

Fall 2016

Political Science 144

The Middle East

Class Day/Time: MW 9:00-10:15

Classroom: BBC 326

Prof. Danopoulos, Tel. 924-5555, Email: constantine.danopoulos@sjsu.edu

Office: CH 402E, Office Hours: MW 8-9:00, 12:00-1:00, and by appointment

THE COURSE

This course examines Middle Eastern political systems and societies, and the impact of major international actors in the region. The first portion of the course provides a context for analysis by examining historical developments, population, religion, culture, living conditions, major social groups, and foreign influences in the region. We will study the application of various developmental models in the Middle Eastern context. The second segment of the course will be devoted to studying recent political developments in the region and selected countries. We will also look at the Palestinian problem and will analyze recent developments on this issue. We will seek to place and connect the Middle East in the light of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attack and the war in Iraq. Course prerequisite: upper division standing or instructor consent.

Required Books

Jillian Schwedler (2013). *Understanding the Contemporary Middle East*, 4nd edition. Boulder: Lynne Rienner. ISBN: 978-1-58826-910-2

Michele Penner Angrist (2013) *Politics in the Contemporary Middle East*. 2nd edition. Boulder: Lynne Rienner. ISMB: 978-1-58826.908.9

Course Requirements and Assignments

SJSU classes are designed such that in order to be successful, it is expected that students will spend a minimum of 45 hours for each unit of credit, including preparing for classes, participating in course activities, completing assignments, and so on. Students are expected to spend at least two hours outside of class for every hour in-person class time. More details about student workload can be found in University Policy S12-3 at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/s12-3.pdf>.

Class Participation: Students are expected to come to class having read the assigned readings and ready to discuss them, as well as take part in any class activities. Please note that disruptive behavior--such arriving in class late or leaving early, using cell phones, talking to your classmates--will not be tolerated.

Examinations: Students are required to take a midterm and a final examination consisting of short-answer and essay questions. Each exam will be worth 100 points (50 points essay, 50 points short answers). Class participants are responsible for all assigned reading, lecture material, and videos. Instructor will provide study questions for the essay portion a week before each examination.

Papers: In addition, students will be required to write TWO papers: a book review and an 8-10 page term paper (double spaced pages).

1. The book review should be 4-5 pages long (double spaced) and must include a summary of the book (2-3 pages) and a critique (1-2 pages). Review is due on **September 26**. The book you select must deal with one of the following topics:
Rise of Islamic Fundamentalism
War in Syria
The conflict in Lebanon
The situation in Libya following the overthrow of Kaddafi
US Intervention in Iraq
The refuge problem
2. The paper must on a Middle East country other than the four (Egypt, Turkey, Iran, and Israel) discussed in class. The paper can be on a domestic or foreign policy issue and must be properly footnoted and documented, and should be 8-10 pages long (double spaced). Choice of topic must be approved by instructor no later than **September 12, 2016**. More details will be discussed in class. Paper is due on **November 21, 2016**.

Submission Deadlines: Late submissions will be penalized as follows:

- *One day late will result in the loss of 7 points;
- *More than a day and less than a week will result in the loss of 15 points;
- *More than a week will result in the loss of 25 points;
- *No papers will be accepted more than two weeks after the due date. **NO EXCEPTIONS!!!!!!!!!!**

A Note on Sources

Keep in mind that you are making a serious attempt to write a scholarly paper. As such, the majority of your paper must be based on scholarly sources and not on information retrieved from popular magazines or on-line information. You will be allowed to use a few popular magazine or on-line sources, but the bulk must be based on scholarly publications (books or articles published in scholarly journals, such as the *Journal of Democracy*). The following are criteria distinguishing between scholarly and popular magazine sources.

	<i>Scholarly</i>	<i>Popular</i>
Length	Longer articles, providing in-depth analysis of topics	Shorter articles, providing broader overviews of topics
Authorship	Author usually an expert or specialist in the field, name credentials always provided	Author usually a staff writer or a journalist, name and credentials often not provided
Language/ Audience	Written in the jargon of the field for scholarly readers	Written in non-technical language for anyone to

	(professors, researchers, or students)	understand
Format/ Structure	Articles usually more structured, may include these sections: abstract, literature review, methodology, results, conclusion, bibliography	Articles do not necessarily follow a specific format or structure
Special Features	Illustrations that support the text, such as tables of statistics, graphs maps, or photographs	Illustrations with glossy or color photographs, usually for advertising purposes
Editors	Articles usually reviewed and critically evaluated by a board of experts in the field (refereed)	Articles are not evaluated by experts in the field, but by editors on staff
Credits	A bibliography (works cited) and/or footnotes are always provided to document research thoroughly	A bibliography (works cited) is usually not provided, although names of reports or references may be mentioned in the text

Grading: Grades will be determined as follows:

Midterm Examination	25 percent
Final Examination	25 percent
Book Review	20 percent
Paper	30 percent

Political Science Department Writing Policy

Students should develop the ability to write in clear, grammatical English. Spelling and grammar count! Students must take care that appropriate citations are used. Direct quotations must be so indicated with quotation marks and specific reference to the page(s) in the source from which it was taken. Failure to cite your sources constitutes academic misconduct which carries with it serious sanctions. A tutorial on citations is available at the library website at http://www.sjlibrary.org/services/literacy/inf_comp/citing.htm

For assistance with writing, please see or visit the SJSU Writing Center located in Clark Hall, Suite 126. In addition to one-on-one tutoring services, The Writing Center also offers workshops every semester on a variety of writing topics. To make an appointment or refer to the numerous online resources offered through the Writing Center, visit the Writing Center website at <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter>

Academic Integrity

Your commitment to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at Sa Jose State University. The University Academic Integrity Policy S07-2 at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf> requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The Student Conduct and Ethical

Development website is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu?studentconduct>
Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on exams or plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person's ideas without giving proper credit) will result in a failing grade and sanctions by the University. For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified. If you would to include in your assignment any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU's Academic Policy F06-1 requires approval by instructors.

Cheating. At SJSU, cheating is the act of obtaining or attempting to obtain credit for academic work through the use of any dishonest, deceptive, or fraudulent means. Cheating includes but is not limited to: copying in part or in whole from another's test or other evaluation instrument; submitting work previously graded in another course unless approved by the course instructor; submitting work simultaneously presented in two courses, unless this has been approved by both instructors; altering or interfering with grading or grading instructions; sitting for an examination by a surrogate, or as a surrogate; any other act committed by a student in the course of his or her academic work which defrauds or misrepresents, including aiding or abating in any of the actions defined above.

Plagiarism. In our university the policy on plagiarism reads as follows: "At SJSU plagiarism is the act of representing the work of another as one's own (without giving appropriate credit) regardless of how that work was obtained, and submitting it to fulfill academic requirements. Plagiarism at SJSU includes but is not limited to: The act of incorporating ideas, words, sentences, paragraphs, or parts thereof, or the specific substance of another's work, without giving appropriate credit, and representing the product as one's work; and representing another's artistic/scholarly works such as musical compositions, computer programs, photographs, paintings, drawings, sculptures or similar works as one's own." Sanctions for plagiarism can range from an oral reprimand to expulsion from SJSU. In other words, the potential costs outweigh the immediate benefits. **Do not do it.**

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during my office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 at http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-0.3 pdf requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the Accessible Education Center (AEC) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aec> to establish a record of their disability.

Accommodation to Student's Religious Holiday

San Jose State University shall provide accommodation on any graded class work or activities for students wishing to observe religious holidays when such observances require students to be absent from class. It is the responsibility of the student to inform the instructor, in writing, about such holidays before the add deadline at the start of each

semester. If such holidays occur before the add deadline, the student must notify the instructor, in writing, at least three days before the date he/she wishes to be absent. It is the responsibility of the instructor to make every reasonable effort to honor the student request without penalty, and of the student to make up the work missed. See University Policy S14-7 at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S14-7.pdf>

SJSU Counseling Services

The SJSU Counseling Services is located on the corner of 7th Street and San Fernando Street, in Room 201, Administration Building. Professional psychologists, social workers, and counselors are available to provide consultations on issues of student mental health, campus climate or psychological and academic issues on an individual, couple, or group basis. To schedule an appointment or learn more information, visit Counseling Services website at <http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling>

Disclaimer

All above information may be subject to change with fair notice from the University, the Department of Political Science and/or the professor. The professor reserves the right to administer quizzes should a severe lack of attendance, especially at the beginning of the class each day, becomes an evident trend.

Course Outline and Reading Assignments

A. Regional Perspective

1. Introduction: Middle East or Near East?
2. Geographic Setting
Read: Schwedler, chs 1 and 2, Angrist, ch 1
3. History: From Ancient Times to Colonialism
Read: Schwedler, ch 3, Angrist, ch 3
4. History: Colonialism and Post-Colonialism
Read: Schwedler, chs 4 and 5
5. Religion
Read: Schwedler ch 12, Angrist, ch 5
6. Population and Social Structure
Read: Schwedler, chs 9, 10, and 11

MIDTERM EXAMINATION (October 5, 2016)--bring large-size bluebook

B. Contemporary Issues and Political Developments in Key Countries

7. Economics, the politics of oil, and the rise of fundamentalism

Read: Schwedler chs 7 and 8

9. The Palestinian Problem

Read: Schwedler, ch 6

10. Israel

Read: Angrist, ch 13

11. Iran

Read: Angrist, ch 11

12. Turkey

Read: Angrist, ch 19

13. Egypt

Read: Angrist, ch 10

14. Conclusion

Read: Schwedler, ch 14; Angrist, ch 20

FINAL EXAMINATION: Thursday, December 15, 2016, 7:15-9:30 AM, bring large-size blue book