



LUND
UNIVERSITY

Faculties of Humanities and Theology

ARAH15, Middle Eastern Studies: The Middle East and International Relations, 7.5 credits

Mellanösternkunskap: Mellanösterns internationella relationer, 7,5 högskolepoäng
First Cycle / Grundnivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by the programmes director by delegation from the pro-dean for first- and second-cycle studies on 2013-05-17 to be valid from 2013-05-17, autumn semester 2013.

General Information

The course is compulsory in the BA programme in Arabic Studies and is also offered as a freestanding course. It can be included as part of a first or second cycle degree.

Language of instruction: Swedish and English

Main field of studies

Middle Eastern Studies

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

G1F, First cycle, has less than 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course the student shall

Knowledge and understanding

- be able to give an account of the international relations of the Middle East and the place and function of the Middle East in the international political and economic system
- be able to account for key events and processes in the relationship between the Middle East and international politics

Competence and skills

- be able to analyse processes and sequences of events in the countries of the region in an international context through study and analysis on the impact of the Iraq war on the power balance in the region, Islamic extremism, the strategic position of Iran in the region and the interaction of the superpowers in the region, especially the USA, China and Russia
- be able to select and complete a written assignment on an individually chosen issue
- be able to demonstrate good use of language in both speech and writing

Judgement and approach

- be able to assess the fundamental political and social aspects of significance to the international relations of the Middle East

Course content

The course deals with the international relations of the Middle East from two main perspectives: the relationship between state formation in the region and international relations, and the significance of imperialism and superpowers for these relations. Among the topics addressed are analysis and study of tensions between regional players and external powers, relationships of dependence between states in the region and superpowers, such as patron-client relationships, and regional conflicts. The course examines specific conflict areas, for example the Israeli–Palestinian conflict, minority conflicts, and conflicts and cooperation relating to the Persian Gulf. Moreover, trends of integration and disintegration inside and outside the region are examined.

Course design

Teaching consists of lectures combined with 1-2 seminar and group exercises. Participation in the seminar and group exercises is compulsory.

Assessment

The assessment is based on active participation in the compulsory seminar and group exercises, and a written exam at the end of the course.

Subcourses that are part of this course can be found in an appendix at the end of this document.

Grades

Marking scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction.

Entry requirements

To be admitted to the course, students must have passed ARAH12 or have corresponding knowledge of the history of the Middle East.

Further information

1. The course replaces ARAH21.
2. The credits allocated for course content that in whole or in part is commensurate with another course can only be credited once for a degree. For further details see the current registration information and other relevant documentation.
3. This course is also offered at the Centre for Languages and Literature, Lund University.

Subcourses in ARAH15, Middle Eastern Studies: The Middle East and International Relations

Applies from H12

1201 The Middle East and International Relations, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction