

Course Syllabus

1. **Program of Study** Bachelor of Arts (Social Science)
Faculty/Institute/College Mahidol University International College
2. **Course Code** ICSO 345
Course Title Society, Politics and Economics in Contemporary Middle East
3. **Number of Credits** 4 (**Lecture / Lab**) (4-0)
4. **Prerequisite (s)** ICSO 239 The Middle East since 1800
5. **Type of Course** Elective course for International Studies concentration
6. **Trimester / Academic Year** Not yet specified

7. Course Description

The contemporary scene in the Middle East. The Arab - Israeli struggle. Regional powers. The status of Palestine. Islamic governments in Afghanistan Iran and Sudan. The struggle of religion and state. Westernization in Lebanon and Turkey. The question of Cyprus. Future prospects.

8. Course Objective (s)

- (i) To introduce students to aspects of the contemporary situation in the Middle East.
- (ii) To encourage students to think critically about contemporary issues.

9. Course Outline

Week	Topic		Instructor
	Lecture	Hour	
1	Introduction : The contemporary situation in the Middle East	4	TBA
2	Regional powers. The role of extra - regional powers	4	
3	The Arab - Israeli struggle. The status of Palestine	4	
4	The role of religion and the state. Westernization, secularization and Islamic government	4	
5	Demography and questions of economic development	4	
6	Ethnic relations. Discussion of long essays	4	
7	The role of women in the Middle East	4	
8	The question of Cyprus. Future prospects	4	
9	An examination of specific contemporary issues in selected countries (I). *	4	
10	An examination of specific contemporary issues in selected countries (II). *	4	
11	An examination of specific contemporary issues in selected countries (III). *	4	
* 9 - 11	Countries covered must include at least three of the major Middle Eastern countries		
	Total	44	

NB. The lecturer has the right to vary the topics as he/she see fit.

10. Teaching Method (s)

Lectures; questions and answers; student presentations; classroom discussions.

11. Teaching Media

Not yet specified.

12. Measurement and evaluation of student achievement

(i.e. Grading scheme) Grades given according to a fixed scale (Students receiving marks of 90% and above will receive letter grade A; those receiving less than 50% will fail, etc. Borderline cases (45 - 50%) may be passed if the student's attendance record, punctuality, and classroom demeanor have been exemplary.

13. Course evaluation

(i.e. Grading components) : Evaluation will be based on a long essay and two examinations (Mid-term / Final), each carrying 1 / 3 of the marks.

14. Reference (s)

Articles and books to be selected by the lecturer as he / she sees fit.

15. Instructor (s)

To be announced.

16. Course Coordinator

Dr. Peter Smith