

## **MOSN11, Middle Eastern Studies: Politics and International Relations in the Middle East, 7.5 credits**

*Mellanösternstudier: Politik och internationella relationer i Mellanöstern, 7,5 högskolepoäng*  
Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

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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 2012-05-14 to be valid from 2012-05-14, autumn semester 2012.

### **General Information**

The course is included as an elective course in the Master of Arts programme in Middle Eastern Studies (MESLU) at the Centre for Middle Eastern Studies. The course is also offered as a free-standing course and can be included in a first- or second-cycle degree.

*Language of instruction:* English

*Main field of studies*

Middle Eastern Studies

*Depth of study relative to the degree requirements*

A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

### **Learning outcomes**

On completion of the course the student shall

#### **Knowledge and understanding**

- be able to describe the basic historical and contemporary social contract theories underlying democratic governance from a political science perspective
- be able to describe the connections between western discourses and ongoing political processes in the Middle East

### **Competence and skills**

- be able to account for and use political science theory in the analysis of government in the Middle East
- be able to discuss and compare different political forms of government in the Middle East
- be able to independently formulate and apply theories in written analyses of current political discourses and processes in the Middle East
- be able to draw conclusions about the effects of political processes within democratisation, human rights and gender relations in the Middle East

### **Judgement and approach**

- be able to critically evaluate political discourses and narratives in the countries of the Middle East
- be able to assess the effects of western intervention on the processes of democratisation in the countries of the Middle East.

### **Course content**

The aim of the course is to understand and use contemporary political science theory in the analysis of countries in the Middle East. The course investigates how different national identities are built up.

The course will analyse how different social contract theories can be applied to countries in the Middle East, with a particular focus on the extent to which current examples of mass protest against authorities and regimes represent revolution and /or whether these protest movements have brought more representative government.

The course will also analyse the democratising zeal of western governments and international NGOs with a particular emphasis on the extent to which the help has led to support or has been a hindrance in the establishment of democratic politics in the Middle East.

### **Course design**

Teaching consists of compulsory lectures (approx. 8), compulsory seminars (approx. 8) and compulsory submitted assignments (approx. 8 short written assignments and one longer final essay).

### **Assessment**

Assessment is based on the students' individual and active participation in seminars, weekly written assignments and one final written essay of 2500 to 3000 words. Each student will be given the role of discussion leader in at least one seminar session.

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

## Grades

Marking scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A.

The highest grade is A and the lowest passing grade is E. The grade for a non-passing result is F.

Scale of grades:

A = 92 - 100 % of total points

B = 84 - 92 % of total points

C = 76 - 84 % of total points

D = 68 - 76 % of total points

E = 60 - 68 % of total points

F = 0 - 59 % of total points.

All assessed course components are graded.

## Entry requirements

To be admitted to the course, students must have 90 credits (Bachelor's degree level) or equivalent knowledge as well as English B from Swedish upper secondary school or the equivalent.

## Further information

1. The course is offered at the Centre for Middle Eastern Studies, Lund University.

## Subcourses in MOSN11, Middle Eastern Studies: Politics and International Relations in the Middle East

Applies from V12

1201 Politics and International Relations in the Middle East, 7,5 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A