



**LUND**  
UNIVERSITY

Faculties of Humanities and Theology

## **ARAH17, Middle Eastern Studies: The Democratic Development in the Middle East, 7.5 credits**

*Mellanösternkunskap: Demokratisering i Mellanöstern, 7,5  
högskolepoäng*

**First Cycle / Grundnivå**

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### **Details of approval**

The syllabus was approved by the programmes director by delegation from the pro-dean for first- and second-cycle studies on 2013-10-03 to be valid from 2013-10-03, spring semester 2014.

### **General Information**

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

Teaching language: Swedish or English

*Main field of studies*

Arabic Studies - specialization 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 problems and development of democracy in the Middle East and North Africa, taking particular account of aspects such as the situation of women and the relationship between Islam and democracy
- be able to account for the theories of democracy research

### **Competence and skills**

- be able to demonstrate a good use of spoken and written language
- be able to independently formulate specific issues with regard to democratic development and provide justifications and arguments in favour of them

### **Judgement and approach**

- be able to discuss and take a scholarly approach to issues concerning democracy, for example citizenship and democracy, in speech and writing

### **Course content**

The course deals with the political development of the Middle East and North Africa with particular emphasis and focus on democracy. Students are provided with insight into the theoretical discussion regarding the problematic nature of democracy. Individual cases are discussed where various experiments in incorporating and attempts to incorporate democracy into various countries have been made. The aspects discussed are, among other things, Islam and democracy, the role of the military in politics, civil society, the sovereignty of the state, as well as citizenship and democracy. The situation of women and their opportunities to influence the democratic process and civil society are also discussed.

### **Course design**

Teaching consists of lectures and a seminar and group exercise. Participation in the seminar and group exercise is compulsory.

### **Assessment**

The assessment is based on active participation in the compulsory seminar and group exercise, a minor written assignment and a take-home 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 course ARAH12, The History of the Middle East from World War I to the Present, or the equivalent.

### **Further information**

1. The course replaces ARA206 and ARAH23.
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.

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3. The course is offered at the Centre for Languages and Literature, Lund University.

Subcourses in ARAH17, Middle Eastern Studies: The Democratic  
Development in the Middle East

Applies from V14

1201 The Democratic Development in the Middle East, 7,5 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction