The Economics of the Middle East  
Dr. Yehudith Kahn

Course Number: 702.2138.01  
Office Hours: Mondays, 11:00 – 12:00  
Class Time: Mondays, 12:00 – 15:00  
Location: TBA

Class Location:  TBA  
Phone: 052-5978023  
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Course Description:

The course will present students with an overview of the region’s economies- past experiences, present situation and future challenges. It will focus on empirical studies of economic growth, trade, poverty, income distribution, labor markets and study of oil economies. Special attention will be given to important differences in economic structures of the region countries and the role of petroleum in national development.

Course Requirements:

- Weekly Reading Assignments
- Class Participation
- Oral Presentation
- Final Exam

Final Grade:

The class meetings will be in seminar format, encouraging active student participation.

Oral presentation:  30% of course grade
Final Exam: 70% of course grade
Course Outline and Reading List

Week 1 (22/10/2012): Overview of the Middle East Region: Geopolitical Importance, Resources.


*Kabbani N. and Salloum S., Implications of financing higher education for access and equity: The case of Syria, Prospects (00331538); Mar2011, Vol. 41 Issue 1, p97-113.


Ellen Laipson, The Middle East Demographic Transition: What does it mean?, Journal of International Affairs, Fall 2002, 56,1 pg 175.


Week 4 (12/11/2012): Food security and Food Sufficiency and Water issues in the Middle East.


Week 5 (19/11/2012): Models of Trade, Development of Trade relations, Regional and Global Integration.


**Week 6 (21/11/2012): Oil Industries: Economic Structure, Models of Demand and Supply.**


**Week 7 (26/11/2012): Models of Labor Migration and Labor Migration in the Middle East.**


**Week 8 (3/12/2012): Political Regimes.**


Husam A Mohamad, Democracy Promotion in Arab Politics, Journal of International and Area Studies; Dec 2007; 14, 2; International Module pg. 103

**Week 9 (10/12/2012): The Islamic Economy.**


Akbar Karbassian, Islamic revolution and the management of the Iranian economy, Social Research; Summer 2000; 67, 2; Research Library Core pg. 621

overseas@research.haifa.ac.il
Week 10 (17/12/2012): The Military and the State.


Week 11 (24/12/2012): Obstacles to Economic Development in the region.

Timur Kuran, Why the Middle East is Economically Underdeveloped: Historical Mechanisms of Institutional Stagnation, The Journal of Economic Perspectives; Summer 2004; 18, 3;


*Keay J., A region in transition, Global Finance; Apr2011 Supplement, p2-6.

Week 12 (31/12/2012): Final Exam.