



PSC 4740: International Relations of the Middle East
Spring 2018
Tuesday and Thursday, 9:35 - 10:55
Gillham Hall 5100

“It is quite common to hear high officials in Washington and elsewhere speak of changing the map of the Middle East, as if ancient societies and myriad peoples can be shaken up like so many peanuts in a jar.” — Edward Said

Professor:

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Office Hours:

Tuesday and Thursday from 11:00 - 15:00 & by appointment.

Course Description:

An advanced examination of international relations theory applied to the Middle East and a survey of modern Middle Eastern governments, cultures, and institutions with case studies on key issues facing the region (3 hours).

Course Overview:

This course will give students an overview of the theoretical, historical, and empirical underpinnings of the international relations of the Middle East. The course will also present case studies of the governments of important states within the Middle East and North Africa and key issues including social movements, governance, terrorism, and international political economy.

Learning Objectives:

- Students will gain an advanced understanding of international relations theory using the Middle East as a large set of case studies.
- Students will gain an understanding of the systems of governance of the most important states in the Middle East.
- Students will examine key issues affecting the governments and peoples of the Middle East.
- Students will increase competence and confidence in both oral and written communication through practice.

Prerequisites:

PSC 1700 or PSC 2700 are highly suggested.

Textbooks:

Both books are required. Any additional readings are available on Blackboard. Please also follow the news on a daily basis.

1. Lust 2016. *The Middle East* 14th Edition. Congressional Research Quarterly. /100new, /75 used.
2. Fawcett 2016. *International Relations of the Middle East*. /58new, /43 used.

University Policies

The University is an equal opportunity educational institution. Please read *The University's Policy Statement on Nondiscrimination on the Basis of the Americans with Disability Act Compliance*.

Academic Accommodations The University of Toledo is committed to providing equal access to education for all students. If you have a documented disability or you believe you have a disability and would like information regarding academic accommodations/adjustments in this course please contact the *Student Disability Services Office*.

Grade Policy:

Unexcused, late assignments will be assessed a penalty of 1/3 a letter grade per 24 hours late.

Grading Scale:

Numerical Grade	Letter Grade	Performance
93 - 100	A	Achievement of Exceptional or Outstanding quality.
90 - 92	A-	Achievement of slightly less than outstanding quality.
87 - 89	B+	Achievement of slightly more than high quality.
83 - 86	B	Achievement of high quality.
80 - 82	B-	Achievement of slightly less than high quality.
77 - 79	C+	Work of slightly more than acceptable quality.
73 - 76	C	Work of acceptable quality.
70 - 72	C-	Work of slightly less than acceptable quality.
67 - 69	D+	Work slightly below the quality expected.
63 - 66	D	Below the quality expected.
60 - 62	D-	Barely above failing.
59 or less	F	Failure

Grading:

Midterm	25%
- This in-class exam will consist short answer and essay questions. Please email me to show that you have read this syllabus. If you do, you will receive extra credit.	
Final Exam	25%
- This in-class exam will consist of short answer and essay questions. This exam is not cumulative. You must email me for extra credit related to reading this syllabus before the 3rd class.	
First Draft of Paper	15%
- This is a first draft of your final paper. It needs to be nearly complete. See Blackboard for more information.	
Final Paper	25%
- This is an original piece of research. The paper should be approximately 15 double-spaced pages. See Blackboard for more information.	
Attendance	10%
- Students are expected to attend class. Each student will receive two unexcused absences. After two unexcused absences, student's will be penalized with 1/3 letter grade deduction for attendance.	

Academic Honesty:

"The free exchange of ideas depends on the participants' trust that others' work is their own and that it was done and is being reported honestly. Intellectual progress in all the disciplines demands the truthfulness of all participants. Plagiarism and cheating are attacks on the very foundation of academic life, and cannot be tolerated within universities."

If you cheat, you will receive a zero on the assignment.

Extra Help and Office Hours:

Please feel free to come by my office hours if you need help understanding assignments or readings. It is best to come see me as soon as possible if you need any additional help.

Important Dates:

Midterm	1 March 2018
Research Question	13 February 2018
Research Outline	27 February 2018
Literature Review and Sources	13 March 2018
First Draft	12 April 2018
Final Paper	26 April 2018
Final Exam	8:00-10:00, 3 May 2018

Course Schedule:

16 January: Introductions

1. Course overview, general expectations, etc.

18 January: International Relations theory and the Middle East

1. Fawcett 1
2. Lust 8

23 January: The emergence of the Middle East into the modern state system

1. Fawcett 2
2. Lust 1

25 January: The Cold War in the Middle East

1. Fawcett 3

30 January: The Middle East since the Cold War

1. Fawcett 4
2. Fawcett 16
3. Fawcett 17

1 February: Religion, society, and politics

1. Lust 5

6 February: Institutions, governance, and reform

1. Fawcett 6
2. Lust 4

8 February: Actors, public opinion, and participation

1. Lust 6

13 February: The politics of identity

1. Fawcett 7
2. Fawcett 8

15 February: Social movements and the Arab Spring

1. Lust 2
2. Fawcett 15

20 February: Oil and political economy

1. Lust 3
2. Fawcett 5

22 February: Alliances, Cooperation, and Regionalism and Policymaking

1. Fawcett 9
2. Fawcett 11

27 February: Middle East Security

1. Fawcett 10
2. Fawcett 14

1 March: Test I

6 March: Spring Break

8 March: Spring Break

****An additional weekly, up-to-date news article will also be assigned for each country.****

13 March: Algeria

1. Lust 9

15 March: Egypt

1. Lust 10

20 March: Iran

1. Lust 11

22 March: Iraq

1. Lust 12

27 March: Jordan

1. Lust 14

29 March: Turkey

1. Lust 25

3 April: Lebanon

1. Lust 16

5 April: Libya

1. Lust 17

10 April: Yemen

1. Lust 26

12 April: Saudi Arabia

1. Lust 21

17 April: The Lower Gulf States

1. Chapter 18

19 April: Syria

1. Lust 23

24 April: Palestine and Israel

1. Lust 13
2. Lust 20

26 April: Palestine - Israeli conflict

1. Lust 7
2. Fawcett 12
3. Fawcett 13