This course explores the history, societies, economics and politics of various countries of the Middle East. Specific issues we will address throughout the semester include:

- Islam and politics
- The Israeli/Palestinian issue
- Democracy
- Gender

Throughout the semester you will (hopefully):

- Recognize and critically assess the relationship between history, religion and political culture
- Analyze similarities and differences among different Middle Eastern countries
- Debate current issues pertinent to the region
- Conduct in depth research on a topic of particular interest to you

**Required Texts**


**Course Requirements**

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Map Quiz (5 pts.): Be prepared to label the following countries/territorial arrangements on a blank map: Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, Egypt, Israel/Palestinian Territories, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Oman, United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait, Iran. Please don’t blow this off! I have found that students will not take this seriously, but it has often made the difference of a letter grade in the final course grade.

Citation Assignment (5 pts.): Choose a topic pertinent to the theme of the class (if you can decide on the topic for your paper by this point, all the better!). Find 2 books, 2 journal articles (print or via EBSCO from Nielsen Library), and 2 academic internet sources that you would use to write a paper on the topic. See the citation guides on Blackboard. Create a list citing each source as you would within the text and in a reference page. For example:

Book:
1. **In-text:** (Vanden 2012, 75)
   **Reference Page:**

Journal
2. **In-text:** (Safa 1990, 356)
   **Reference Page:**

3. And so on…..

Requirements:
- Typed in a 12 point font
- 1-2 pages

Readings Assignments (5 pts. each):
**Qur‘an Assignment:** Choose 5 verses from the Qur’an that relate to politics, economics and/or culture. Be sure to choose verses from throughout the text, not just from the first Surah (chapter). Type out each verse and provide your interpretation of each. On the day the assignment is due, you will break into groups and compare.

Requirements:
- 2-3 pages
- Bullet pointed
- See writing standards toward the end of the syllabus
- Chapter/verse number and text of all 5 verses

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1 This assignment meets Objective A of the HAPPS Goals and Objectives: “Provide learning opportunities for students to acquire, and assessments of student progress in acquiring, an appropriate knowledge base in History, Anthropology, Philosophy, Political Science.”

2 This assignment meets Objective B of the HAPPS Goals and Objectives: “Provide learning opportunities for students to acquire, and assessments of student progress in acquiring, an appropriate understanding of the relevant literature and scholarship in History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Political Science.”
• **In-text citations** in proper APSA format (see guide on Blackboard) **if** you use outside sources for help with interpretation.

• **Reference page** in proper APSA format (see citation guide on Blackboard) **if** you use outside sources beyond the Qur’an

**Government and Politics of Middle East and North Africa (= 3 assignments):**
Sign up for a topic area in 3 different countries from the *Government and Politics of the Middle East* text. Outline the information in the assigned reading that is pertinent to your chosen topic areas/countries. On the day the assignments are due, be prepared to discuss comparisons with other countries.

**Requirements:**
- 2-3 pages
- **In-text citations in proper APSA format only if** you use outside sources
- **Reference page in proper APSA format only if** you use outside sources
- *See writing standards toward the end of the syllabus*

***Note: If you are unclear about how to prepare an outline, please see the Writing in Poli Sci power point on Blackboard***

**Political Islam:** While reading *The Many Faces of Political Islam*, construct a list of key points/comments (bullet points are fine) that you think are worthy of discussion. On the day the assignment is due, you will break into groups and compare.

**Requirements:**
- 2-3 pages
- Notation of page # that inspired each comment
- **In-text citations in proper APSA format only if** you use outside sources
- **Reference page in proper APSA format only if** you use outside sources
- *See writing standards toward the end of the syllabus*

**Gender:** While reading *The Underground Girls of Kabul*, construct a list of key points/comments (bullet points are fine) that you think are worthy of discussion. On the day the assignment is due, you will break into groups and compare.

**Requirements:**
- 2-3 pages
- Notation of page # that inspired each comment
- **In-text citations in proper APSA format only if** you use outside sources
- **Reference page in proper APSA format only if** you use outside sources
- *See writing standards toward the end of the syllabus*
**Debate (10 pts.)**³: Sign up for a position on the debate topic: A Solution to the Israeli/Palestinian Issue. (I encourage you to challenge yourself by signing up for a position that is different from your own.) You may be working in teams, but will be graded individually. Each student, individually, must also submit an outline of arguments and references to me at the beginning of class on the day of the debate. You will be graded based on the strength of your verbal arguments during the debate and on the quality of your outline.

**Debate Outline Requirements:**
- 2-3 pages, including references
- In-text citations (if you need to cite each point, that’s OK)
- Reference page of 3 academic/legitimate sources in proper APSA format
- See writing standards toward the end of the syllabus
- See Debate format posted on Blackboard

**Simulation (15 pts.)⁴**: You will be assigned to represent a Member-State of the Arab League and negotiate a resolution for the issue of Women’s Rights in the Arab World. On the first day of the simulation, come to class prepared to make a 1-minute speech stating your country’s position on this issue. Come to each day of the simulation (3 total) prepared to speak and debate the issue, working toward a final resolution that will be voted upon by every country in the Arab League (the class). I will post helpful materials on Blackboard. Though they are Model UN materials, the Arab League uses the same format.

**Note**: In order to be successful, you must stay “in character” during the entire simulation. This means you must represent your assigned state’s position, even if it conflicts with your own. Professional dress required.

**Position Speech Requirements:**
- Length of 1 minute
- Use of appropriate parliamentary language. (We will talk about this before the simulation.)
- Reference page with a minimum of 3 scholarly sources, in APSA format

**Resolution Requirements (done in groups):**
- Length of at least one page
- Use of appropriate Resolution language (see Blackboard for helpful resources)
- Notation of which countries (students) contributed which aspects of the resolution. (Can be written in the margins, for grading purposes).

**Rough Draft (15 pts.):** Choose a topic related to the theme of the course that is of particular interest to you. Conduct in-depth research and analyze the topic in a research paper. That this is a rough draft does not mean it can be sloppily written or incomplete. See next page for requirements

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³ This assignment meets Objectives A and B of the HAPPS Goals and Objectives.
⁴ This assignment meets Objectives A and B of the HAPPS Goals and Objectives.
Rough Draft Requirements:
- Length of 7-10 pages text, not including Reference Page
- *See writing standards toward the end of the syllabus*
- Submission to turnitin.com. The Class ID is 9315722; the password is centeno (lower case)

Final Paper (20 pts.)\(^5\): Revise the rough draft and produce a polished, final draft of your work.

Final Draft Requirements:
- Length of 7-10 pages text, not including Reference Page
- *See writing standards toward the end of the syllabus*
- Submission to turnitin.com
- Submission of hard copy in a 2-pocket folder, along with the rough draft containing my comments

Presentation (5%)\(^6\): Present your research to the class, but do not simply read your paper. Be prepared to answer questions. **Note: All students must attend every presentation. I will deduct 2 points from the final grade for each day students are absent during presentations.**

Presentation Requirements:
- 5-7 minutes in length. (Media clips must not use more than 20% of your presentation time)
- Visual aids (power point, hand-outs, posters, maps etc.)
- *Professional dress*

**Schedule**

1/20-1/27: Introduction to the Course
Read: Chapter 1 of *Government and Politics* text
   “Coming Clash of Civilizations” and “Clash of Ignorance.” (on Blackboard)
The Qur’an
Chapter 1 of *Who Speaks for Islam*

1/27: Qur’an Assignment Due
Sign up for debates, simulations, presentations. Check Blackboard a couple days later to make sure the posted sign-up sheet is correct.

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\(^5\) This assignment meets Objective C of the HAPPS Goals and Objectives: “Provide learning opportunities for students to acquire, and assessments of student progress in acquiring, appropriate skill in producing scholarly research and critical readings of scholarship”

\(^6\) This assignment meets Objective C of the HAPPS Goals and Objectives.
1/29-2/3: Early History of Islam and the Middle East
Read: I suggest you start the reading for the next unit, as there is a lot of it

1/29: Map Quiz
2/3: Citation Assignment due

2/5-2/17: History, Culture, Politics and Economics of the Middle East and N. Africa
Read: Chapters 2-5 in the Government and Politics text by 2/5
Chapters 6-9 in the Government and Politics text by 2/10
Chapters 10, 13,14 in the Government and Politics text by 2/12
Chapters 15-17 in the Government and Politics text by 2/17

2/5: Reading assignment on Turkey, Islamic Iran, Saudi Arabia, Iraq due
2/10: Reading assign. on Eastern Arabian States, Yemen, Lebanon, Syria due
2/12: Reading assign. on Jordan, Egypt and Libya due
2/17: Reading assign. on Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia due

2/19-2/26: Political Islam
Note: Be sure to come to class having read and prepared to discuss and answer questions about the readings. If I believe that students are not doing the readings, I will replace the Simulation with reading quizzes (which are a lot less fun).

Read: Chapters 1-3 of Many Faces of Political Islam by 2/19
Chapters 4-5 of Many Faces of Political Islam and Chapt. 3 of Who Speaks for Islam by 2/24
Chapters 6-8 of Many Faces of Political Islam by 2/26

2/24: Sign up for a position in the Israel/Palestine Debate
2/26: Reading Assignment: Political Islam

3/3-5/14: Current Issues in the Middle East and North Africa
Read: ***I would start reading Underground Girls of Kabul, if I were you.
Chapters 11 and 12 of Gov’t. and Pol. Of Middle East by 3/3
Chapt. 2 of Who Speaks for Islam by 3/17 and revisit notes on Government and Politics of the Middle East
“Future of the Middle East” (on Blackboard) by 4/7
“Arab World: Tethered by History” (on Blackboard) by 4/9
Girls of Kabul by 4/28
3/5: Rough Draft due
3/10-3/12: Israel/Palestinian Debate; Outline due 3/12
3/31: Class canceled
4/16: Arab League Simulation; Position Speech due
4/21: Final Papers due
4/23: Arab League Simulation Resolution due
4/28: Reading/Gender Assignment due
4/30-5/10: Final Presentations

Writing Standards
Please see the HGP Writing Assessment Rubric at:
http://faculty.adams.edu/~ercrowth/hgprubric.htm

- All papers must be typed in a 12-point font, double-spaced with one-inch margins.

- All papers must contain page numbers and be stapled (if longer than one page, obviously).

- Use scholarly sources. Internet sources should come from sites with URLs ending in .gov or .edu. Avoid .com sites, with the exception of legitimate online newspapers and journals, such as foreignpolicy.com, and organizational websites (such as that of the UN, etc.).

  Never use the dictionary or encyclopedia (including Wikipedia) as a source.

- I take academic honesty very seriously. According to the College Handbook: “All students are expected to practice academic honesty. [He/she] should refrain from any form of cheating, plagiarism, or knowingly furnishing false information to the College” (42). Therefore:

  - Any phrases, paraphrases, terms, concepts, facts and/or figures applied from other sources must be cited correctly. All phrases or sentences that are not in your own words must be in quotation marks. Please see the University’s definition of plagiarism at http://www2.adams.edu/library/plagiarism/plagiarism.php

  - Citations: yes, I’m strict about these. Sources must be cited within the text and included in a reference page at the end of your work. You must use the APSA format (see guide on Blackboard).

    Penalties: -2.5 letter grades off the assignment grade for improper citation format. Automatic 0 on the assignment for failure to cite.

  - Plagiarism, whether intended or not, constitutes cheating. Any incidence of academic dishonesty will result in failure of the course and notification of the Vice President of Academic Affairs and the Dean of Students. Please familiarize yourself
Beginning of class.

**Penalties for late assignments:**
- First 24 hours after due date/time: - 1 letter grade.
- Further deduction of 1 letter grade after each 24 hour period.

**Get out of Jail Free Card:** Life happens, so everyone is entitled to **ONE** Get Out of Jail Free Card. You will find one (in PDF format) on Blackboard. Please follow the directions attached to the card. **Note:** the card may not be used for a presentation of the readings assignment.

**Disrespect:** Constructive discussion in an academic setting requires respectful conduct. Please turn off cell phones and beepers while in class (see me for exceptions). Do not engage in private conversations, read the newspaper, **TEXT**, or study for another class while I or another student has the floor. *After a warning, I will deduct 3 points for each infraction from the final grade of any student who behaves disrespectfully in class.*

**Email:** Please check your university email regularly. I frequently send out important information and will advise if I need to cancel class. **Please do not email me via Blackboard. Use the regular College email system.**

**Cheating:** Any incidence of academic dishonesty will result in failure of the course and notification of the Vice President of Academic Affairs and the Dean of Students. Please familiarize yourself with Adam State’s policy on academic honesty, which can be found in the student handbook. Please see me if you have any questions about what constitutes cheating.

**Grades:** All students must maintain copies of graded essays and assignments that I return throughout the semester. I occasionally make calculation errors that cannot be rectified without evidence of error. **I further recommend that you keep all notes and power points and texts in order to study for the Senior Exit Exams.**

**Contractual Agreement:**

By remaining in this course, you are agreeing to abide by the terms stipulated in this syllabus.