

Centre for West Asian Studies

School of International Studies

Course	PhD
Course No:	WA617N
Course Title:	Government and Politics in GCC States
Course Type	Optional
Course Teacher	Dr. Jajati K Pattnaik
Credits:	Two
Contact Hours:	Two per week

Course Objectives: The course aims at developing an in-depth understanding of the domestic political structures, processes and policies in the six GCC Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states. It would also enable the students to have a comparative analysis of the development of political institutions, processes as well as people's civil and political participation in the GCC states. It attempts a serious inquiry into the contemporary domestic politics across the GCC states conditioned by the socio-economic determinants. Moreover, the meta-cognitive method would help the students critically understand and analyse these systems.

Learning Outcomes: The Course seeks to achieve the following learning outcomes: to develop research skills in the learners to undertake rigorous and cutting-edge research in domain-specific or related ones; encourage analytical and critical thinking among the learners to expand their depth in the field; and to broaden the learners' scope of knowledge and open up new avenues for innovative research.

Evaluation Methods: Sessional Work and Semester Examination

Course Content

1. Introduction

- Evolution of GCC States
- Role of Britain and the Oil Factor
- Tribalism and Islam
- Formation of GCC

II. Political Institutions

- Monarchies and successions
- Legislatures, Executives and Judiciaries
- Provinces, Governates and Emirates
- Municipal Councils

III. Political Processes

- Pillars of Legitimacy and Arab Social contract

- Political Mobilisation and Ideological Discourses
- Political Participation, Civil and Political Rights
- Arab Spring, New Media and Democratisation

IV. Politics of Marginalisation

- Sectarian and Minority Issues
- Stateless Citizens
- Gender Issues

V. Emerging Challenges

- Political and Security Challenges
- Role of Non-State Actors

Reading List

Unit 1:

Al-Jaber, K. and Ulrichsen, K. C. (eds.), (2021). *Political Islam in the Gulf Region*. Gulf International Forum.

Ayoob, M. (ed.), (1982). *The Politics of Islamic Reassertion*. Vikash Publishing House.

Ayubi, N. (1991), *Political Islam: Religion and Politics in the Arab world*. Routledge.

Beblawi, H. and Luciani, G. (1987). *The Rentier State*. Croom Helm.

Broomley, S. (1999). *Rethinking Middle East Politics: State Formation and Development*. Polity Press.

Dietl, G. (1991). *Through Two Wars and Beyond: A Study of Gulf Cooperation Council*. Lancer Publication.

Freer, C. and Al-Sharekh, A. (2021). *Tribalism and Political Power in the Gulf*. Bloomsbury.

Futon, J. & Sim L.(eds.) (2019). *External Powers and the Gulf Monarchies*. Routledge.

Nakhleh. A. (1986). *The Gulf Cooperation Council: Policies, Problems and Prospects*. Praeger

Peterson, J. E. (2017). *The Emergence of Gulf States: Studies in Modern History*. Bloomsbury.

Ramakrishnan A. K. and Illias, M.H. (2011). *Society and Change in the Contemporary Gulf*. New Century Publications.

Rosenthal, F.(tr.) (2015). *Ibn Khaldun: The Muqaddimah*. Princeton University Press.

Sandwick, J. A. and McGovern, G. (eds.), (1987). *The Gulf Cooperation Council: Moderation and Stability in an Interdependent World*. Routledge.

Sharabi, H. (1988). *Neo-Patriarchy: A Theory of Distorted Change in Arab Society*. Oxford University Press.

Smith, S. C. (2020). *Britain and the Arab Gulf Empire: Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates, 1971-1981*. Routledge.

Unit II:

Baaklini, A., Denoeux, G and Springboard, R.(1999). *Legislative Politics in the Arab World: The Resurgence of Democratic Institutions*. Lynne Rienner Publishers.

Brown, N. J. (1997). *The Rule of Law in the Arab World: Courts in Egypt and Gulf*. Cambridge University Press.

Davidson, C. M.(2011). *Power and Politics in the Persian Gulf Monarchies*. Hurst and Co-Publishers.

_____ (2015). *After the Sheikhs: The Coming Collapse of the Gulf Monarchies*. C. Hurst and Co-Publishers.

Herb, M. (2008). 'Parliaments in the Gulf Monarchies: A Long Way from Democracy', *Carnegie Endowment for International Peace*, August 20.

Mehran, K.(2020). *Routledge Handbook of Gulf Politics*.Routledge.

Merkel, P. H. (1970). *Modern Comparative Politics*. Holt Rinehart and Winston.

Unit III:

Al-Azami, U. (2022). *Islam and the Arab Revolutions: The Ulama between Democracy and Autocracy*. Oxford University Press.

Cavatorta, F. and Durac, V. (2010). *Civil Society and Democratisation in the Arab World: The Dynamics of Activism*. Routledge.

Dietl, G.(ed.), (2010). *Democracy and Democratisation in the Gulf*. Shipra Publications.

Ghareeb, E. (2000). 'New Media and Information Revolution in the Arab world: An Assessment', *Middle East Journal*, 54(3).

Gunter, B., Elareshi, M. and Al-Jaber, K. (2016). *Social Media in the Arab World: Communication and Public Opinion in the Gulf States*.L.B. Tauris.

Kechichian, J. (2004). 'Democratisation in Gulf Monarchies: A New Challenge to the GCC', *Middle East Policy*,11(4):37-57.

Korany, B. Brynen, R. and Paul, N. (eds.), (1998). *Political Liberalisation and Democratisation in the Arab World: Comparative Experiences*. Lynne Rienner Publishers.

Mohapatra, A. K. (2008). 'Democratisation in the Arab World: Relevance of Turkish Model', *International Studies*, 45(3).

Pasha, A.K. (1999). *Aspects of Political Participation in the Gulf States*. Kalinga Publications.

Sadiki, L.(2004). *The Search for Arab Democracy: Discourses and Counter-Discourses*. Columbia University Press.

_____ (2009). *Rethinking Democratisation: Elections without Democracy*. Oxford University Press.

—(ed.), (2014). *Routledge Handbook of the Arab Spring: Rethinking Democratisation*. Routledge.

Unit IV:

Abadeer, A. (2015). *Norms and Gender Discrimination in the Arab World*. Palgrave Macmillan.

Beaugrand, C. (2017). *Stateless in the Gulf: Migration, Nationality and Society in Kuwait*. Bloomsbury.

Gonzalez, N. (2009). *The Sunni-Shia Conflict: Understanding Sectarian Violence in the Middle East*. Nortia Press.

Kabalan, M. J. (2019). 'Middle East Sectarianism: A Symptom to a Cause,' *Arab Centre*, Washington DC, June 1.

Kymlicka, W. and Pfostl, E. (2014). *Multiculturalism and Minority Rights in the Arab World*. Oxford University Press.

Longva, A.N. and Roald, A. S. (eds.), (2015). *Religious Minorities in the Middle East: Domination, Self-empowerment, Accommodation*. Brill Academic Publishers.

Matthiesen, T. (2013). *Sectarian Gulf: Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, and the Arab Spring That wasn't*. Stanford University Press.

Sonbol, A. (2012). *Gulf Women*. Bloomsbury.

Unit V:

ECSSR (1997). *Gulf Security in the Twenty-First Century*. I. B. Tauris.

Gause III, F. G. (1994). *Oil Monarchs: Domestic and Security Challenges in the Arab Gulf States*. Council on Foreign Relations.

Golan, G. and Salem, W. (2013). *Non-State Actors in the Middle East: Factors for peace and Democracy*. Routledge.

Hensel, H. M.(ed.),(2022). *Security Dynamics in the Gulf and the Arabian Peninsula: Contemporary Challenges and Opportunities*. Routledge.

Kamel, L. (ed.) (2017). *The Frailty of Authority Borders, Non-State Actors and Power Vacuums in a Changing Middle East*. Istituto Affari Internazionali (IAI).

Kumaraswamy, P.R. and Quamar, M.(eds.), (2018). *Contemporary Persian Gulf: Essays in Honour of Gulshan Dietl, Prakash Chandra Jain and Girijesh Pant*. Routledge.

Ulrichsen, K. C. (2018). *The Changing Security Dynamics of the Persian Gulf*. Oxford University Press.