

POLI 391 SECTION EC MIDDLE EAST AND GLOBAL CONFLICT WINTER 2010

This syllabus is subject to change and any changes will be posted in the Announcements section of the course website.

Disclaimer: In the event of extraordinary circumstances beyond the University's control, the content and/or evaluation scheme in this course is subject to change.

INSTRUCTOR

The instructor for this course is **Dr. Henry Habib**. All general inquiries regarding the course can be e-mailed to: poli391@econcordia.com.

CONTACT INFORMATION

The **Head Teaching Assistant for this course is Saad Abbasi** and he can be reached as follows:

✉ saad.abbasi@econcordia.com

Please allow for a 24 hour response time during the week (Monday-Friday). Teaching Assistants check their messages once over the 48 hour weekend period and are not available on statutory or university holidays.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is a study of the Middle East in the context of regional and international relations. Conflict, the search for peace, ideology and foreign policy processes in a global configuration of changing alliances will be examined. Topics include the Arab-Israeli conflict; the Israel-Palestinian dilemma; Lebanon and its future; the Iraq-Iran war; the Kuwait invasion; the American invasion of Iraq and its impact on the region and the realignment of emerging forces in the Middle East of the 21st century.

OBTAINING REQUIRED MATERIAL

The material for POLI 391 consists of the **required TEXTBOOKS** and the **POLI 391 course website** which contains the course lecture videos, resource centre and

additional course materials.

Required Texts: Andersen, Roy and others. Politics and Change in the Middle East. 9th edition. 2008. Prentice Hall.

Bickerton, Ian & Klausner, Carla. A Concise History of the Arab-Israeli Conflict. 5th edition. 2005. Prentice Hall.

Optional Readings: Spencer, William. The Middle East. 11th edition. 2007. McGraw Hill.

Spencer covers each of the countries of the Middle East with country reports. It is a general text that allows students with no or little background on the Middle East to have basic and general information needed to understand the current issues facing the region. (Students can select the appropriate section in the book.)

Once you are registered for the course, you can purchase your textbooks online from the [Concordia Bookstore](#) or in person at the McConnell Building, 1400 de Maisonneuve Blvd. West. Please note that textbooks ordered online from the Concordia Bookstore will be shipped only 5 working days from the date the order was placed.

(Some of the lessons contain digital versions of the assigned and optional readings – **LINKS TO SPECIFIC ASSIGNED AND OPTINAL READINGS ARE POSTED ON THE “READINGS” LINK LOCATED IN THE LEFT-HAND MENU ON THE LESSONS PAGE**).

I. General Introduction

1. The Middle East in Global Politics: Geography and History
2. Colonialism and the Politics of Oil
3. Ideology and Foreign Policy
 - a. leadership
 - b. pragmatism
4. Four Decades of Changing Political Dynamics: from the mid 1940's to the first Gulf War of 1990-1991 and after

*Readings: Andersen. pp. 1-42, pp.43-90, pp. 105-129, pp.130-155, pp.156-180, pp. 181-081, pp.246-262,
Bickerton, pp. 1-15.*

II. Challenges of the 21st Century: Conflict and Confrontation

The focus will be on two current issues and their ramifications:

1. The Arab-Israeli conflict and the Israeli-Palestinian dilemma

Readings: Andersen, pp. 90-104, pp. 122-131.

Bickerton, pp. 16-383. The readings include all documents and UN resolutions. Divide the readings as you go along.

2. Iraq, the Gulf War and the American invasion

Readings: Andersen, pp. 263-290

III. The Middle East: Prospects for the Future

1. The Changing International Order of the 21st Century
2. Defining and Shaping the Future of the Middle East
 - a. Lebanon and its future
 - b. Challenge and power struggle: the emergence of Shia power and the role of Iran; Turkey, Saudi Arabia and others in the power struggle

Readings: Andersen, pp. 151-160, pp. 209-245, pp. 290-319, pp. 320-341.

COURSE WEBSITE, USERNAME & PASSWORD

- Your eConcordia account will be valid until the end of the term for which you are registered.
- Your account will allow you to access the online course material, which includes videos, notes, discussion boards, all graded course components, useful links, readings and many more resources from course website for the duration of the term.
- The course website can be accessed at www.econcordia.com

EASTERN TIME ZONE

- Please note that ALL dates and times are set for the North American Eastern Time Zone and that Quebec uses Eastern Standard Time and Eastern Daylight Time as per the appropriate dates. All students, including distance learners, are required to meet the deadline requirements according to these times. No exceptions will be made.

DISCUSSION BOARD

Available as of 3:00 p.m. on JANUARY 8, 2010.

- The discussion board is a versatile tool in an online course. It is akin to putting your hand up in class, but with a bonus: each and every student can read the questions and the various answers posted, at their leisure.
- To access your TA's name, contact information and your group assignment number, click on the **Discussion Groups** link in the left-hand side menu of your eConcordia account.

- You are assigned a TA and a group 24 hours after obtaining your eConcordia username and password.
- If you have not been assigned to a group within 24 hours of obtaining your eConcordia username and password, send an e-mail with your name, student ID number and the name of the course you are taking to discuss@econcordia.com and you will be assigned to a group within 24 hours.

GUIDELINES FOR POSTING ON THE DISCUSSION BOARD

- Do not post your telephone number, student ID, or any other personal information on the discussion board.
- The discussion board is meant for the academic discussion of the course material. Keep postings pertinent to the course material. Questions pertaining to grades, technical issues or questions of a personal nature must be addressed directly to your TA via e-mail. Posts of this nature will be removed by the Forum Administrator.
- Of vital importance is respectful behavior on the discussion board. Refrain from making offensive statements and derogatory comments. For example, students must never insult another person or teaching assistant in a discussion.
- Students who fail to respect these rules will be asked to leave the discussion. It is within our discretion and authority to edit or remove any posting at anytime. Please see the [Codes of Rights and Responsibilities](#).

OFFICE HOURS

- There are no official physical office hours for this course; however your TAs will log on to the discussion board and respond to your posts and e-mails within 24 hours.
- Each TA will also have **virtual office hours** wherein s/he will be logged onto the discussion board at a predetermined date and time to answer your questions in **real time**. The **virtual office hours** schedule will be made available the second week of the course.

COMMUNICATION

- You will be communicating with your assigned Teaching Assistants and eConcordia personnel via e-mail.
- Please allow for a 24 hour response time during the week (Monday-Friday). Teaching Assistants check their messages once over the 48 hour weekend period and are not

available on statutory or university holidays.

- You are required to include the following information in all your e-mail communication:
 - Full name
 - Concordia student ID number
 - Course name and number pertaining to your inquiry
- Save a copy of all e-mail correspondence for the duration of the term and until the final letter grade for your course has been posted in your MyConcordia portal.
- We strongly encourage you to use a Concordia University e-mail account or an account from a provider such as Sympatico, Videotron, etc.
 - Free e-mail accounts such as Hotmail, Yahoo, etc. are NOT recommended and often lead to communication problems.
 - You can obtain a LIVE@EDU e-mail account through your My Concordia Portal by clicking on the link titled “Personal Services”: followed by “Computer Accounts and Password”.
 - For more information about these accounts and other services offered by Concordia’s IITS department, you may visit CC-207 or H-925 or <http://helpline.concordia.ca/>.
 - Your e-mail address must be registered in your [MyConcordia Portal](#) as well as in the Student Profile of your [My eConcordia Portal](#).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Important information regarding the course will be communicated to you via the Announcements Section of the course website.
- The announcements are located in the centre of the main page upon logging in to your eConcordia account. Please make sure to read the postings on a weekly basis.

EVALUATION

Students are required to select one of the following evaluation methods for the course by the deadline indicated in the Agenda Section of this outline. Students who do NOT select an option by the deadline will automatically be assigned Option 3.

Once you have selected your option and the deadline has passed, you cannot change your selection.

OPTION 1

Mid-Semester Examination	40%
Final Examination	60%

OPTION 2 (a OR b)

Mid-Semester Examination	20%
2a: Short Term Paper 1 (approximately 10 pages)	20%
2b: Short Term Paper 2 (approximately 15 pages)	30%
Final Examination	60% (Option 2a) or 50% (Option 2b)

OPTION 3

Mid-Semester Examination	20%
Long-Term Paper (approximately 30 pages)	40%
Final Examination	40%

POLICY ON EXTENSIONS AND LATE SUBMISSIONS

- Any request for an extension must be received before the deadline or it will not be accepted. In fairness to all students, there will not be any exceptions to this policy.
- It is your responsibility to ensure that if you are unable to complete your work by the deadline or complete an exam on the assigned date, you must request an extension beforehand via e-mail, via e-mail, to poli391@econcordia.com.

- Extensions will be granted only to students who are able to provide a reasonable and verifiable medical note before the deadline. Medical notes must include dates within which you are excused from work/school.
- In the case of emergencies, it is your responsibility to notify your Heading Teaching Assistant and/or Teaching Assistant via e-mail as soon as the issue arises in order to determine the course of action required for the matter at hand.
- Organize your time effectively to ensure that you submit your work on time. Any work submitted after the deadline is considered late and will not be accepted.
- Vacations and travel plans (work-related or otherwise) are not considered valid reasons for late submissions of or an inability to complete assignments, quizzes and exams.
- Please note that you are responsible for the version of the work you submit to the website. If you upload the incorrect version of your work to the website, you can resubmit the correct version prior to the deadline. If you fail to meet the deadline, the version of your work located on the website is the one that will be graded.
- In addition, please note that it is your responsibility to ensure that your assignment is received before the deadline. Should you be unable to submit your work via the website you must submit your work via e-mail to your TA before the deadline. Please give yourself enough time for online submissions to send your assignments via e-mail should a technical issue arise.

FINAL EXAMINATION: DATE AND LOCATION T.B.A.

- The final examination is an in-class written exam.
- The final exam is scheduled by Concordia's Examinations Office and will take place during the **final exam period: April 15, 2010 – May 1, 2010**. It is the responsibility of the student to verify the date/time/location and room assignment for the final exam posted in their [MyConcordia Portal](#) .
- Do not schedule flights or vacations until the official examination date is released.
- Vacations and travel plans are not considered a valid reason for a deferral request.

EXTERNAL EXAMS – OUT-OF-REGION STUDENTS

- If you are NOT located in the Montreal area and cannot attend the final exam at Concordia, eConcordia will assist you in making arrangements to write the exam at a university in your region.

- External exams are written on the exam date set for the course by the Concordia Exams Office.
- You can obtain an **External Exam Request Form** as well as all pertinent instructions in the External Exam link in the Student Menu of your eConcordia portal. All requests for an external exam are to be submitted via e-mail to: exams@econcordia.com.
- For more information about the external exam option, please call 514-848-8774 or 1-888-361-4949.
- The external exam request deadline for the final exam is **APRIL 1, 2010**.
- Late requests will NOT be accommodated. ALL fees incurred to write an external exam are the responsibility of the student. Fees vary per institution from \$50 to \$125 per exam. It is the responsibility of the student to inquire about the fee with the Institution prior to scheduling the exam.
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GRADES

- Your grades can be accessed via your eConcordia portal. In order to view your marks, you must click on the **My Grades** link, located in the left-hand side menu of your account.
- It is your responsibility to ensure your work has been received (to be verified as outlined in your assignment instructions) and to contact your TA via e-mail for clarification if you have any questions concerning your grades.
- Your final letter grade for the course will be posted in your MyConcordia Portal at the end of the term.

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

The technical requirements for accessing the online material are listed within the course content and on our main website:



<http://www.econcordia.com/home/elearning.aspx?section=224> .

If your existing hardware does not meet the requirements, you may experience a

lower level of quality and accessibility to our website and course content.

TECHNICAL ISSUES – eConcordia Help Desk

- For any technical questions or inquiries to your eConcordia portal (login or account issues), or if you are having difficulty accessing the eConcordia site, please contact eConcordia's HelpDesk at:

 helpdesk@concordia.com  514-848-8774 or toll free 1-888-361-4949

- At eConcordia we take every possible measure to ensure that your online learning experience runs as smoothly as possible. There may be times, however, when you encounter technical difficulties that are simply beyond our control. This can include unforeseen network or server or connectivity issues.
- It is the responsibility of each student to ensure that s/he saves a copy of all work to be submitted through the system. This applies to any work sent via e-mail and uploads and textbox submissions to the course website. You are required to save copies of work both on a computer hard drive and an external storage device (CD or USB key).
- In the event that a technical problem does arise while submitting your work, please send a copy of the error message you received in the body of your e-mail to helpdesk@concordia.com and one of our agents will assist you.

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM

The Department has zero tolerance for plagiarism.

1. What is plagiarism? The University defines plagiarism as "The presentation of the work of another person as one's own or without proper acknowledgment." (Concordia Undergraduate Calendar 2007-2008, page 66). Plagiarism is an academic offence governed by the Code of Conduct (Academic). To find out more about how to avoid plagiarism, see the Concordia University Student Learning Services guidelines at:

<http://cdev.concordia.ca/CnD/studentlearn/Help/handouts/WritingHO/AvoidingPlagiarism.html>

2. What are the consequences of getting caught? One of the following sanctions may be imposed:

- (a) a written reprimand;
- (b) a piece of work be re-submitted;
- (c) specified community service at the University of up to ten (10) hours per week for a specified period of time;
- (d) a failing grade for the piece of work in question or for the course, if applicable;
- (e) a

failing grade and ineligibility for a supplemental examination or any other evaluative exercise for the course; (f) the obligation to take and pass courses of up to twenty-four (24) credit in addition to the total number of credits required for the student's program as specified by the Academic Hearing Panel. If the student is registered as an Independent student, the sanction will be imposed only if he or she applied and is accepted into a program; (g) suspension for a period not to exceed six (6) academic terms. Suspensions shall entail the withdrawal of all University privileges, including the right to enter and be upon University premises; (h) expulsion from the University. Expulsion entails the permanent termination of all University privileges (Undergraduate Calendar, p. 69.).

Complete regulations can be found on page 65 of the Undergraduate Calendar. See also the Political Science Department's Resources on Avoiding Plagiarism at: <http://politicalscience.concordia.ca/plagiarism/>

STUDY SKILLS: YOUR GUIDE TO ONLINE LEARNING

At eConcordia we want you to succeed as an online learner. Whether you need help managing your time efficiently, understanding your assignments, or writing exams, this [self-directed tutorial](#) will provide you with tips on how to improve your study strategies. Furthermore, reviewing this tutorial as you follow a course will assist you in developing important skills such as note taking, critical thinking, conducting research, and writing, which will ultimately contribute to your academic achievements both online and in traditional settings.

COURSE EVALUATION

Approximately one week prior to the end of the term, you will receive an e-mail message asking you to complete a course evaluation. Click on the link in the e-mail and follow the instructions. Please note that all responses are completely anonymous and will be kept confidential. We value your opinion; your feedback regarding your experience with eConcordia is greatly appreciated.

PLANNED INTERACTION MODE

To make the most of your time and the web-based instructions, the following navigation or interaction mode is recommended. A tutorial is also available in the Getting Started section of the website in order for you to become familiar with the various functions and tools offered in this course.

1. Read the learning objectives for each lesson.
2. Watch the video introduction.
3. Read the material in the Study Materials section.

4. After watching the videos and going over the readings and study materials, test your mastery of the newly acquired information by taking the quiz in the Self-Assessment section.
5. Useful website links related to the lesson topics are available in the Links section. These links have been chosen to complete the course material and to help you focus on various relevant issues. We recommend that you keep your extra-curricular surfing to a minimum as it is easy to get side-tracked.
6. After completing all of the lessons for a given module, you should take the Module Test to assess your knowledge of the topics covered in the module. You are strongly encouraged to fill out the feedback form in the Rate this Module section. We sincerely appreciate your thoughts, opinions, and comments about the readings, videos, study materials, as well as the overall operation of the course. The feedback is anonymous and will in no way affect your status in the course. Your feedback will serve to bring continuous improvements to the course.

See the AGENDA on the next page.

POLI 391: MIDDLE EAST & GLOBAL CONFLICT AGENDA WINTER 2010

All deadlines indicated are on the due date listed by 11:59 p.m. unless otherwise indicated.

Week 1: January 4 – January 10	
eC	Discussion Board opens at 3:00 p.m. on JANUARY 8
	Review the Course Outline & Agenda
	Purchase textbooks
	Navigate the Course Website
	Review the Getting Started section of the course
Week 2: January 11 – January 17	
!	TERM PAPER TOPICS POSTED: JANUARY 15
	Lesson 1: Geography and History
	Lesson 2: Colonialism and the Politics of Oil
ⓘ	DNE Date: Academic withdrawal deadline (with tuition refund): JANUARY 17
ⓘ	Last day to add winter-term courses: JANUARY 17
Week 3: January 18 – January 24	
	Lesson 3: Ideology and Foreign Policy
Week 4: January 25 – January 31	
	Lesson 4: Four Decades of Changing Political Dynamics
Week 5: February 1 – February 7	
!	DEADLINE TO SELECT EVALUATION OPTION: FEBRUARY 3
	Lesson 5: Developments in the Middle East after WWI
Week 6: February 8 – February 14	
	Lesson 6: Palestine and Israel after WWII
Week 7: February 15 – February 21	
!	MID-SEMESTER EXAMINATION: FEBRUARY 17 (OPTIONS I, II, AND III)
	Lesson 7: The Suez Crisis to the 1973 War
Week 8: February 22 – February 28	
ⓘ	Midterm Break begins: February 22
ⓘ	Midterm Break ends : February 28
Week 9: March 1 – March 7	
	Lesson 8: The Path to Peace

	Week 10: March 8 – March 14
i	DISC Date: Academic withdrawal deadline (without tuition refund): MARCH 8
	Lesson 9: The Palestine Question
	Week 11: March 15 –March 21
	Lesson 10: The Transition Period (1975-1990)
	Week 12: March 22 – March 28
	Lesson 11: The Transition Period Cont.
	Week 13: March 29 - April 4
!	SHORT TERM PAPER 1 DUE: MARCH 31 (Option II A)
!	SHORT TERM PAPER 2 DUE: MARCH 31 (OPTION II B)
!	LONG TERM PAPER DUE: MARCH 31 (OPTION III)
	Lesson 12: Iraq, The Gulf War and the American Invasion
i	University Closed – April 2
eC	External Exam Application Deadline for final: APRIL 1
	Week 14: April 5 – April 11
i	University Closed – April 5
	Lesson 13: Prospects for the Future
eC	Complete Course Evaluation
!	Review all lessons and study material in preparation for the final exam
	Week 15: April 12 – April 14
i	Last day of classes – Winter Term: April 12
	Examination Period: April 15 – May 1
i	Exam date, time and location to be posted in your MyConcordia Portal