

MOSP31, Middle Eastern Studies: The Formation of Middle Eastern Modernities, 10 credits

*Mellanösternstudier: Framväxten av Mellanösterns moderniteter,
10 högskolepoäng*
Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by the programmes director by delegation from the pro-dean for first- and second-cycle studies on 2012-09-12 to be valid from 2012-09-12, spring semester 2013.

General Information

The course is normally included in the Master of Arts programme in Middle Eastern Studies (MESLU) at the Centre for Middle Eastern Studies. With the approval of the relevant authenticating body, it can also be offered as a free-standing course. The course 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 students shall

Knowledge and understanding

- be able to identify and provide a summary of the historical processes that have shaped and shape the modern and late modern Middle East, such as colonialism, political imperialism, nationalist movements and state formation, democratisation, movements of religious and social reform, industrialisation, urbanisation and globalisation
- be able to describe selected parts of the current social, political, religious and cultural situations and conflicts of the Middle East from a historical perspective

- be able to describe historical assertions and facts both from the point of view of individual statements and of wider narrative contexts and structures

Competence and skills

- be able to describe and problematise past and present processes of democratisation and state formation from the point of view of discussions of nationalism, secularism, religious revival and the situation of minorities, among others
- be able to account for historical explanations of the emergence of the Middle East as a concept and a geopolitical region and the impact of these on our understanding of the region
- be able to independently formulate in speech and writing reflections on the societies of the Middle East on a local, regional and national level and forecasts of development trends

Judgement and approach

- be able to problematise and assess the impact of different historical accounts, particularly with regard to political legitimacy, religious privilege of interpretation, claims to land and ownership and gender issues
- be able to assess the political and economic claims of different parties in symbolically charged conflicts by means of objective analysis and a multiperspectival approach.

Course content

The course focuses on the historical processes that have shaped the present-day Middle East but also on the historical narratives generated by the experiences of modernity. The topical power aspects associated with historical narratives are emphasised, as is the importance of problematising the positions from which history is narrated.

Starting with the nineteenth-century political and military upheavals, the students explore the different modernity processes of the Middle East, not least as consequences of colonialism and imperialism.

Further areas of exploration include the processes of state formation and development of social movements in the twentieth-century Middle East and the effects of globalisation. The discussions address the conditions for democratisation, security, human rights and development, and the mechanisms behind repression, corruption, violation of rights and violence.

Course design

Teaching consists of lectures and approximately three compulsory seminars.

Assessment

The assessment is based on the students' individual active participation in the seminars and on two continuous written assignments tied to the different components of the course and a final written assignment.

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 components are assigned points.

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.
2. For further details see the current registration information and other relevant documentation.

Subcourses in MOSP31, Middle Eastern Studies: The Formation of Middle Eastern Modernities

Applies from H12

1201 The Formation of Middle Eastern Modernities, 10,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A