

Bemidji State University

GEOG 3850: Geography of the Middle East

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: *.*

Lab Hours/Week: *.*

OJT Hours/Week: *.*

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: None

This course is designed to provide a more in depth look at the region we routinely describe as the Middle East. Geographically, we will examine activities in SW Asia and the nations of North Africa. We may extend our discussion to the countries of Afghanistan, the Sudan, South Sudan and Turkey to provide a more comprehensive analysis of a particular topic or subtopic. This is a highly complex region and may be looked at from numerous perspectives. Our objective thus is to examine the region through economic, cultural, environmental, urban and geopolitical lenses. Prerequisite: GEOG 1400 or GEOG 2200.

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 08/25/2014 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Part I: Defining the Middle East
2. Part II: Emergence and Evolution of this region
3. Part III: Contemporary Challenges
4. Part IV: Global and Geopolitical Future

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. . develop an in depth understanding of the region of Middle East (as geographically defined for this course) and its connections with the rest of the world.
2. . use events, issues and themes to examine physical, cultural, economic, urban and political geography. While we examine some aspects of Middle East development in an historical context, most of the analysis of this region we do focus on Late 19th C to present.
3. . broaden their understanding of contemporary issues in the Middle East through use of various media including textbooks, novels, films, journal articles and news sources.
4. . improve their public speaking skills in formal and informal sessions.
5. . develop their research skills by analyzing specific issues in the context of Latin America and developing an articulate written analysis
6. . connect their knowledge of other regions of the world with events that transpired in the Middle East to explain the global significance of them.
7. . critically analyze contemporary issues in the Middle East as they relate to the global economy or more universal issues of sustainability, planetary health, and plural societies.
8. . develop a broad and transferable geographic vocabulary to be used in other geography courses or elsewhere.

E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

None

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION

None noted