empire in the Middle East, Sterling and postwar Imperialism, 1944-1971*, Cambridge University press

Alizadeh, P and H. Hakimian,( Eds, 2014) *Iran and the global economy: petropopulism, Islam and economic sanction*, Routledge.Chapters 1-3

Alizadeh, P (Ed., 2000), *The economy of Iran : The Dilemma of an Islamic state*, London, I. B. Tauris.

Karshenas, Massoud (1990), *Oil, State and Industrialization in Iran*, Cambridge: CUP, Ch 2, pp 30-63.

Ofer Israeli (2013), *Twilight of Colonialism: Mossadegh And the Suez Crisis* , **Middle East Policy Journal**, Volume XX, Number 1. <http://www.mepc.org/journal/middle-east-policy-archives/twilight-colonialism-mossadegh-and-suez-crisis>

<http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/434996/Ottoman-Empire>

Sachs, J.D. (2007), 'How to Handle the Macroeconomics of Oil Wealth', in M. Humphreys, J.D. Sachs & J. E. Stiglitz (eds.), *Escaping The Resource Curse*, Ch.7 pp.173-93, Columbia University Press: New York.

Sachs, J.D. and M. Warner (2001), 'Natural Resources and Economic Development: The Curse of Natural Resources', *European Economic Review* 45, pp.827-38.

Additional reading may be found on Blackboard: <https://lms.bu.edu>

## **Course Chronology**

### **Wednesday 13 January**

**Session 1: A brief brush with history: Growth and the decline of Ottoman Empire**

**Reading:** Roger Owen (1993), *The Middle East in the World Economy, 1800-1914*. I.B. Tauris, pp1-57.

<http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/434996/Ottoman-Empire>

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/islam/history/ottomanempire\\_1.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/islam/history/ottomanempire_1.shtml)

### **Monday 18 January**

**Session 2:** Historical development and the initial conditions: 1918-1945, Turkey, Egypt, and Iran.  
Economies of the British and French mandates, the Arabian Peninsula.

**Reading:** Roger Owen & Sevket Pamuk, Chs.,1-4 , *Karshenas*, pp 33-63

### **Tuesday 19 January**

**Session 3, Field trip –Morning ( this is provisional and the date might change)**

### **Monday 25 January**

**Session 4: Growth & structural change in the MENA countries, taxonomy of MENA countries.**

**Reading:** Richards A. and J. Waterbury, Chs., 2 & 3

## **Tuesday 26 January**

**Visiting speaker: Dr Hassan Hakimian, Director of London Middle East Institute, SOAS, London University.**

**Session 5:** Nationalism and nationalization, growing power of governments in MENA  
**Reading:** Ofer Israeli (2013), *Twilight of Colonialism: Mossadegh And the Suez Crisis*, Middle East Policy Journal, Volume XX, Number 1, Galpem Steven G(2013), *Money, Oil and Empire in the Middle East, Sterling and post war Imperialism, 1944-1971*, Cambridge University press.

## **Monday 1 February**

**Session 6 :** Natural resources and diversification dilemma, the curse or the blessing of natural resources, Dutch disease and exchange rate appreciation, natural resources and corruption (1)

**Reading:** Sachs, J.D. and M. Warner (2001), Richards A. and J. Waterbury, Ch., 3,

K Mohaddes and H Pesaran (2014) *One hundred years of oil income and the Iranian Economy: A curse or a blessing?* pp12-46, in Alizadeh, P and H. Hakimian,( Eds, 2014),

## **Tuesday 2 February**

### **MIDTERM TEST**

**Session 7:** Natural resources and diversification dilemma, the curse or the blessing of natural resources, Dutch disease and exchange rate appreciation, natural resources and corruption (2)

**Reading:** Sachs, J.D. (2007), 'How to Handle the Macroeconomics of Oil Wealth', in M. Humphreys, J.D. Sachs & J. E. Stiglitz (eds.), *Escaping The Resource Curse*, Ch.7 pp.173-93, Columbia University Press: New York.

**\*\* Contingency Class Date: Friday 5<sup>th</sup> February.** Students are obligated to keep this date free to attend class should any class dates need to be rescheduled.

## **Monday 8 February**

**Session 8:** State and development in Middle East

**Reading:** Richards A. and J. Waterbury Chs., 7, 8, 9 &11,

## **Tuesday 9 February**

**Session 9:** Demographic transition, Education, health and labour markets

**Reading:** Richards A. and J. Waterbury, Ch., 4&5

## **Friday 12 February**

**Session 10, Revision**

**ESSAY DUE**

## **FINAL EXAM      Tuesday 16 February**

locations will be posted on the BU London website and in the Student Newsletter two weeks before exam dates. Students must check their email and the weekly Student Newsletter for field trip updates and reminders, if any are to be included.

### **Supplementary and Secondary Readings**

The following texts are useful for expanding upon the required reading, for researching seminar papers and for preparing for the final examination.

Shafik, N. (ed., 1998a), *Economic Challenges Facing Middle Eastern and North African Countries – Alternative Futures*, Basingstoke and London: Macmillan Press.

Shafik, N. (ed., 1998b), *Prospects for Middle Eastern and North African Economies – From Boom to Bust and Back?*, Basingstoke and London: Macmillan Press.

Hakimian, H. and Z. Moshaver (eds, 2000), *The State and Global Change: The Political Economy of Transition in the Middle East and North Africa*, London: Curzon Press.

On Ottoman Empire see the following link

<http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/434996/Ottoman-Empire>

### **Data Sources**

World Bank, *World Development Report*, annually (contains useful development data for various regions including MENA); an electronic database of the World Bank's indicators is found in *World Development Indicators (WDI)*, CD-ROM, updated annually, Washington D.C.

ERF (2008), *Economic Trends in the MENA Region*, (annual), The Economic Research Forum for the Arab Countries, Iran and Turkey, Cairo: ERF (electronic version also available on the net, see ERF site below).

OPEC, *Annual Statistical Bulletin*, annual report with much data on oil; an electronic version of this major oil database is found in Asb, (diskette available from the library's periodical room).

### **Some Useful Web sites on Middle East**

1. <http://www.erf.org.eg> (The site for Economic Research Forum for the Arab Countries, Iran and Turkey, Cairo: ERF; see especially Working Papers and Economic Trends)
2. <http://www.meeaweb.org/> (Middle East Economic Association, MEEA, based in North America, contains some electronic papers; also useful for conferences, etc)
3. <http://www.mesa.arizona.edu> (Middle East Studies Association of North America, MESA; this is more interdisciplinary)
4. <http://www.ssc.upenn.edu/~mewin/links.html> (on water issues)
5. <http://cnn.com/WORLD/meast> (CNN site for current affairs on the Middle East and North Africa)
6. <http://www.bp.com/worldenergy/>(The BP site for useful downloadable data on various aspects of world energy (production, consumption, prices, etc).

Dr Parvin Alizadeh  
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