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 2018

Instructor Information

A. Name Professor Parvin Alizadeh
B. Day and Time Mondays and Tuesdays, 1.15-5.15pm
C. BU Telephone
D. Email
E. Office hours By appointment

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 Session 5
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 16 February, Exam is on Tuesday 20 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**

**Classes**

All Boston University London Programme students are expected to attend each and every class session, seminar, and field trip in order to fulfil 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 more than one day. In this situation students should submit the Authorised Absence Approval Form with the required doctor’s note as soon as possible). The Authorised Absence Approval Request Form is available from: http://www.bu.edu/london/current-semester/

**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 (first day of sickness):** If a student is too ill to attend class, the student must phone the BU London Student Affairs Office (who will in turn contact the student’s lecturer).

- **Illness (multiple days):** If a student is missing more than one class day due to illness, the student must call into the BU London Student Affairs Office each day the student is ill. Students must also provide the Student Affairs office with a completed Authorised Absence Approval Form and a sick note from a local doctor excusing their absence from class.

- **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.

**Religious Holidays**
Boston University’s Office of the University Registrar states:

‘The University, in scheduling classes on religious holidays and observances, intends that students observing those traditions be given ample opportunity to make up work. Faculty members who wish to observe religious holidays will arrange for another faculty member to meet their classes or for cancelled classes to be rescheduled.’

**Special Accommodations**
Each student will need to contact the Office of Disability Services to request accommodations for the semester they are abroad. Students are advised by BU-ODS not to expect the same accommodations as they receive on campus.

BU London can only uphold special accommodations if we have received the appropriate documentation from the BU-ODS. We cannot accept letters from other universities/centres.

All disabilities need to be known to the ODS in Boston if they are to be used as a reason for requiring a change in conditions, i.e. reduced internship hours or special accommodations for the internship schedule.

**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 Associate Director for 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.


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


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


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


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

Course Chronology

Session 1: Wednesday 17 January

A brief brush with history: Growth and the decline of Ottoman Empire
**Reading:** Melani Cammett, Ishac Diwan, Alan Richards, and John Waterbury, Chapter 3, pp88-94


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

http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/islam/history/ottomanempire_1.shtml

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**Session 2:** Monday 22 January

**Political regimes & structural change in the MENA.**

**Reading:** Melani Cammett, Ishac Diwan, Alan Richards, and John Waterbury, Chapter 3

(Political regimes in the Middle East, Chapter 3 pp 73-123)

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**Session 3:** Tuesday 23 January

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

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**Session 4:** Monday 29 January

**State –led development (1), Import substitution industrialization**

**Case studies:** Turkey, Iran, Egypt

**Reading:** Melani Cammett, Ishac Diwan, Alan Richards, and John Waterbury (2015), PP 46-65, 233-270

Roger Owen & Sevket Pamuk, Chs.,1-4.

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**Session 5:** Tuesday 30 January

**Mid- term exam**

**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.

Session 6: Monday 5 February

Natural resources and diversification dilemma, the curse or the blessing of natural resources, Dutch disease and exchange rate appreciation, natural resources and corruption


Session 7: Tuesday 6 February

State-led development (2)

Case studies: North African States, Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Jordan

Reading: Melani Cammett, Ishac Diwan, Alan Richards, and John Waterbury, Chapter 7, pp233-270

** Contingency Class Date: Friday 9 February. Students are obligated to keep this date free to attend class should any class dates need to be rescheduled.

Session 8: Monday 12 February

Structural adjustment and Washington consensus

Reading: Melani Cammett, Ishac Diwan, Alan Richards, and John Waterbury, Chapter 8, pp273-317

Session 9: Tuesday 13 February: Guest speaker: Professor Deniz Kandiyoti, Women employment and empowerment in MENA (This might change)

Demographic transition, Education, health and labour markets
**Reading:** Melani Cammett, Ishac Diwan, Alan Richards, and John Waterbury, Chapters 4 and 5

**Session 10: Friday 16 February**

**Revision**

**ESSAY DUE**

**Exam: Tuesday 20 February**
Exam times and locations will be posted on the BU London Programmes Blackboard course page and will be emailed to students, a week before the final exam.

**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.


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.

Dr Parvin Alizadeh
December 2017