



Course Description

COP2048 | Comparative Middle Eastern and North African Governments | 3.00 credits

The Middle East & North Africa (MENA) has uninterruptedly been at the forefront of international geopolitics for almost a century. This enduring geopolitical visibility has important cultural, societal, economic, and security implications at national, regional, and international levels. This course is designed to tackle some of these issues by providing students with a historic-cultural, politico-economic, and geo-strategic survey of the Middle East.

Course Competencies:

Competency 1: The student will be able to identify key Middle Eastern and North African states and forms of governance by:

1. Identifying the geographical locations and implications of distance and proximity to political developments and variations
2. Identifying the different forms of government among the key states in the Middle East and North Africa
3. Recognizing the political structures and processes of each country

Competency 2: The student will demonstrate their understanding and analytical appreciation of significant issue areas associated with Middle Eastern and North African countries by:

1. Identifying the historical context of the conflicts by state and region
2. Demonstrating a profound understanding of issue areas and the complexities underlying possible solutions

Competency 3: The student will be able to conceptualize the different political processes at work the Middle Eastern and North African region by:

1. Identifying key variations among political processes
2. Analyzing how these variations impact relations among Middle Eastern and North African states
3. Analyzing how these variations facilitate or complicate foreign relations

Competency 4: The student will demonstrate their understanding and analytical appreciation of key themes and events associated with each Middle Eastern and North African country by:

1. Recognizing key distinctions among Middle Eastern and North African states
2. Analyzing how key events have shaped the regional variations in development

Learning Outcomes:

- Formulate strategies to locate, evaluate, and apply information
- Demonstrate knowledge of ethical thinking and its application to issues in society