

Geopolitics of Africa and the Middle East

Academic Year: (2019 / 2020)

Review date: 08-05-2020

Department assigned to the subject: Social Sciences Department

Coordinating teacher: OZEL SERBETÇİ, ISIK

Type: Electives ECTS Credits : 6.0

Year : 1 Semester : 2

REQUIREMENTS (SUBJECTS THAT ARE ASSUMED TO BE KNOWN)

There are no prerequisites for this class

OBJECTIVES

Competences and skills

Skills related to the development of analytical and critical thinking.

Communication and writing skills to be applied in individual and group assignments as well as exams.

Public speaking and presentation skills.

Interpersonal skills such as the ability to work in teams and role play.

Ability to link theoretical analysis to the historical processes, socio-economic structures, and geopolitical challenges prevalent in Africa and the Middle East.

Learning Results

Knowledge of the most important geopolitical and geostrategic elements and themes affecting Africa and the Middle East.

Ability to interrelate and understand synoptically the different geopolitical and geostrategic elements and phenomena specific to Africa and the Middle East.

Ability to locate and relate geopolitical and geostrategic regional dynamics of Africa and the Middle East with the global geopolitical structure.

Ability to search, select and synthesize diverse and relevant sources of information on current geopolitical issues related with Africa and the Middle East and critically evaluate them.

Ability to present oral and written information on geopolitical issues addressed.

Ability to understand, use and rigorously apply the main theoretical frameworks formulated recently to explain the structure and functioning of regional geopolitics in the context of Africa and the Middle East.

Ability to analyze the economic power of major countries along with alliances, initiatives and ongoing rivalries at the regional level.

Ability to understand and analyze the major conflicts, risks and threats in Africa and the Middle East related to international security.

Ability to understand and analyze the geo-economic and political consequences of globalization and regionalization in Africa and the Middle East and their geostrategic implications.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS: PROGRAMME

1. Description of Africa and the Middle East.
 - 1.1. Geography and History.
 - 1.2. National, Subregional, and Regional Dimensions.
2. The African Continent and Its Specific Characteristics.
3. The Middle East and its Specific Characteristics.
4. Africa in the Global Context.
5. The Middle East in the Global Context.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES AND METHODOLOGY

Actividades Formativas

-Clases teóricas

- Clases teórico prácticas
- Tutorías
- Trabajo en grupo
- Trabajo individual del estudiante
- Pruebas y exámenes finales

Teaching Methodology

This course consists of lectures and a number of activities which will be carried out by the students. In general, classes are designed in a manner to promote students' active participation and critical thinking. Therefore, it is essential that they come to class prepared to discuss the readings assigned for that particular session. It is highly recommended to keep up-to-date about ongoing events about geopolitics of Africa and the Middle East.

Office hours

Office hours, held on a weekly basis (2 hours per week), will be announced at the beginning of the semester. Additionally, students can consult with the professor about their specific questions via email.

ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

Class attendance and participation: 20% of the course grade.

Continuous assessment assignments: 30% of the course grade.

Term paper: 50% of the course grade.

% end-of-term-examination:	50
% of continuous assessment (assignments, laboratory, practicals...):	50

BASIC BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Bonine, M. E. BONINE, A. Amanat, and M.E.Gasper Is There a Middle East? The Evolution of a Geopolitical Concept, Stanford University Press, 2011
- Chebab, Z. Inside Hamas, New York, I.B. Tauris, 2007
- Gordis, Daniel Israel. A Concise History of a Nation Reborn, New York: Harper Collins, 2017
- Hinnebusch, Raymond International Politics of the Middle East, Manchester University Press, 2003
- Kerr, Gordon A Short History of the Middle East, Somerset, Old Castle Books-Pocket Essentials, 2015
- Kudsen, A. and M. Kerr (eds) Lebanon after the Cedar Revolution, , London, Hurst&Company, 2012
- Lapidus, I.M. A History of Islamic Societies,, Londres, I. B. Tauris, 2002
- Levitt, M. Hamas: Politics, Charity and Terrorism in the Service of Jihad, Yale University Press, 2007
- Owen, Robert State Power and Politics in Making of Modern Middle East Libro de R, Routledge, 1991
- PATRIKARAKOS, David Nuclear Iran: The Birth of an Atomic State,, Londres, I.B. Tauris, 2012
- Rougier, Bernard The Suni Tragedy in the Middle East: Northern Lebanon From Al Qaeda to ISIS, Princeton University Press, 2015
- Said, Edward W. Orientalism, New York, Vintage Books, 1979

ADDITIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Hitti, Philip History of the Arabs, Nueva York, Palgrave MacMillan, 2002
- QASSEM, N. Hezbollah. The Story from Within, London, Saqi Books, 2010
- Stewart, Dona J. The Middle East Today, Political, Geographical and Cultural Perspectives, Roudledge, 2009

BASIC ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

- . European Neighborhood Policy and MENA Region: https://eeas.europa.eu/topics/european-neighbourhood-policy-enp_en
- . African Union: <https://au.int/>
- . The League of Arab States: <http://www.lasportal.org/en/aboutlas/Pages/HistoricalOverView.aspx>