

POLSC 524: POLITICAL ISLAM
Kansas State University, Department of Political Science
Spring 2015
(A Distance Education Course)

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Virtual **Office Hours:**
By appointment

Course Description

Who are the Islamists? Is Islam compatible with democracy? What is Shari'a? Is Hezbollah a political party or a terrorist organization? Why are religious scholars so powerful in Iran? Can Muslim Brothers make Egypt democratic? What does ISIS want? What are the causes of Islamophobia in the West? Why do Sunnis and Shia fight? We are exposed to significant media coverage about these questions on a daily basis. In this course we will survey many thematic issues across the political systems in the Muslim world. Some of the issues to be discussed include:

- Muslim democracy
- Islamist movements and political parties
- Shia-Sunni conflict
- Islamic law (shari'a)
- Islamophobia
- Muslim public opinion
- ISIS

These themes will be discussed in the context of diverse political systems in the *Middle East, Sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia, and Europe*. The course will be taught online as a distance education course. While the exams will be online, there will be room for instructor-student interaction throughout the semester.

Goals and Course Objectives

The main goal of this course is to provide a better understanding of the political Islam. As such, it is designed to educate students about the political actors, processes, and institutions in the Muslim World. An important objective is to teach students the main tenets of Muslim politics and make them conscious citizens who can sort the abundant information about this topic and critically evaluate it. With the completion of the course, students are expected to gain knowledge of political parties, institutions, ideologies, and political culture in the Muslim polities.

Distance Education and K-State Online

This is a distance education course; therefore, it is essential for you to check your email and the course on K-State Online regularly. The URL to the course is <https://online.ksu.edu>

We will be using K-State Axio (or K-State online classic). Log in with your eID and password to access the class schedule, readings and assignments.. You will have to check the course regularly for any changes to the reading assignments and the class schedule. I will be using email, calendar, and the announcement tool to communicate with you in the course.

Note: Distance education does not imply less amount of work. You should expect to have the same amount of work as you would have in a face-to-face class.

Most student-instructor interaction will take place in the online environment, and all assignments will be submitted by utilizing the appropriate dropboxes in the course. You can always email me for course related questions. My response time may vary based on my schedule, but I will make every attempt to respond in the quickest time possible. My response will be faster if I receive your email during my office hours listed above. As your instructor, I can be available at certain times for live chat. You will need to schedule an appointment for a live chat time with your instructor. I will connect with you using K-state online chat rooms or "Zoom," a video conferencing program. Chat rooms are accessible through K-State Online. Information about Zoom can be found at: <http://www.zoomconferencing.com/index.html>. Before we meet on Zoom, you will receive an email to participate at a specified date and time. All you need to do is to follow the instructions and join when it is time. You can access a meeting at Zoom using your mobile phone as well. It is advisable to set-up your computer ahead of the Zoom session and test if the program is working.

In an online course, it is expected for all students to follow rules to communicate. These are known as netiquette rules and can be found here:

<http://www.dce.k-state.edu/students/services/netiquette>

Distance Education and Technical Help

It is expected each student have the technological capabilities and skills to handle a distance education course. All students should complete the Online Readiness test that can be accessed through your K-State account (<http://public.online.ksu.edu/support/readiness/>). Check the Division of Continuing Education's website (<http://www.dce.k-state.edu/distance/>) for more useful resources and links to distance education.

For all technology related questions or problems contact the **K_State IT Help Desk**. Their contact information is: **Phone: 785-532-7722 or toll free 1-800-865-6143**
Email: helpdesk@k-state.edu

Reading Requirements

There is one required textbook for this course.

Mohammed Ayoob (2007). The Many Faces of Political Islam: Religion and Politics in the Muslim World, University of Michigan Press, ISBN: 978-0-472-06971-2.

Other readings are available via-K-State Online or K-State libraries. You should also check the current events to keep up with the most recent developments in Muslim countries. A folder in K-State Online called *Resources* lists recommends links to the news resources. This is not an exclusive list and you can visit other online resources to keep up with the recent political developments in the Muslim world. The Resources folder will also include recommended articles about current events in the Muslim World. The links to these articles will be regularly updated.

*The course website includes a number of audio lectures. You will access these lectures through K-State online > Lectures folder. Make sure that you pass the online readiness test on your device to access the lectures on Wimba. These lectures are **optional** and should not be used as substitutes for reading assignments. They provide foundational knowledge which will help you to gain better understanding of reading assignments.*

Course Structure and Rules

As your instructor, I will facilitate the learning objectives by providing an effective online learning environment. I will update the online course as required and communicate the changes to you by email or course announcements. The course material, exams, and due dates will be updated in a timely manner.

It is imperative that students complete the assigned readings, watch the assigned videos, and follow other directions carefully. This is the key to your success. You should submit your assignments in a timely manner. If you fail to submit your assignment on time, you will be penalized 1/3 of a letter grade for each late day. Documented medical emergencies and university related activities qualify for the extension of submission date. Family emergencies will be accepted when a letter is taken from a family member. I reserve the right to accept or reject this kind of excuse depending on the nature of the emergency.

The following are the components of grading:

- Quizzes (25 %)
- Reaction Papers (25 %)
- Final Exam (25 %)
- Term Paper (25 %)

Quizzes (25 %): There will be 6 quizzes throughout the semester. The lowest score will be dropped, so each quiz is worth 5 %. You may expect to see multiple choice, short answer, map study, or matching questions in these tests. Each quiz should not take more than 10 minutes. However, you should be well prepared for them, as they will be timed. The quizzes will help you prepare for the final exam.

Final Exam (25 %): The final exam will be online and cumulative. While the content will be similar to that in the quizzes, it will definitely be more challenging and evaluate your overall gains in the course. I will use a variety of question types including multiple choice, short

answer, matching, and short essay in this exam. More information about this exam will be posted to the course later in the semester.

Special Note about Online Exams: You are required to take a number of online tests in this course. These exams will be available within a specified time frame that will allow you to take them at your convenience. The time frame is 48-36 hours for a quiz and two weeks for the final exam. **Once you log in to take an exam, you are required to complete it. No second chances will be allowed unless there is a technical problem.** The system communicates the technical problems by sending an automated email to me. So, I will be informed whenever you run into a technical problem and I will arrange a make-up exam accordingly. K-State code of honesty and integrity strictly applies (see the relevant section below). This means that you cannot talk to others about the content of these online exams and you cannot get help or collaborate with others while taking the tests.

Paper (25 %): In the course, you will research a topic and write a research paper. The paper will be 5-6 pages long, typed in word with 12 font size. Your paper should include a good introduction to the topic (one paragraph), a good description and discussion of the topic based on your research, and one-two pages of your own comments. You can use scholarly papers and books, but *absolutely no Wikipedia entries*. While Wikipedia and similar online resources contain useful information, this information does not meet the scientific standards. The acceptable resources include peer-reviewed journals, journals with a good reputation (e.g. Foreign Affairs), reports and articles published by prominent think-tanks (e.g Brookings, Council on Foreign Relations), books published by a university press or well-known publishers. If you are not sure about which resources to use, compile a list of articles, book chapters, etc. and send the list to me for approval (do not post the actual resources, but just the list of resources). I may recommend additional resources based on your list. To avoid plagiarism, you should report references for quotes, cite the resources you used in the paper, and include a bibliography page in the end. I do not require a specific reference style but I recommend using APA. For more information see <http://www.apastyle.org/>

Reaction Papers (25 %): I will ask you to write 3 reaction papers about (i) original text readings (ii) or a scholarly article. You can mix and match in different ways. For example, student A may choose to write one reaction paper for original text readings and one for scholarly articles. Student B may choose to write both papers on original texts, etc. The list of scholarly articles and original texts are presented at the end of this syllabus.

Your reaction paper should be two pages long (maximum), 10-12 font size and double-spaced. The first page should summarize the main theme (either from the original text, e video chat or scholarly article in one page). The rest of the paper should include your comments and interpretation of the topic or the article. Each reaction paper is worth about 8.5 %.

Extra Credit (Maximum 2.5%): For extra points, you may (i) write a short review (2-3 pages) for an academic paper or (ii) watch one of the videos posted on **K-State Online under**

Content in the folder named "Videos/Extra Credit." I hold the right to add less than 2.5% to the overall grade depending on the quality of your work.

Academic Honesty & Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Kansas State University has an Honor & Integrity System based on personal integrity which is presumed to be sufficient assurance in academic matters one's work is performed honestly and without unauthorized assistance. Undergraduate and graduate students, by registration, acknowledge the jurisdiction of the Honor & Integrity System. The policies and procedures of the Honor System apply to all full and part-time students enrolled in undergraduate and graduate courses on-campus, off-campus, and via distance learning. A component vital to the Honor & Integrity System is the inclusion of the Honor Pledge which applies to all assignments, examinations, or other course work undertaken by students. The Honor Pledge is implied, whether or not it is stated: "On my honor, as a student, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid on this academic work."

The default in this class is that ALL work will be accomplished individually, UNLESS my permission is given in advance of an assignment/quiz/exam/take-home exam/final. If you are in doubt, please ask. A grade of XF can result from a breach of academic honesty. The F indicates failure in the course; the X indicates the reason is an Honor Pledge violation. For more information, visit the Honor & Integrity System home web page at: <http://www.k-state.edu/honor/>

Any student with a disability that needs a classroom accommodation, access to technology or other assistance in this course should contact Disability Support Services and/or their instructor.

Grading

Letter grades for the course will be assigned along the following scale:

- A: 90% or greater
- B: 80-89%
- C: 70-79%
- D: 60-69%
- F: Below 60%

Excuses/Late submissions

All excuses needs to be documented prior to the event or within a reasonable time. Medical excuses and family emergencies are acceptable pending my approval. If you are late in submitting an assignment without an excuse, this assignment will be penalized by 1/3 of a letter grade.

COURSE OUTLINE

Most readings are available online in the course (O) or can be accessed through K-State Libraries (K).

WEEK 1 & WEEK 2			
Topic/Assignment	Date	Learning Objectives	Reading Material
Foundations of Political Islam	January 20- January 30	<i>What is Islam? Who are the Islamists? Early origins of political Islam, Shia-Sunni divide, Islam and Modernity, Islamic Revival.</i>	John Esposito, Islam and Politics, pp. 1-29 (O K) Mohammed Ayoob, The Many Faces of Political Islam, Chapter 1 Foley, Sean . "Southeast Asia, Islamic Modernism " In Oxford Islamic Studies Online. Oxford Islamic Studies Online. May 16, 2012. http://www.seanfoley.org/sites/default/files/southeast_asia_islamic_modernism_in_oxford_islamic_studies_online.pdf <i>Watch the following video: (located under Access readings>videos):</i> Shia-Sunni Divide
**Quiz 1	January 24- February 1	<i>Online</i>	Weeks 1 & 2 readings, videos, lecture notes

WEEK 3 & WEEK 4			
Topic/Assignment	Date	Learning Objectives	Reading Material
Varieties of State Religion Relations	February 2- February 13	<i>State-Religion relations in the Muslim World Political and religious institutions in S. Arabia, Iran,, Turkey, Egypt</i>	Mohammed Ayoob, The Many Faces of Political Islam, Chapter 3
**Quiz 2	February 6- February 8	<i>Online</i>	Readings and lectures (Iran and Saudi Arabia)
		<i>State-Religion relations in the Muslim World Political and religious institutions in S. Arabia, Iran,, Turkey, Egypt</i>	Mohammed Ayoob, The Many Faces of Political Islam, Chapter Chapter 4 Amal Jamal, Democratizing state-religion relations: a comparative study of Turkey, Egypt and Israel, 2009, Democratization, 16 (6), pp. 1143-1171 (O)
**Quiz 3	February 11-14	<i>Online</i>	Readings and lectures (Turkey, Pakistan, Egypt)

WEEK 5-WEEK 8

Topic/Assignment	Date	Learning Objectives	Reading Material
Islamist Movements: Political Parties	February 16-February 20	<i>Islamist political parties in Turkey, Indonesia, and Malaysia</i>	Mohammed Ayoob, The Many Faces of Political Islam, Chapter 5 Vali Nasr, "Muslim Democracy", 2005, Journal of Democracy (K) Tomsa, D 2011, 'Moderating Islamism in Indonesia: Tracing Patterns of Party Change in the Prosperous Justice Party', Political Research Quarterly (K)
**Quiz 4	February 20-February 22	Online	Readings, video, and lecture notes
Islamist Movements: Muslim Brothers	February 23-February 27	<i>The History of Muslim Brothers</i> <i>Muslim Brothers after the Arab Spring</i>	Mohammed Ayoob, The Many Faces of Political Islam, Chapter 5 Brown, Hamzawy and Ottoway, Islamist Movements and the Democratic Process in the Arab World: Exploring Gray Zones. (O) (K) Wickham, Carrie Rosefsky. "The Muslim Brotherhood After Mubarak." Foreign Affairs 3 (2011). <i>Watch the following video: (located under Access readings>videos):</i> Muslim Brotherhood
**Quiz 5	March 10-March 13	Online	Readings, video, and lecture notes
Islamist Movements: National Resistance and Violence: Hamas, Hezbollah, and Al-Qeada	March 2-March 13	<i>Political Parties of Resistance</i> <i>Israeli-Palestinian Conflict and Hamas</i> <i>Hezbollah as a national and transnational actor</i> <i>The organization of Al-Qaeda</i>	Mohammed Ayoob, The Many Faces of Political Islam, Chapter 6 Farrall, Leah. "How Al Qaeda Works-What the Organization's Subsidiaries Say about Its Strength." Foreign Aff. 90 (2011): 128. (K) Hashim, Ahmed S. "The Islamic State: From al-Qaeda Affiliate to Caliphate." Middle East Policy 21.4 (2014): 69-83. Onuoha, Freedom C. "Boko Haram: Nigeria's Extremist Islamic Sect." Al Jazeera Centre for Studies 29.2 (2012): 1-6. http://studies.aljazeera.net/ResourceGallery/media/Documents/2012/2/29/2012229113341793734BOKO%20HARAM%20NIGERIAS%20EXTREMIST%20ISLAMIC%20SECT.pdf <i>Watch the following video: (located under Access readings>videos)</i> Hezbollah

Week 9: *Student Holiday March 16-22*****

WEEK 10- WEEK 12

Topic/Assignment	Date	Learning Objectives	Reading Material
Islamophobia, Western Muslims and Muslim Public Opinion	March 23-April 3	<p><i>Learn the meaning of Islamophobia</i></p> <p><i>Islamophobia and threat perceptions</i></p> <p><i>Muslim integration in the West</i></p> <p><i>Public Opinion in the Muslim World</i></p>	<p>Ciftci, Sabri. "Islamophobia and Threat Perceptions: Explaining Anti-Muslim Sentiment in the West." <i>Journal of Muslim Minority Affairs</i> 32.3 (2012): 293-309. (O)</p> <p>Robert S. Leiken, "Europe's Angry Muslims", <i>Foreign Affairs</i>, Vol. 84, No. 4, 2005), pp. 120-135) (O) (K)</p> <p>John Esposito, and Dalia Mogahed, "Battle for Muslims' Hearts and Minds: The Road Not (Yet) Taken", 2007, <i>Middle East Policy</i>, 14(1): 27-41 (O) (K)</p> <p>Ron Inglehart and Pipa Norris, "The True Clash of Civilizations", 2003, <i>Foreign Policy</i>, 63(8) (O) (K)</p> <p><i>Watch the following video: (located under Access readings>videos)</i></p> <p>Mosque Controversy</p>
**Quiz 6	April 2-April 4	Online	Readings, video, and lecture notes
The Role of Islam in Politics	April 6-April 10	<p><i>Religion and Islamists in the Arab Spring</i></p> <p><i>Changing perceptions of religion and revolution</i></p> <p><i>Post-transition debate about Islam and Secularism</i></p>	<p>Bayat, Asef. "The coming of a post-Islamist Society." <i>Critique: Journal for Critical Studies of the Middle East</i> 5.9 (1996): 43-52.</p> <p>Nasr, Vali. "The Shia Revival." <i>Military Review</i> 87.3 (2007): 9.</p> <p>Roy, Olivier. "The transformation of the Arab world." <i>Journal of Democracy</i> 23.3 (2012): 5-18.</p>

WEEK 13 -WEEK 15

Topic/Assignment	Date	Learning Objectives	Reading Material
Islam and Economics	April 13-April 17	<i>The political consequences of Islamic Economics</i>	Filipe Campante and David Yanagizawa-Drott, Does Religion Affect Economic Growth and Happiness? Evidence from Ramadan (http://www.hks.harvard.edu/fs/fcampan/Papers/Ramadan.pdf) Aydin, Necati. "A grand theory of human nature and happiness." <i>Humanomics</i> 28.1 (2012): 42-63.
Islam and Gender	April 20-April 24	<i>Women's Status in Islam Women's Right in Islam Modernization and Gender in the Muslim world</i>	Ross, Michael L. "Oil, Islam, and women." <i>American Political Science Review</i> 102.01 (2008): 107-123. J. Badawi, Position of Women in Islam, http://jamalbadawi.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=115:717-social-system-of-islam-position-of-women-in-islam-political-aspect-i&catid=19:volume-7-social-system-of-islam&Itemid=13 <i>Watch the following video: (located under Access readings>videos)</i> Women in Islam
Term Paper	April 27-May 1	<i>Work on your paper</i>	<i>Work on your paper</i>
Term Paper Due on May 3			
Final Exam	May 4-May 12	<i>Online Exam</i>	Study guide will be posted.

REACTION PAPER OPTIONS

****Each reaction paper summarizes only 1 reading. Pick any one text from each section below. Submit only 3 reaction papers.**

****Each reaction paper is maximum 2 pages. It should summarize the assigned text and include student comments.**

****Submit reaction papers to the digital dropbox. Pay attention to the due dates**

Due Dates:

Reaction Paper 1: February 23, 5:00 PM (Eastern)

Reaction Paper 2: April 6, 5:00 PM (Eastern)

Reaction Paper 3: April 24, 5:00 PM (Eastern)

Options for Reaction Paper 1 (Pick only 1 text and write a reaction paper)

- Jamāl al-Dīn al-Afghānī. "Islam, reason, and civilization" in Esposito and Donahue (O)
- Ali Shariati, The Free Man and the Freedom of the Men, <http://www.shariati.com/english/human.html>
- M Abduh, Laws Should Change in Accordance with the Conditions of Nations (O)
- Abdolkarim Soroush: "Tolerance and Governance: A Discourse on Religion and Democracy" in Esposito and Donahue (O)

Options for Reaction Paper 2 (Pick only 1 text and write a reaction paper)

- The metamorphosis of Egypt's Muslim Brotherhood, M. Gobashy, International Journal of Middle East Studies (2005), 37: 373-395 (O) (K)
- Hicks, Jacqueline. "The Missing Link: Explaining the Political Mobilisation of Islam in Indonesia." *Journal of Contemporary Asia* 42.1 (2012): 39-66. (O)
- The Constitution of Medina, http://www.constitution.org/cons/medina/con_medina.htm
- Ciftci, Sabri. "Secular-Islamist Cleavage, Values, and Support for Democracy and Shari'a in the Arab World." *Political Research Quarterly* (2012).

Options for Reaction Paper 3 (Pick only 1 text and write a reaction paper)

- Ramadan, Tariq. "What the West can learn from Islam." *Chronicle of Higher Education* 53.24 (2007): B6-B8.
- <http://www.campus-watch.org/article/id/3060>
- Ahmad Dachlan (Java 1868-1923), "Kesatuan Hidup Manusia" (The Unity of Human Life (O)
- Sayyed Qutb, "This is the Road", Ch. 12 , in Milestones (O)

Project Topics

*****All papers are due May 3, 2015 by Midnight in the dropbox.***

AKP of Turkey	Religious Nationalism
Hezbollah	Islamist Parties and Elections in the Arab Spring
Islamists in Sub-Saharan Africa	ISIS
Anti-Shari'a Legislation in the US	Post-Islamism
Hijab	Ennahda
Anti-Americanism in the Muslim World	Ali Shariati
Islamist Parties in Indonesia	Boko Haram
Political Philosophy of Qutb	Political Philosophy of Mawdudi
Political Philosophy of Soroush	Anti-capitalist Muslims (Turkey)