

**The Ohio State University  
Department of Economics  
Middle Eastern Economic Development  
AEDECON4537, ECON4537, INTSTDS4537  
Spring 2021**

**Instructor:** Dr. Ida Mirzaie, Department of Economics

**Online Class Meetings:** Tuesdays and Thursdays: 2:20 pm – 3:40 pm

**On Zoom:** <https://osu.zoom.us/j/98940335527>

Password: 4537spring

**Mode of delivering:** Distance Learning, Synchronous

**Credit Hours:** 3

**Course Page** <http://carmen.osu.edu>

**Online Office Hours:** Mondays and Wednesdays 1:00pm – 2:00pm

<https://osu.zoom.us/j/97119219130>

Password: help

**Email:** [Mirzaie.1@osu.edu](mailto:Mirzaie.1@osu.edu)

**Phone Number:** 6142926110

**Course webpage:** <https://carmen.osu.edu/>

**Personal Academic website:** <https://idamirzaie.academia.edu/>

**Grader:** Abolfazl Setayesh Valipour

**Grader's Email:** setayesh.1@osu.edu

**Course Description**

Introduction to current economic issues facing and similarities and differences in Middle Eastern countries' growth, inflation, unemployment, fiscal and monetary policy, imports, exports, foreign debt and exchange rate policy.

**Prereq:**

2001 (200) or Econ 2001 (200). Not open to students with credit for 437 or 4537 (537), or Econ 4537 (537), or IntStds 437 or 4537 (537). Cross-listed in Econ and IntStds

**OBJECTIVE**

This course intends to extend understanding of the economic issues facing Middle Eastern countries. Building upon basic principles of economics, this course seeks to introduce students to current economic issues from a regional standpoint to shed light on cross-regional similarities and differences. After covering background information on the geography, culture, and social environment of the Middle East, the course will cover internal situation (e.g. growth, inflation,

unemployment, fiscal and monetary policy) and external situation (e.g. import, export, foreign debt, and exchange rate policy). Throughout the course, we will also discuss current events and issues related to Middle Eastern countries.

### **Learning outcome**

Using the knowledge from principles of economics, students will examine current economic issues in the Middle East by bringing into focus the integration of social, cultural, economic, and historical dynamics in the region.

### **TEACHING METHODS**

**Attendance and participation requirements:** Because this is an online course, your attendance is based on your online activity and participation. As noted above, this course is not a self-paced learning experience. If you have a situation that might cause you to miss an entire week of class, discuss it with me as soon as possible. The following is a summary of students' expected participation:

- **Weekly Zoom sessions on Tuesdays and Thursdays 2:20pm – 3:40pm: REQUIRED.** All live, scheduled class sessions for the course are required.
- **Zoom instructor office hours: OPTIONAL.** You are encouraged to note my office hours in your weekly schedule and attend as you have any questions related to your individual circumstances that you do not want to post on the discussion section of Carmen.
- **Participating in online activities: AT LEAST ONCE PER WEEK.** You are expected to log in to the course in Carmen every week to engage with course readings, videos, and assignments. During most weeks you will probably log in many times.

Teaching methods will include lecture, discussions, and students' presentations.

### **QUESTIONS & ANSWERS**

We have covered all questions regarding the course in this syllabus. If you have any additional questions, for course related questions you should use "Discussion" section of Carmen to post your questions. I will answer your questions either during the following lecture or on Carmen by Monday following the post. When posting on the discussion board, always choose a title for the post that clearly states the main point of the question. This way other students do not repeat the same questions. If your question is related to a topic already posted, please use the thread connected to that topic. We would like to keep the discussion board as organized as possible and we need your help on this.

For questions related to your individual circumstances, you may email me, and I will respond to your email within 3 working days. When emailing, on the subject line write 4537. Just you know, I do not ignore any emails, and if you do not receive any response by the end of that week, please kindly resend that email as some emails may get lost among many other emails I receive daily.

## **REQUIRED TEXT**

A Political Economy of the Middle East By Melani Cammett, Ishac Diwan, Alan Richards and John Waterbury, 4<sup>th</sup> edition, Print ISBN: 9780813349381, 0813349389

You may also rent the E-book for 180 days for \$35.73 using this link:

<https://www.vitalsource.com/products/a-political-economy-of-the-middle-east-melani-cammett-v9780429972232>

Additional readings and handouts (in pdf format) will be available on Carmen.

## **REQUIRED EQUIPMENT**

- Computer: current Mac (OS X) or PC (Windows 7+) with high-speed internet connection
- Microphone: built-in laptop or tablet mic or external microphone
- Other: a mobile device (smartphone or tablet) or landline to use for BuckeyePass authentication

## **REQUIRED SOFTWARE**

- [Microsoft Office 365](#): All Ohio State students are now eligible for free Microsoft Office 365. Full instructions for downloading and installation can be found at [go.osu.edu/office365help](http://go.osu.edu/office365help).

## **CARMEN ACCESS**

You will need to use [BuckeyePass](#) multi-factor authentication to access your courses in Carmen. To ensure that you are able to connect to Carmen at all times, it is recommended that you take the following steps:

- Register multiple devices in case something happens to your primary device. Visit the [BuckeyePass - Adding a Device\(link is external\)](#) help article for step-by-step instructions.
- Request passcodes to keep as a backup authentication option. When you see the Duo login screen on your computer, click **Enter a Passcode** and then click the **Text me new codes** button that appears. This will text you ten passcodes good for 365 days that can each be used once.
- Install the [Duo Mobile application\(link is external\)](#) to all of your registered devices for the ability to generate one-time codes in the event that you lose cell, data, or Wi-Fi service.

If none of these options will meet the needs of your situation, you can contact the IT Service Desk at 614-688-4357 (HELP) and IT support staff will work out a solution with you.

## TECHNOLOGY SKILLS NEEDED FOR THIS COURSE

- Basic computer and web-browsing skills
- [Navigating CarmenCanvas](#)
- [CarmenZoom virtual meetings](#)
- [Recording a slide presentation with audio narration and recording, editing and uploading video](#)

## TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT

For help with your password, university email, CarmenCanvas, or any other technology issues, questions or requests, contact the IT Service Desk, which offers 24-hour support, seven days a week.

- Self-Service and Chat: [go.osu.edu/it](http://go.osu.edu/it)
- Phone: 614-688-4357 (HELP)
- Email: [servicedesk@osu.edu](mailto:servicedesk@osu.edu)(link sends email)

## *DIGITAL FLAGSHIP*

Digital Flagship is a student success initiative aimed at helping you build digital skills for both college and career. This includes offering an engaging collection of digital tools and supportive learning experiences, university-wide opportunities to learn to code, and a Design Lab to explore digital design and app development. Digital Flagship resources available to help Ohio State students include on-demand tutorials, The Digital Flagship Handbook (your guide for all things tech-related), workshops and events, one-on-one tech consultations with a peer or Digital Flagship staff member, and more. To learn more about how Digital Flagship can help you use technology in your courses and grow your digital skills, visit [go.osu.edu/dfresources](http://go.osu.edu/dfresources).

## ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND COLLABORATION

This course will be more interesting if all students get engaged and actively participated in all aspects of the course. This course requires more than the memorization of a few facts and definitions. More importantly, it requires time and reflection. It is therefore advisable to keep up in this course. At any point, if you encounter difficulties to keep up with the pace of the course, ask for help. Below is a summary of the expectations in this course:

- **Exams and assignments:** You must complete the exams yourself, without any external help or communication. However, for weekly assignments, you may use any external help but still expected to be completed on your own.
- **Written assignments:** Your written assignments, including discussion posts, should be your own original work. In formal assignments, you may follow any [MLA/APA/Chicago etc.] style to cite the ideas and words of your research sources as long as you are consistently using one specific style. You are encouraged to ask a trusted person to proofread your assignments before you turn them in, but no one else should

revise or rewrite your work. For group writing assignments, each group member should take turn to write and other group members should proofread it before turning it in.

- **Reusing past work:** In general, you are prohibited in university courses from turning in work from a past class to your current class, even if you modify it. If you want to build on past research or revisit a topic you've explored in previous courses, please discuss the situation with me.
- **Collaboration and informal peer-review:** The course includes many opportunities for formal collaboration with your classmates. While study groups and peer-review of major written projects is encouraged, remember that comparing answers on a quiz or a test is not permitted. If you're unsure about a particular situation, please ask ahead of time.
- **Group projects:** This course includes group projects, which can be stressful for students when it comes to dividing work, taking credit, and receiving grades and feedback. I have attempted to make the guidelines for group work as clear as possible for each activity and assignment, but please let me know if you have any questions.

## **Grading policy**

Your total grade will be calculated based on earning points. Below, you find each item's weight in percentage points.

Exams (4 exams each 10%)		40%
Group Project		30%
Proposal, weekly progress Reports	10%	
Presentation	10%	
Reflection on other group's presentations	10%	
Assignments on readings		20%
Attendance and Participation		10%
<hr/>		
Total		100

**Please note that whenever you are looking at your grades in Carmen always uncheck the box that says "Calculate based only on graded assignments".**

### **Exams (40 percent of your grade)**

In this course, we will have 4. Exams are not cumulative. The schedule of all exams are posted in this syllabus and it is your responsibility to plan ahead and take these exams prior to due date. Please note that there will be no reopening of the exams for any reasons after the due date is passed.

Each exam will include 20 multiple choice questions with 40 minutes time limit. You have only one attempt. All tests will be opened at 8am on Mondays and be closed at 8pm the same day. You will have a 12 hours window to take each exam. See the last part of this syllabus for opening date of each exam.

Please note that all exams are closed books and closed notes. All right reserved-no part of the exams may be reproduced, distributed, or transmitted in any or used in any form or by any means, including photocopying, recording, texting or other electronic or mechanical methods without any written permission from Department/Instructor.

### **MAKEUP EXAM POLICY**

**Cumulative Makeup Exam:** This exam is only offered during the final exam week to students who have missed one of the above exams because of a documented emergency case. All documents should have been emailed to the instructor at by April 27 at noon in to be eligible to take this makeup exam. The date of the exam will be scheduled according to the individual student. On the subject line, you should state: “4537\_Missed Exam\_Emergency Reason with the supporting documents.”

### **GROUP PRESENTATION, AND REFLECTIONS (30 Percent of the Total Grade)**

Students are divided to groups of 5 with an assigned group leader randomly by Canvas. Each group will choose a country in the Middle East to study. Beginning from the first day of the class, all topics will be assigned on a first come, first served basis.

You may choose one of the countries below:

Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Turkey, U.A.E, and Yemen.

You are expected to exhaust all information in the textbook that relates to your topic, and then update your coverage based on recent events. After each group has finalized their topic and subtopics, I may ask you to do some adjustments in order not to have any overlaps of coverage among the groups. I will discuss this with your group when any changes are needed.

Economic Growth, Public and Private Sectors

Macroeconomic Policies, Unemployment, And Inflation

Global and Regional Integration, Export, and Import

Global and Regional Integration, Banking System, Exchange Rate and Capital Flow

Income and Wealth Distribution, Poverty, Social Unrest

War, Refugees, and Immigration

### **Progress Report** (5 percent of your grade)

We will have 15- 20 minutes for group meetings during every lecture until presentations begin. This group meeting will be through zoom breakout rooms. This way, I can check on your group work and answer your questions. A progress report of each meeting should be posted on Carmen after each meeting. Each group member should take turn to post the report on Carmen. All group members should attend these group meetings. If you happen to be absent in a class meeting, you should inform your group members in advance. If you are encountering unforeseen circumstances and are not able to attend the meetings continuously, you should discuss your situation with me ASAP.

**Proposal** (5 percent of your grade)

A 2-3-page proposal should include the objectives, background information, and detailed information on each group member's subtopic and an outline of expected coverage.

**Presentation** (10 percent of your grade)

The presentation grade will be assigned on overall coverage, organization, and flow of information. Credit will be given based on the content and the clarity of presentations, and the ability to hold audience's attention. Please see the presentation rubric under course information module on Carmen. You should use a Power Point presentation and any features of Power Point that you find appropriate for your work. Your pre-recorded group presentation should be submitted at least two days prior the date of your presentation. Presentation dates will be assigned based the coverage of the topic according to the syllabus and availability of group members for that date. The group should be prepared to answer students' questions related to their presentation. The presentation should be 30-45 minutes depended on the topic and number of group members. To receive a full credit for your presentation, you should attend the class on the day of your group's presentation and be prepared to answer questions. If for any reason, you may not be able to attend the class during that day, you should contact me ASAP to reschedule the presentation.

**Reflection on Presentations** (10 percent of your grade)

You are also expected to listen to group presentations actively and discuss the presentation in your group. Your reflection should be summarized in 1-2 pages report that covers the main ideas covered in the presentation and your feed back to the presenters. If you happen to be absent during the day of other groups' presentations, you should not submit a reflection. To account for emergency absences one reflection will be dropped for all groups.

If you are the one presenting, you should also reflect on your experience by highlighting the positive aspects and also challenges you encountered while preparing your presentation. (10 percent of the grade)

**Assignments** (20 percent of your grade grade)

In your group, you are expected to answer the review questions, discuss main ideas, and add your comments and questions on the material for each chapter. While you will work in group and you may write your report as a group, each group member should take turn to submit on Carmen. On top of the report, you should include names of the group members who have been present and those who have been absent.

**Missed assignment and Late Policy**

You should plan and submit your assignments early as you may encounter issues if you wait for the last minute. Late submission of all assignments is accepted, but your grade will be penalized by 10 percent for every day of delay.

Since you have at least about a week to prepare and submit each assignment, all groups should be able to submit their assignments in time. However, a group member might miss a week of class because of illness, hospitalization, and other special cases. Please note that all such absences should be documented. For these special cases, we will offer makeup assignments on a case-by -case basis.

### **Attendance** (5percent of your grade)

If join the live stream, you will receive one attendance point per class. Students that receive 25 attendance points will be awarded 100% attendance grade.

### **Participation** (5percent of your grade)

This is an applied course and you are expected to participate actively. Students should join the class having carefully read the assigned materials and participate in class discussions. Each participation that substantially contributes to the discussion will be awarded with one participation point. Students that receive five participation points will be awarded 100% participation grade.

### **GRADING SCHEME:**

When assigning the letter grades for the course, the OSU standard grading scheme will be your minimum guaranteed grades. This means, if you earn 90 percent of the total, you are guaranteed a minimum letter grade of A-. I will curve the grades at the end of the course, only if necessary, in order to make sure at least 20 percent of students receive A/A- and another 30 percent of students receive B-/B/B+.

Each individual grade item to three or four decimal places will be rounded up to a maximum of two decimal places. For example, 26.4357 will be rounded up to 26.44. The calculated total grade will also display to a maximum of two decimals and **no further rounding will take place when assigning the letter grades**. Read this syllabus carefully to learn how to boost your grade.

#### **OSU Standard Scheme A-E**

	<b>Range:</b>	
A	100 %	to 93.0%
A-	< 93.0 %	to 90.0%
B+	< 90.0 %	to 87.0%
B	< 87.0 %	to 83.0%
B-	< 83.0 %	to 80.0%
C+	< 80.0 %	to 77.0%
C	< 77.0 %	to 73.0%
C-	< 73.0 %	to 70.0%
D+	< 70.0 %	to 67.0%

## **OSU Standard Scheme A-E**

	<b>Range:</b>	
D	< 67.0 %	to 60.0%
E	< 60.0 %	to 0.0%

## **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY (ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT)**

**The following statement on academic misconduct:**

**It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term “academic misconduct” includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the committee (Faculty Rule 3335-5-487). For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct <http://studentlife.osu.edu/csc/>.**

## **DISABILITY STATEMENT**

**The University strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers based on your disability (including mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions), please let me know immediately so that we can privately discuss options. To establish reasonable accommodations, I may request that you register with Student Life Disability Services. After registration, make arrangements with me as soon as possible to discuss your accommodations so that they may be implemented in a timely fashion. SLDS contact information: [slds@osu.edu](mailto:slds@osu.edu); 614-292-3307; [slds.osu.edu](http://slds.osu.edu); 098 Baker Hall, 113 W. 12th Avenue.**

## **HEALTH**

As a student you may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to learning, such as strained relationships, increased anxiety, alcohol/drug problems, feeling down, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. These mental health concerns or stressful events may lead to diminished academic performance or reduce a student’s ability to participate in daily activities. The Ohio State University offers services to assist you with addressing these and other concerns you may be experiencing. If you or someone you know are suffering from any of the aforementioned conditions, you can learn more about the broad range of confidential mental health services available on campus via the Office of

Student Life's Counseling and Consultation Service (CCS) by visiting [ccs.osu.edu](http://ccs.osu.edu) or calling [614-292-5766](tel:614-292-5766). CCS is located on the 4th Floor of the Younkin Success Center and 10th Floor of Lincoln Tower. You can reach an on call counselor when CCS is closed at [614-292-5766](tel:614-292-5766) and 24 hour emergency help is also available through the 24/7 National Suicide Prevention Hotline at 1-800-273-TALK or at [suicidepreventionlifeline.org](http://suicidepreventionlifeline.org).

## **SEXUAL MISCONDUCT/RELATIONSHIP VIOLENCE**

If you wish to add language on sexual misconduct/relationship violence, the university recommends using the following:

Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender are Civil Rights offenses subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories (e.g., race). If you or someone you know has been sexually harassed or assaulted, you may find the appropriate resources at <http://titleix.osu.edu> or by contacting the Ohio State Title IX Coordinator, Kellie Brennan, at [titleix@osu.edu](mailto:titleix@osu.edu).

## **Diversity**

If you wish to add language on diversity, the university recommends using the following: The Ohio State University affirms the importance and value of diversity in the student body. Our programs and curricula reflect our multicultural society and global economy and seek to provide opportunities for students to learn more about persons who are different from them. We are committed to maintaining a community that recognizes and values the inherent worth and dignity of every person; fosters sensitivity, understanding, and mutual respect among each member of our community; and encourages each individual to strive to reach his or her own potential. Discrimination against any individual based upon protected status, which is defined as age, color, disability, gender identity or expression, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status, is prohibited.

*Welcome to the class and remember that nothing is beyond the reach of determination and hard work!*

*I wish you all the best!*

## **Approximate Course Outline**

### **Week One, January 12, 14**

Introduction and Framework of the Study  
Reading: Chapter 1

### **Week Two, January 19, 21**

Economic Performance and Social Outcomes  
Reading: Chapter 2

**Week Three, January 26, 28**

Political Regimes in the Middle East  
Reading: Chapter 3

**Exam 1, Opens on Monday, February 1 at 8 am and closes at 8pm the same day**

**Week Four, February 2, 4**

The Rise and Fall of State-Led Development  
Reading: Chapter 7

**Week Five, February 9, 11**

Structural Adjustment and the Rise of Crony Capitalism  
Reading: Chapter 8

**Week Six, February 16, 18**

The Effects of Oil on Development  
Reading: Chapter 9

**Exam 2: Opens on Monday, February 22 at 8 am and closes at 8pm the same day**

**Week Seven, February 23, 25**

**No classes on Tuesday, February 23, Instructional Break**

Regional and Global Economic Integration  
Reading: Chapter 13

**Week Eight, March 2, 4**

Regional and Global Economic Integration & Islamic Finance  
Reading: Chapter 13 continued

**Week Nine, March 9, 11**

Is Islam the Solution?  
Reading: Chapter 12

Presentations # 1, 2

**Week Ten, March 16, 18**

War, Conflict, and the Military in the Middle East  
Reading: Chapter 10  
Presentations # 3, 4

**Week Eleven, March 23, 25**

Solidarism and its Enemies  
Reading: Chapter 11

Presentations # 5, 6

**Exam 3, Opens Monday, March 29 at 8am and closes at 8pm the same day**

**Week Twelve, March 30, April 1**

The Impact of Demographic Change  
Reading: Chapter 4

Presentation # 7

**No Classes on Thursday April 1, Instructional Break**

**Week Thirteen, April 6, 8**

Human Capital: Health and Education  
Reading: Chapter 5

Presentations # 8, 9

**Week Fourteen, April 13, 15**

Water and Environmental Issues  
Reading: Chapter 6

Presentations # 10, 11

**Week Sixteen, April 20, 22**

Presentation #12

Conclusion

Reading: Chapter 14

**Exam 4, Opens on Monday, April 26, opens at 8am and closes at 8pm the same day**