

## Curso FS-07 THE ARAB WORLD TODAY: CONTEMPORARY HISTORY AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

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**This course is taught in English and is open to students with any level of Spanish.**

### Objectives

This Course will introduce students to the contemporary history of the Arab world and its international relations during the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries. It will describe the major events in the history of the Eastern (*Mashreq*) and Western (*Maghreb*) Arab states during this period and of the development of their relations with Europe and the United States. Special attention will be paid to Spain's relations with the Maghreb region, particularly with Morocco.

### Methodology

Classes will involve lectures, but student active participation will be encouraged through the discussion of assigned readings, through the screening of movies, as well as through student assignment presentations.

### Syllabus

1. Who are the Arabs? What is Islam? The geography of the Arab world.
2. The legacy of the First World War and European Colonialism in the Mashreq region. The rise of the Arab Nation-States. The origins of the Arab-Israeli conflict.
3. The Cold War and Arab nationalism. The Suez Crisis. The United States and the decolonisation of North Africa.
4. The legacy of European Colonialism in the Maghreb region. Spanish and French relations with the Maghreb. The Maghrebi Cold War and the Arab-Maghreb Union.
5. The development of United States policy toward the Arab-Israeli conflict.
6. The Western Sahara conflict and its international dimension.
7. The Gulf War and its aftermath.
8. The Algerian crisis.
9. Arab emigrants in Europe and the United States and their impact on Arab foreign policies.

### Bibliography

AYUBI, Nazih N. M. *Distant Neighbours. The Political Economy of Relations between Europe and the Middle East-North Africa*. Reading: Ithaca Press, 1995.

BROWN, L. Carl. *Diplomacy in the Middle East*. London; New York: I. B. Tauris, 2004.

EMERSON, Michael, *et al.* *Political Islam and European Foreign Policy. Perspectives from Muslim Democrats of the Mediterranean*. Brussels: Centre for European Policy Studies, 2007.

*INTERNATIONAL Dimensions of the Western Sahara Conflict*. Y.H. Zoubir and D.V., eds. Westport: Praeger publishers, 1993.

JANKOWSKI, James P. *Nasser's Egypt, Arab Nationalism, and the United Arab Republic*. Boulder, Colo.: Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2002.

LESCH, David W. *The Middle East and the United States. A Historical and Political Reassessment*. Boulder: Westview Press, 2007.

PARKER, Richard. *Uncle Sam in Barbary. A Diplomatic History*. Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2004.

PENNELL, C. R. *Morocco since 1830. A History*. London: Hurst & Company, 2000.

ZOUBIR, Yahia H. y Haizam Amirah Fernández. *North Africa. Politics, Region, and the Limits of Transformation*. New York: Routledge, 2007.

Movies:

*The Battle of Algiers*. Gillo Pontecorvo (dir.), 1964.

*Nasser 56*. Mohamed Fadel (dir.), 1996.

### **Assessment**

20% Active Participation in class

20% Movie Review

20% Oral Presentation

40% Final examination