

Center for Near and Middle Eastern Studies (CNMS)
Economics of the Middle East Research Group
Political Economy of the Middle East
WS 2018/2019

This version: 24.09.2018

Instructor Information:

- **Lecturer:** Prof. Dr. Mohammad Reza Farzanegan
- **Lectures (Marvin code LV-10-772-212):** Mondays 16:00 – 18:00 in CNMS 00A26 Hörsaal
- **Exercises (Marvin code LV-10-772-214):** Tuesdays 12:00-14:00 in FB02/PC Pavillon047 Universitätsstraße 24
- **Modules:** BA: Owi1 (102950); MA: PoWO 03 (1046210); PoWO 02 (1046120)

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Office Hours: Fridays 9 - 11 am, and by appointment.

Aim of the lectures:

- The course will give students an overview of the political economy of the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region from a policy-oriented and applied perspective.
- The course is designed to equip students with the necessary tools that would allow them to think and analyze the problems faced by the MENA countries in a systematic and theory based empirical approach.
- After attending the course, participants should be able to make educated comments on ongoing political economy discussions in the Middle East and North Africa.
- During the tutorials students will learn to apply key concepts discussed in the lecture to real-world data.

In short, this course discusses current political economy issues in the Middle East. The focus will be on the institutional framework in the MENA region which may be responsible for the economic outcome. Lectures will give the students the theoretical and conceptual background while in the exercises they will get the opportunity to analyze specific economic issues and present potential theoretical explanations and policy recommendations. The lecture uses empirical methods for explaining the theoretical hypotheses and policy conclusions.

More details on topics and road map will be provided in the first session of lecture.

Textbook: There is no single required textbook for this course. For interested students, there are a couple of books which are dealing with political economy of Middle East:

- Cammett et al., 2013. A Political Economy of the Middle East, Routledge; 4 edition (December 3, 2013).
- Devlin, J.C., 2010. Challenges of Economic Development in the Middle East and North Africa Region. World Scientific Publishing Co. Pte. Ltd.
- Noland M., Pack, H., 2007. Arab Economies in a Changing World. Peterson Institute for International Economics: Washington D.C. Downloadable at: <http://bookstore.piie.com/book-store/3931.html>

Complementary reading:

- Farzanegan, M.R., Alaedini, P. (Eds), (2016). [Economic Welfare and Inequality in Iran: Developments since the Revolution](#). Palgrave Macmillan / Springer Nature, New York, NY.

Most of the course readings will be economic journal articles that present the results of original empirical research on public policy issues. Consult the reading list for the assigned readings for each week. It is your responsibility to obtain and carefully review such readings a week prior to the class session for which they are due. This way, you are prepared to productively participate in the class discussions.

Performance Evaluation:

- **100% Final written exam (60 minutes):** covers both lecture and exercise topics
- **Final exam:** 11.02.2019, 16-17; (CNMS/R.00A26)
- **Re-sitting exam:** 28.03.2019; 11-12; (CNMS/R.00A26)
- 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.
- Check examination office of School of Business and Economics for more information: <https://www.uni-marburg.de/en/fb02/studying/examinations-office>
- And at CNMS, check: <https://www.uni-marburg.de/en/cnms/degree-programs>

Attendance & Class Participation: It is very important that students attend all class sessions. Any absence may significantly affect your chances of performing well in the course. This is especially relevant for exercise sessions.