

Information list of a subject

University: Bratislava International School of Liberal Arts (BISLA)	
Faculty: Faculty of Law	
Subject code IR-401	Subject name: Current Development in the Middle East and Their Wider Geopolitical Implications
Type, scope, and method of educational activities: Two weekly meetings of 90 minutes each, amounting 42 hours total. Every week, the first meeting takes the form of a lecture and the second of a seminar.	
Number of credits: 5 ECT	
Suggested semester: -	
Level of studies: 1	
Conditional previous subjects: none	
Requirements for the course: Passing the course assumes that student was not absent at more than 4 class sessions. Late arrival is marked as a “tardie”. Three tardies equal one absence. Missing more than 15 minutes of the class is considered an absence. Assignments and evaluation: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Final essay (50%) - research paper, 2000 words, response to one of the major essay questions which corresponds with the topics on the syllabus• Participation in the class discussion (10%)• Attendance (30%)• Pop quiz (10%)	
Learning outcomes: Students will learn how to think critically about history, culture, politics of the Middle East. They will be able to evaluate the main pertaining issues of the region. Students will be able to draw on the material presented in lectures and required reading materials to make connections and conclusions. Students will also be able to present their ideas both verbally and in writing. By the end of the course, students will gain a comprehensive understanding of the Middle East’s dynamics and develop critical thinking skills to analyse and evaluate the region’s complex challenges, including legal issues.	
Brief outline of the course: The course introduces students to the current developments in the Middle East and their wider geopolitical implications. It does so through learning about the main historical events which had shaped the modern Middle East, main ideologies, conflicts and regional rivalries, quest for regional hegemony and the wider political implications.	
Recommended readings: Amara, A., & Hawari, Y. (2019). Using Indigeneity in the Struggle for Palestinian Liberation. <i>Al-Shabaka: The Palestinian Policy Network</i> . https://al-shabaka.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Amara_Hawari_Commentary_Eng_Aug2019.pdf	

- Baban, F. (2018). Nationalism and the Crisis of Community in the Middle East. *Dialectical Anthropology*, 42(4), 351–357. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10624-018-9534-5>
- Behar, M. (2017). Fusing Arab *Nahda*, European *Haskalah* and Euro-Zionism: Eastern Jewish thought in late-Ottoman and post-Ottoman Palestine, *Journal of Modern Jewish Studies*, 16(2), 271-274, DOI: [10.1080/14725886.2017.1295589](https://doi.org/10.1080/14725886.2017.1295589)
- Cornell, S. E., & Halil Magnus Karaveli. (2008). *Prospects for a “Torn” Turkey: A Secular and Unitary Future?* Central Asia-Caucasus Institute.
- Crowley, R. (2005). *1453: The Holy War for Constantinople and the Clash of Islam and the West*. Hyperion.
- Finkel, C. (2007). *Osman’s Dream: The Story of the Ottoman Empire*. Basic Books.
- Ghanea, N. (2008). Religious or Minority? Examining the Realisation of International Standards in Relation to Religious Minorities in the Middle East, *Religion, State and Society*, 36(3), 303-325, DOI: [10.1080/09637490802260385](https://doi.org/10.1080/09637490802260385)
- Hary, B., & Wein, M. J. (2013). Religiolinguistics: on Jewish-, Christian- and Muslim-defined Languages. *International Journal of the Sociology of Language*, 2013(220). <https://doi.org/10.1515/IJSL-2013-0015>
- Haugbolle, S. (2011). The Historiography and the Memory of the Lebanese Civil War. *Online Encyclopedia of Mass Violence*, 25, 1-14. <https://www.academia.edu/download/33573307/The-historiography-and-the-memory-of-the-Lebanese-civil-war.pdf>
- Inbar, E., & Maddy-Weitzman, B. (1997). *Religious Radicalism in the Greater Middle East*. Routledge.
- Knudsen, A. (2003). *Political Islam in the Middle East*. Chr. Michelsen Institute. <https://www.cmi.no/publications/file/1548-political-islam-in-the-middle-east.pdf>
- Lewis, B. (2002). *What Went Wrong?: Western Impact and Middle Eastern Response*. Oxford University Press.
- Mansfield, P., & Pelham, N. (2019). *A History of the Middle East*. Penguin Books.
- Oren, M. B. (2003). *Six Days of War: June 1967 and the Making of the Modern Middle East*. Penguin Random House.
- Palmer, A. (2011). *The Decline and Fall of the Ottoman Empire*. Faber & Faber.
- Phillips, C. (2018). *The Battle for Syria: International Rivalry in the New Middle East*. Yale University Press.
- Reinkowski, M. (1999). Late Ottoman Rule Over Palestine: Its Evaluation in Arab, Turkish and Israeli Histories, 1970–90, *Middle Eastern Studies*, 35(1), 66-97, DOI: [10.1080/00263209908701256](https://doi.org/10.1080/00263209908701256)

Rørbæk, L. L. (2019). Religion, Political Power, and the ‘Sectarian Surge’: Middle Eastern Identity Politics in Comparative Perspective. *Studies in Ethnicity and Nationalism*, 19, 23– 40. <https://doi.org/10.1111/sena.12292>.

Sen, A. (2006). *Identity and Violence: The Illusion of Destiny*. Penguin Books.

Sharkey, H. (2018). History Rhymes? Late Ottoman Millets and Post-Ottoman Minorities in the Middle East. *International Journal of Middle East Studies*, 50(4), 760-764. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0020743818000971>

Sozer, B. (2016). Development of Proxy Relationships: A Case Study of the Lebanese Civil War, *Small Wars & Insurgencies*, 27(4), 636-658, DOI: [10.1080/09592318.2016.1189495](https://doi.org/10.1080/09592318.2016.1189495)

TESEV. (2009, October 15). *Feasibility Study for a Broader Middle East and North Africa Gender Institute*. <https://www.tesev.org.tr/en/research/feasibility-study-for-a-broader-middle-east-and-north-africa-gender-institute/>

Wehrey, F. (2021, June 7). *Islamic Institutions in Arab States: Mapping the Dynamics of Control, Co-option, and Contention*. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. <https://carnegieendowment.org/2021/06/07/islamic-institutions-in-arab-states-mapping-dynamics-of-control-co-option-and-contention-pub-84647>

Language of the course: English

Notes:

Evaluation

Total number of evaluated students:

A	B	C	D	E	FX
-	-	-	-	-	-

Instructor: JUDr. Sylvia Tiryaki, PhD.

Date of the last change: 15.8.2023

Approved: Prof. PhDr. František Novosád, CSc.