

MEDITERRANEAN POLITICS

Number of sessions: 30

Length of each session: 1,5 h

Total length of the module: 45 hours

INTRODUCTION TO THE COURSE

This course explores issues of development, the state, and democracy within the Mediterranean region with a special attention to Southern Europe, North Africa, and Turkey (from a comparative perspective). In this exploration we will pay attention to issues of Modernity and its significance and connection to development, the state, and democracy. The religion-politics duality is of essence throughout the semester. A cultural component (films, related to Mediterranean political issues) will be part of this course.

REQUIREMENTS

- Fluent in English
- No background knowledge is required for this course.

CONTENTS

- Mediterranean political issues
- Modernity
- Religion & politics
- Politics of development
- Conceptualizing development, democracy, the state, globalization

GRADING (THERE WILL BE NO EXAMS IN THIS COURSE)

Discussion Papers (35%): Each student will write a 5-page (double-spaced) reaction paper criticizing and analyzing the readings pertaining to a preselected day. This task will be performed twice during the semester (i.e., 17,5% each essay).

Research Paper (30%): Each student will independently elaborate a 15-page (double-space) research paper, but with guidance from the professor.

Presentation in class (10%): Each student will present his or her final research paper in class.

Reaction Critical Paper (10%): Each student will read another classmate's paper, listen to his/her paper presentation, and criticize the same ones. The student will submit a 5-page word-processed document (double-spaced) highlighting your comments, critiques, and questions posed to your classmate during his/her presentation and your level of satisfaction with the answers received in an orderly way.

Attendance/Participation (15%): Each student is expected to come prepared to class (i.e., having read the assigned readings and with questions, comments, observations regarding these).

BIBLIOGRAPHY (Just a selection and we will read only a chapter or two of most books.)

- Amartya Sen (1999). *Development as Freedom*. New York: Anchor Books.
- Jared Diamond (1997). *Guns, Germs, and Steel: The Fates of Human Societies*. Norton and Company.
- Roberto Mangabeira Unger (1998). *Democracy Realized: A Progressive Alternative*. Verso.
- Robert H. Bates (2001). *Prosperity & Violence: The Political Economy of Development*. New York/London: W.W. Norton & Company.
- Alexander Wendt (1999). *Social Theory in International Politics*.
- Alexander Wendt (2006), "'Social Theory' as Cartesian Science: An Auto-Critique from a Quantum Perspective," in *Constructivism and International Relation*, edited by Stefano Guzzini and Anna Leander. London: Routledge.
 - Alexander Wendt, "PREFACE TO A QUANTUM SOCIAL SCIENCE" (draft, 2009)
- Jacques Le Goff. 2007. *The Birth of Europe*. "The Autumn of the Middle Ages or the Spring of a New Age?", pp. 154-201.
- Samir Amin (2009). *Eurocentrism: Modernity, Religion, and Democracy. A Critique of Eurocentrism and Culturalism*.
- David Abulafia (2003). *The Mediterranean in History*.
- Marx, "On the Jewish Question"
- Rousseau, "Civil Religion"
- Juan J. Linz & Alfred Stepan (1996). *Problems of Democratic Transition and Consolidation: Southern Europe, South America, and Post-Communist Europe*. The John Hopkins University Press.
- Sheri Berman (January 2007), "Lessons from Europe," in *Journal of Democracy*.
- Larry Diamond (January 2010). "Why Are There No Arab Democracies?," in *Journal of Democracy*.
- Vali Nasr (April 2005), "The Rise of "Muslim Democracy"," in *Journal of Democracy*.
- Daniel Brumberg (October 2002). "Democratization in the Arab World? The Trap of Liberalized Autocracy," in *Journal of Democracy*.
- Tamara Cofman Wittes (July 2008). "Islamist Parties and Democracy: Three Kinds of Movements," in *Journal of Democracy*.
- E. Fuat Keyman and Ziya Onis (2007). *Turkish Politics in a Changing World: Global Dynamics and Domestic Transformations*. Istanbul Bilgi University Press.
- Ziya Öniş, "Conservative Globalism at the Crossroads: The Justice and Development Party and the Thorny Path to Democratic Consolidation in Turkey," *Mediterranean Politics*, Vol. 14, Iss. 1, 2009.
- KÖSEBALABAN, Hasan, "Turkey and the New Middle East: Between Liberalism and Realism", *PERCEPTIONS*, Autumn 2011, Volume XVI, Number 3, pp. 93-114
- Timo Behr. "Talking about the Revolution: Narratives on the Origin and Future of the Arab Spring," *EUROMESCO*, February 2012.
- Zoltan Barany (October 2011). "Comparing the Arab Revolts: The Role of the Military," in *Journal of Democracy*.