Faculty of Economics and Political Science

Political Systems in the Arab World

Information :

Course Code :	PSC 401	**Level :**	Undergraduate	**Course Hours :**	3.00- Hours

Department : Department of Political Science

Instructor Information :

Title	Name	Office hours
Professor	Mai Mogib Abdelmoneam Mosad	

Area Of Study :

This course compares different political systems in the Arab World. It covers the rise of the concept of the state in the Arab world, the transition from the tribe to the state as the basic political unit in some Arab regions, post colonialism, the political economy and the transition from a state-led economy to economic liberalization. The role of the military, Islamic movements, democratization and foreign intervention and the uprisings of 2011 are also covered especially in Egypt, Tunisia and Libya.

Course Goals:
ÅAddress the most enduring questions of politics in the Arab World.
ÅBecome aware of the historical development and properties of different Arab state, regional and international institutions.
ÅComprehend and analyze crucial issues in the Arab World, such as; identity, democracy, existence and freedom.

Description :

This course compares different political systems in the Arab World. It covers the rise of the concept of the state in the Arab world, the transition from the tribe to the state as the basic political unit in some Arab regions, post colonialism, the political economy and the transition from a state-led economy to economic liberalization. The role of the military, Islamic movements, democratization and foreign intervention and the uprisings of 2011 are also covered especially in Egypt, Tunisia and Libya.

Course outcomes :

a.Knowledge and Understanding: :	
1 -	Define the historical traits and frameworks related to contemporary Arab political affairs, such as; a state reconstruction, and state-society relationships.
2 -	Recognize current political affairs in the Arab World such as: countries in transitions, revolutions and resistance, as well as changes in regional alliances.
3 -	Identify the importance and frameworks of issues or concepts of Arab citizenship, state, democracy, social movements and freedom as well as civic engagement and constitutional processes.
b.Intellectual Skills: :	
1 -	Employ a critical way of thinking of past and current Arab trends.
2 -	Deepen the knowledge of Arab politics.
3 -	Outline the position of social justice in the issues studied.
4 -	Emphasize on understanding the challenges faced by the Arab political community.

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c.Professional and Practical Skills: :	
1 -	Relate and connect between Arab historical events and contemporary political issues such as the Arab revolutions.
2 -	Employ gained knowledge in the analysis of a variety of Arab case studies.
3 -	Illustrate the art of research and use of methodologies in essay writing.
d.General and Transferable Skills: :	
1 -	Construct logical arguments about past and current events in the Arab World.
2 -	Allow to effectively coordinate with others in a discussion.
3 -	Evaluate the sources of news and their credibility.

Course Topic And Contents :

Topic	No. of hours	Lecture	Tutorial / Practical
Introductory Lecture and Course Outline	3	1	
The emergence of modern Middle Eastern states	3	1	
The growth of state power in the Arab world in single party regimes	3	1	
The growth of state power in the Arab world in monarchies	6	2	
The politics of economic reconstruction	3	1	
Midterm Exam		1	
Parties, elections and democracy	6	2	
The militaryôs role	3	1	
Americaôs attempt to remake the Middle East by invading Iraq	3	1	
The Arab Revolutions	6	2	
Future trends in the Arab World	3	1	
Final Exam		1	

Teaching And Learning Methodologies :

- Demonstration videos
- Presentation
- Simulations
- Debates
- Group discussion
- Research Paper

Course Assessment :

Methods of assessment	Relative weight %	Week No	Assess What
Course Work (Attendance, Participation, Assignments, Quizzes, Research Paperé)	30.00		To assess understanding, and to assess theoretical background of the intellectual and practical skills.
Final Exam	40.00	15	To assess knowledge and intellectual skills.
Midterm Exam(s)	30.00	7	To assess professional skills.

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Periodicals :

Kamal Eldin Osman Salih, The Roots and Causes of the 2011 Arab Uprisings, Arab Studies Quarterly, Vol. 35, Issue 2, Spring 2013, (184-203).

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