

Center for Near and Middle Eastern Studies (CNMS)  
Economics of the Middle East Research Group  
**Empirical Development Economics with Reference to the Middle East**  
WS 2018/19

*This Version: 24.09.2018*

**Instructor Information:**

- **Lecturer:** Prof. Dr. Mohammad Reza Farzanegan
- Lecture (Marvin code LV-02-698-049): Mondays 12:00 – 14:00 in CNMS/R.00A03 (No course on 26.11)
- Modules: check the [Marvin](#)
  
- Office: CNMS, 01A32
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- E-mail: [Farzanegan@uni-marburg.de](mailto:Farzanegan@uni-marburg.de)
- Web: <https://www.uni-marburg.de/cnms/wirtschaft>
- Office Hours: Fridays 9 - 11 am, and by appointment.
  
- **Exercise Instructor:**
  - Ms. Dalia Fadly
    - Exercises (Marvin code LV-02-698-050): Tuesdays 12:00 – 14:00 in CNMS/R.00A12 (+ Di, 4.12, 8-10 instead of 27.11)
    - Office: CNMS, 01A35
    - E-mail: [dalia.fadly@staff.uni-marburg.de](mailto:dalia.fadly@staff.uni-marburg.de)
    - Office hours: Tuesdays from 10:00 - 12:00. Please set an appointment by E-mail first.

**Aim of the lectures:**

- To examine in depth theoretical and empirical studies on macroeconomic issues covering a panel of countries and individual case studies in the MENA region.
- To deepen understanding on selected topics about contemporary economic challenges relevant to the MENA region and the factors that have influenced their evolution. Each session will deal with a different development topic which is a part of overall understanding of the MENA region.
- To enable students to apply analytical tools in addressing research questions in a systematic and theory based empirical approach.
- To provide hands-on exercises during the tutorial where students apply different methods in the analysis of key concepts discussed in the lecture to real-world data.

At the completion of the course, students should have acquired the following skills:

- Theoretical skills: with critical evaluation of different economic development theories, students should be able present and discuss theoretically sound arguments for development problems with focus on the Middle East challenges. They should be able to discuss the causes and consequences for economic challenges of the MENA region.
- Empirical skills: students will get familiar with empirical methods and related data sources to test the development related theories. They focus on identification of causal relationship and interpretation of results for policy making.
- Soft skills: through empirical projects, students will be able to engage in scientific discussions, write critically and (if the time permits) present academic papers in English.

More details on the topics and specific readings will be given in the first session of lecture.

**Textbook:** The course will be built on selected chapters of following books:

- Sami Ben Ali, M. (Ed.), 2016. Economic Development in the Middle East and North Africa. Palgrave Macmillan.
- Kamrava, M. (Ed.), 2012. The Political Economy of the Persian Gulf. Oxford University Press.
- Cammett, M. et al. (Ed), 2015. A Political Economy of the Middle East. Westview Press; 4 edition.
- Erdogdu, M., Christiansen, B. (Eds). 2016. Comparative Economic Perspectives on Europe and the MENA Region. IGI Global, Hershey, PA.
- Sayan, S. (Ed.) 2009. Economic Performance in the Middle East and North Africa. Routledge.
- Farzanegan, M.R., Alaedini, P. (Eds), (2016). [Economic Welfare and Inequality in Iran: Developments since the Revolution](#). Palgrave Macmillan / Springer Nature, New York, NY.

We will also use inputs from a list of selected journal articles in each session.

**Evaluation:**

- Final written exam (120 minutes): covers both lecture and exercise topics
- Final exam will be on **11.02.2019, 12:00-14:00 in CNMS (Hörsaal 00A26)**
- Re-sit exam will be on **28.03.2019, 13:00-15:00 in CNMS (00A23)**
- Have your student and personal ID cards to exam sessions.
- You are responsible for exam registration for each case. Consult with your examination office or online information. <https://www.uni-marburg.de/en/fb02/studying/examinations-office>