

**Centre for West Asian Studies
School of International Studies
M.A. International Relations-West Asian Studies**

Course No	:	WA405
Course Title	:	Conflict, Security and Peace Building in West Asia and North Africa
Course Teacher	:	Dr. Vrushal T. Ghoble
Instruction Method	:	Lectures, Seminars, Tutorials, and Dissertation
Credits	:	04
Evaluation Method	:	Sessional Works, and End - Semester Examination
Course Duration	:	One Semester
Semester	:	1 st Semester [Core Course]
Contact Hours	:	Four hours per week

OVERVIEW

The history of West Asia has been faced by constant challenges and consequently, there were responses to these challenges. The socio-political and economics of the region is characterised by the geopolitics that is ever changing. This course will provide a sound basis for understanding of the changes that were seen in the region. The course begins by understanding broader concepts, and the shifts that are undertaken. This course will help students understand and analyse the causes and implications of the conflicts, and security issues that impact the region. As a learning outcome, this course will provide a sound basis for understanding of peace and conflict in relation to the region West Asia and North Africa (WANA).

Learning Outcomes:

The course seeks to achieve the following learning outcomes: to develop research skills in the learners to undertake rigorous and cutting-edge research in domain-specific or related ones; encourage analytical and critical thinking among the learners to expand their depth in the field; and to broaden the learners' scope of knowledge and open up new avenues for innovative research. The course will enable students to acquire research skills and pursue their interests in higher education.

Teaching Methodology and Evaluation:

The course will be in a format of lecturing, seminars, and discussion. The sessions will be taught in an interactive manner. Student participation is necessary. Each student will be graded through examination and assignments. Class participation will also be considered in evaluating student's performance.

THE COURSE STRUCTURE

I. CONCEPTUAL UNDERSTANDING:

Big, small, and weak state structures; strategic geography and geopolitics; challenges [straits, borders, etc.];

II. CONFLICTS IN WANA:

Inter - state conflicts; intra – state conflicts; civil wars;

III. NATURE OF SECURITY THREATS:

Revolutions; question of legitimacy and its types; regime and state security; regional actors [competition and conflict]; external security threats; great power politics [unipolar, bipolar and multipolar]; old and new security architecture; WANA in global order; emergence of non – state actors [governmental, non – governmental, conglomerates, and private]; human security vs. state [food, health, environment, modernity, terrorism, etc.]; technology penetration and impact in WANA;

IV. ROLE IN PEACE BUILDING:

GCC; I2U2; E.U.; Aid; Arab League;

Readings:

Conceptual Understanding:

Beblawi , Hazem and Luciani, Giacomo (1987), *The Rentier State* , London : Routledge.

Crystal Jill (1995), *Oil and Politics in The Gulf Rulers and merchants in Kuwait and Qatar*, London : Cambridge University Press.

Gerges Fawas A (2018), *Making the Arab World : Nasser, Qutb and the clash that shaped the Middle East* , Princeton : Princeton University Press.

Hinnebusch, Raymond (2003), *The International Politics of the Middle East*, New York : Manchester University Press.

Hershlag , Zvi Yehuda (1980), *Introduction of the Modern Economic History of the Middle East*, Leiden : Brill.

Henry ,Clement Moore and Springborg, Robert (2001), *Globalization and the Politics of Development in the Middle East*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Issawi, Charles (1982), *An Economic History of the Middle East and North Africa*, New York: Columbia University Press.

Mason, T David and Meernik ,James D (2006) , *Conflict Prevention and Peace-building in Post-War Societies Sustaining the Peace*, London : Routledge.

Conflicts in WANA:

- Abrahamian, Ervand (2001), *Oil crisis in Iran from Nationalism to Coup d'Etat*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Di Mauro, Danilo (2012), *The UN and the Arab Israeli Conflict : American Hegemony and UN Intervention since 1947*, London: Routledge.
- Danahar, Paul (2013), *The New Middle East: The World after the Arab Spring*, London: Bloomsbury Publishing.
- El Azhary ,M S (1984), *The Iran-Iraq war An historical,Economic and Political Analysis*, London: Routledge.
- Fieldhouse , David K(2006), *Western Imperialism in the Middle East 1914-1958*, Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Handoussa, Heba (1997), *Economic Transition in the Middle East: Global Challenges and Adjustment Strategies*, Cairo: The American University in Cairo Press.
- Hassan, Hakimian and Ziba, Moshaver (2001), *The State and global change : The political economy of transition in the Middle East and North Africa*, London: Curzon Press.
- Hameed, Sameena (Eds.) (2022), *Youth Bloom in GCC*, New Delhi: K W Publishers.

Nature of Security Threats:

- Buzan ,Barry and Waever ,Ole (2003), *Regions and Powers The Structure of International Security*, New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Cabestan, Jean Pierre (2019), "China's Military base in Djibouti : A Microcosm of China's growing competition with United States and New Bipolarity" *Journal of Contemporary China Studies*, 29(125): 1-17.
- Cordesman , Anthony H and Hwang Grace (2021), " The Changing Security Dynamics of the MENA Region", *Center for Strategic and International Studies*. Available at <https://ncusar.org/publications/Publications/2021-03-22-Changing-Security-Dynamics-of-the-MENA-Region.pdf>
- El Anais ,Imad et al(2018), *Security and Insecurity in the Middle East*, Newcastle: Cambridge Scholars Publishing.
- Gause, F Gregory (1994), *Oil Monarchies : Domestic and Security challenges in the Arab Gulf States*, New York: Council of Foreign Relations Press.
- Ghoble, Vrushal Trimbak (2023), *West Asia and the World : Geopolitical Shifts, Multi polarity and Energy Development*, New Delhi: Primus Publications.
- Herbstreuth, Sebastian (2016), *Oil and American Identity : A culture of dependency and US Foreign Policy*, London: IB Tauris.

Mason, Robert (2021), *New Perspectives on Middle East Politics: Economy, Society and International Relations*, Cairo: American University in Cairo Press.

Mason, Robert(2015), *Foreign Policy in Iran and Saudi Arabia Economics and Diplomacy in the Middle East*, London :IB Tauris.

Owen, Roger (2004), *State, Power and Politics in the making of the Modern Middle East*, 3rd Edition, London: Routledge.

Richards, Alan et al (2013), *A Political Economy of the Middle East*, 3rd Edition, Colorado : Westview Press.

Ross, Michael Lewin (2012), *The Oil Curse: How Petroleum wealth shapes the development of Nations*, New Jersey: Princeton University Press

Salehi-Isfahani ,Djavad (ed. 2001), *Labour and Human Capital in the Middle East: Studies of Markets and Household behaviour*, Ithica Press.

Shafik, Nemat (ed 1998), *Economic Challenges facing Middle Eastern and North African Countries : Alternative Futures*, Basingstoke and London: Macmillan Press.

Yergin, Daniel (1990), *The Prize : The Epic quest for Oil,Money and Power*, New York: Simon and Schuster.

Role in Peace Building:

Almujaini, Ahmed Abdullah (2021), “ Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Security and Defence Challenges”, Available at https://www.researchgate.net/publication/348805660_Gulf_Cooperation_Council_GCC_Security_and_Defense_Challenges.

Calabrese, John (2022), “The US and the I2U2: Cross-Bracing Partnerships across the Indo-Pacific”, Middle East Institute. Available at, <https://www.mei.edu/publications/us-and-i2u2-cross-bracing-partnerships-across-indo-pacific>

Fraser, Jada and Soliman, Mohammed (2023), “The Quad,AUKUS and I2U2 formats: Major lessons from Minilaterals”, *Orbis*, Vol 63, Issue 3, pp 411-419.

Kaplan, Jacob J. (second ed.) (1968), *The Challenge of Foreign Aid*, Praeger Publishers: London.

Koch, Christian (2010), “The GCC as a Regional Security Organization” , *Konrad Adenauer Stiftung*, pp 23-35. Available at, https://www.kas.de/c/document_library/get_file?uuid=ca542b43-1671-8fab-93f0-397e609e8919&groupId=252038

Pinfari, Marco (2016) "Regional Organizations in the Middle East" *Oxford Handbook (Eds.), "Oxford Handbook Topics in Politics"*, Available at, <https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780199935307.013.86>

Suri, Navdeep and Sethi, Hargun (2023), "The I2U2: Where Geography and Economics Meet", ORF, Issue Brief, Issue No. 618. Available at, https://www.orfonline.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/ORF_IssueBrief_618_I2U2.pdf

Websites:

UN Conference on Trade And Development FDI Country Report - www.unctad.org

UNDP Human Development Reports (various Issues) - <http://hdr.undp.org>

The Inter-Arab Investment Guarantee Corporation - <http://www.iaigc.org/>

UN Economic and Social Commission for West Asia - <http://www.escwa.un.org/>
