

**Centre for West Asian Studies
School of International Studies**

Course for Ph.D.

Course No.	:	WA 633
Course title	:	West Asian Economies: Issues in Development
Course teacher	:	Prof. Sameena Hameed
Credits	:	Four (04)
Instruction Method	:	Lectures, Seminars and tutorials
Evaluation Method	:	Sessional work and Semester examination
Course Duration	:	One Semester
Semester	:	First Semester
Contact hours	:	04 per week

Objectives: The course is designed to understand the economic, social, political and institutional factors that affect economic development in the West Asia and North Africa. It critically analyses the challenges of economic development emanating from various geopolitical, economic and social context and various state policies in the region. It would generate an understanding of the impact of global supply chains and investments on the region. The development implications of conflicts, displacement and environmental degradation would be discussed. It would also give an insight into the emerging trends in the region that shape the development opportunities in the region.

Learning Outcome: The students will be able to comprehend the issues that affect prospects of economic development as well as identify the development deficits prevailing in different countries in the West Asia and North African region

Course Content

Unit 1 Understanding Economic Development

- Definition, scope, measurements and indicators
- Theories of economic development
- Factors affecting economic development
- Policies and strategies for economic development
- Role of institutions in economic development

Unit 2 Economic Development in WANA

- Historical Context and rentier economy
- Neoliberal reforms
- Economic diversification and private sector development
- Public finance and social welfare policies

- Human resources and labour market
- Challenges: Multi-dimensional Poverty, disparities, conflicts, environmental degradation

Unit 3. West Asia in World Economy

- Patterns of International trade and investment
- Impact of globalisation and de-globalisation
- Digital and financial integration: issues of digital inclusion, capital flows
- Challenges of regional integration
- Arab Uprisings-Economic roots and consequences

Unit 4 Issues of Migration and Displacement

- Problems of refugees and statelessness
- Economic contribution and challenges of migrants: Remittances, labour force participation, informal sector
- Developmental issues in conflict zones; case studies of Yemen, Syria, Iraq, West Bank and Gaza Strip
- Humanitarian crises

5. Emerging trends in Economic Development

- Women empowerment and labour force participation
- Role of technology and innovation
- Sustainable Development Goals
- Youth employment and skill development
- Regional cooperation

Essential Readings

1. Hafner, M., Raimondi, P.P., Bonometti, B. (2023). The MENA Region: An Economic, Energy, and Historical Context. In: The Energy Sector and Energy Geopolitics in the MENA Region at a Crossroad. Perspectives on Development in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Region. Springer, Cham.
2. Sorenson, David. S. (2013). An introduction to the modern Middle East. Westview Press.
3. Issawi, Charles (1982). An economic history of the Middle East and North Africa (1st ed.). Routledge.
4. Niblock, Tim (2015). Social and Economic Development in the Arab Gulf. New York: Routledge.
5. Devlin, Julia C. (2010). Challenges of Economic Development in the Middle East and North Africa Region, Singapore: World Scientific Publishing Co. Ltd.

6. Beblawi, Hazem and and Giacomo, Luciani (1987). *The Rentier State: Nation, State and Integration in the Arab world*, London: Croom Helm.
7. Held, David and Kristian, Ulrichsen (2013). *The Transformation of the Gulf: Politics, Economics and the Global Order*, New York: Routledge
8. Henry, C. M. and Springborg, R.(2005). *Globalization and the Politics of Development in the Middle East*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
9. Aliboni, Roberto (2014). *Arab Industrialisation and Economic Integration*, London: Redwood Burn Limited.

Unit 1

1. Todaro, Michael. P., & Smith, Stephen. C. (2020). *Economic Development* (13th ed.). Pearson Education.
2. Sen, Amartya. (1999). *Development as Freedom*. Oxford University Press.
3. Stiglitz, Joseph. E. (2012). *The Price of Inequality: How Today's Divided Society Endangers Our Future*. W.W. Norton & Company.
4. Acemoglu, Daron, & Robinson, James. A. (2012). *Why Nations Fail: The Origins of Power, Prosperity, and Poverty*. Crown Business.
5. North, Douglass (1990). *Institutions, Institutional Change and Economic Performance* , Cambridge University Press.

Unit 2

1. Ali, Mohamed Sami Ben (2016) *Economic Development in Middle East and North Africa Challenges and Prospects* (Springer). (chapter 1)
2. Luciani, Giacomo.(2017). *Combining economic and political development: the experience of MENA*. Brill
3. Gray, M. (2011), “A Theory of “Late Rentierism” in the Arab States of the Gulf”, Occasional Paper, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service, Doha,
4. Mishref, Ashraf and Balushi, Yusuf A. (2017). *Economic diversification in the Gulf region Vol 1 & 2*. Springer.
5. Arab Human development Reports

Unit 3

1. Ulrichsen, Kristian C. (2016). The Gulf States In International Political Economy, Palgrave Macmillan ; Chapter 8
2. Wilson, Rodney (2022, 3rd ed) Economic Development in Middle East (Routledge)
3. Ianchovochina, Elena. (2017). Eruptions of Popular Anger: Economics of Arab Spring and its aftermath, MENA Development Report ,World Bank.

Unit 4

1. Babar, Zahra. (Ed.). (2020). Mobility, Displacement, and Forced Migration in the Middle East. Oxford University Press/Hurst.
2. MacGinty, Roger and Williams, Andrew (2009), *Conflict and Development*, New York: Routledge.
3. Lian, Kwen F., Hosoda, Naomi, & Ishii, Masako (2019). International labour migration in the Middle East and Asia: Issues of inclusion and exclusion. Springer Nature. (chapters 1& 2)
4. Nonneman, Gerd. (2013). Development, administration and aid in the Middle East. Routledge.

Unit 5

1. Thomas, K., & Kasselstrand, I. (2022). A long way to liberalization, or is it? Public perceptions of women empowerment in the Middle East and North Africa. *Journal of Gender Studies*, 31(4), 456-473.
2. Zayani, M. (Ed.). (2018). Digital Middle East: State and society in the information age. Oxford University Press.
3. Ben Hassen, T., & El Bilali, H. (2024). Sustainable development goals in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region: Policy and governance. In *Handbook of Sustainable Development in the MENA Region*. Springer
4. Stiglitz, J. E., & Rodrik, D. (2024). Rethinking global governance: Cooperation in a world of power. Research Paper. Cambridge