THEORIES OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, REALITES OF THE MIDDLE EAST: CONFLICTS, WARS, AND NEGOTIATIONS

June 6-23, 2016

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1. **Goals and Contents of the Course**

This intensive mini-course represents an attempt to combine general theories and concepts of international relations with the empirical reality (or realities) of the contemporary Middle East in general, and the Arab-Israeli conflict in particular. The course is divided into two sections. In the first section we will discuss general theories and concepts of international relations, alternating each general discussion with a specific implementation and discussion about the Middle East. The relevant theories and concepts will be power and alliances (Realism); interdependence, globalization, transnational actors and integration (Liberalism); and norms and identity (Constructivism and the English school). In the second section we will focus on empirical issues as related to the negotiations in the Arab-Israeli conflict, with particular emphasis upon the Israeli-Palestinian dyad.

2. **Students' assignments and grades**

Students' assignments include the following:

- Active participation in the class, which will include an interactive dimension of questions, answers, and collective discussion.
- Submission of a short paper, up to 10 pages (double space, font 12 Times Roman). The paper should establish a clear link between theories and realities in the Middle East.

The grade will be distributed as follows:

- Class participation 30%
- Term paper 70%

3. **Schedule of Classes**

A. General Theories and Concepts
1. Monday, June 8: Introduction: IR Theories and Realities in the Middle East.
2. Tuesday, June 9: Power Politics and Alliances in the Middle East.
3. Wednesday, June 10: Liberalism and its relevance in the Middle East.
4. Thursday, June 11: Constructivism: Norms and Identity in the Middle East.

B. Negotiating Middle East Peace

5. Monday, June 15: Inter-state dyads in negotiating Middle East peace.
6. Tuesday, June 16: The Israeli-Palestinian peace process.

[All the sessions will take place in the afternoons, between 1300]
and 1530; or between 1400 and 1630]

A. General Theories and Concepts

1. Introduction: IR Theories and Realities of the Middle East (June 8)


Mary Ann Tetreault, "International Relations," in Deborah Gerner, ed., Understanding the Contemporary Middle East (Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner, 2008). (ME9 S412) ERESERVE 00187867


Morris, Righteous Victims, browse Chapters 1-9, pp.3-443. [E327.56 M875]

Alan Dowty, Israel/Palestine, pp. 1-104 [E327.56 D752]
2. **Power Politics and Alliances - Realism and its Application to the Middle East** (June 9)


Benjamin Miller, "The Global Sources of Regional Transitions from War to Peace: The Case of the Middle East," *Davis Occasional Papers*, No. 75, October 1999. ERESERVE 001879236

3. **Institutions, Interdependence, and Integration (Liberalism), and its implementation in the Middle East** (June 10)

Tim Dunne, "Liberalism," in Baylis and Smith (eds.), *The Globalization of World Politics*, pp. 185-203. (327 B358) ERESERVE 001878665


4. **Constructivism: Norms and Identity in the Middle East** (June 11)

Emanuel Adler, "Constructivism and International Relations," in *Handbook of International Relations*, pp. 52-72. ERESERVE 001492510

Stephen Saideman, "Conclusion: Thinking Theoretically about Identity and Foreign Policy," in Shibley Telhami and Michael Barnett (eds.), *Identity and Foreign Policy in
(ME327 T271) ERESERVE 001400091


Shibley Telhami and Michael Barnett, “Identity and Foreign Policy in the Middle East,” in Telhami and Barnett, Identity and Foreign Policy in the Middle East, pp. 1-25. (ME327 T271) ERESERVE 001400092

Avraham Sela, The Decline of the Arab-Israeli Conflict, pp. 3-54; 341-350. 
(ME320.9 S464) ERESERVE 001879141


Halliday, The Middle East in International Relations, Chapter 2, pp. 41-74. 
(ME327 H188) ERESERVE 001878666


5. Dyads of Peace Processes: Israel-Egypt; Israel-Syria; Israel-Lebanon; Israel-Jordan (June 15)

Eisenberg and Caplan, Negotiating Arab-Israeli Peace, Chapter 1, pp. 28-42. 
E-book 001719759 and [E327.172 E36]

Quandt, Peace Process, Chapter 5, pp. 130-173; and Chapters 6-7, pp. 177-242. 
E-book 001871271 and [ME327.172/Q1]


Eisenberg and Caplan, Negotiating Arab-Israeli Peace, Chapter 2, pp. 43-59. . 
E-book 001719759 and [E327.172 E36]


Morris, *Righteous Victims*, pp. 632-634. [E327.56 M875]


Kurtzer et al. (2013), Chapter 2, pp. 59-104. (*)[E327.56 K96]


Morris, *Righteous Victims*, pp. 629-632. [E327.56 M875]


6. and 7. Israeli-Palestinian Relations, 1967-2014 and the Way Ahead (June 16 and 17)


Morris, *Righteous Victims*, Chapter 12, pp. 561-610. [E327.56 M875]


Dowty, *Israel/Palestine*, pp. 105-136. [E327.56 D752]

Kurtzer et al. (2013), Chapter 1, pp. 15-58. [E327.56 K96]


Laqueur and Rubin, *The Israel-Arab Reader*, “Declaration of Principles, Israel and PLO” (September 13, 1993), pp. 413-422; “Israel and PLO: Cairo Agreement” (March 4, 1994), pp. 442-455; “Israel and Palestinian Authority: Interim Agreement


ERESERVE 001745535

Aluf Benn, “Grasping for Peace,” Foreign Policy, January/February 2002, pp. 82-84. E-journal

Eisenberg and Caplan, Negotiating Arab-Israeli Peace, pp. 127-143. E-book 001719759 and [E327.172 E36]

Morris, Righteous Victims, pp. 676-694. [E327.172 E36]


E-journal

Dowty, Israel/Palestine, pp. 204-230.  [E327.56 D752]


Henry Fishman and Ephraim Lavie (2010), The Peace Process: Seventeen Plans in Ten Years: An Assessment of the Initiatives to Resolve the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict over the Past Decade [Tel-Aviv: The Peres Center for Peace]. [available online]