Fall 2019
College of Business and Economics
ECON 433: Applied Economics of the Middle East
3 Credit Hours
Department of Innovation in Government and Society

Course No: ECON 433 (Section 51 – CRN 12348) (Section 01 – CRN 12849)
Course Title: Applied Economics of the Middle East
Instructor: Dr. Wasseem Mina
Credit Hours: 3
Pre-requisites:
- ECON 211 Theory of Microeconomics
- ECON 212 Theory of Macroeconomics
- ECON 231 Econometrics

Meeting time and location:
Female Students: MW: 3:30-4:45 (C1-1004)
Male Students: MW: 12:30-1:45 (H3-0029)

Office Hours:
Female students: MW 2-3 or by appointment
Male students: MW 12-12:30 or by appointment

Course Description:
This course aims to provide students with an understanding of the socio-economic and structural characteristics of the Middle East and North African economies. The course analyses the contemporary opportunities and challenges facing these economies, with a specific focus on the Gulf region. Learning methods require students to analyze academic articles on the region and utilize econometric techniques.

Among the topics covered are developments in the oil and gas sector, labor markets and migration, the implications of changing demographics such as declining birth rates, the role of inter-regional and international trade, capital flows, the role of government policy, economic reforms and diversification, and finally the significance of banks and financial markets in the region’s economic development.
**Textbook(s):**

**Optional Textbooks:**

**Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)**
Upon completion of the course, students should be able to:

1. Assess the applicability of development theories to the economies in the Middle East.
2. Explain structural transformation and growth in the Middle East.
3. Identify demographic changes in the Middle East and their economic consequences.
4. Discuss the economic teachings of Islam.
5. Express the role of oil and gas production in development of the Middle East.
6. Evaluate the role of international and intra-national trade in the economic development of the Middle East.

**Instructional Material & Learning Resources:**


**Course Teaching & Learning Methods:**

This 400-level course emphasizes independent learning in every respect. The course is taught through a combination of lectures, independent readings of class material whether textbook or assigned articles, watching documentaries, group discussions, research paper(s). It is important that students read MENA and GCC news in order to broaden and deepen their understanding of the Middle East economies. Blackboard is used extensively to communicate course news and developments. I use Smart Board and PPT slides in my class.
Course Policies:
Attendance will be taken regularly and the UAEU attendance policy will be applied. Being an upper level course, you are strongly encouraged to participate in class. Class participation through material presentation carries a weight of 20 percent. To be able to do so you need to come to class well prepared (by reading and thinking ahead) and presenting the assigned material in class. Students will take turns in presenting material in groups. I am not required to remind you of the material you are supposed to read for class. Remember this is an independent learning course.

Course Evaluation and Grading:
Course evaluation is based on an individual essay, group chapter report/critique and presentation, a term paper, and class participation.

The weight for each grading component is as follows:
1. Midterm exam (essay) 30%
2. Term paper (individual/group) 30%
3. Material presentation (individual) 30%
4. Class participation 10%

Note that presenting material on time will guarantee that you get half of class participation grade. If you do not, you will lose half of the class participation grade.

Rubrics:
I will post the rubrics used in grading the term paper on Blackboard.

Feedback:
Feedback on course assignments are provided to students. Students may seek feedback while work on assignments is in progress (while conceptualizing the term paper for example) or post completion.
## Course Outline:

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**Notes:** Sequence may diverge from schedule due to holidays. CLOs are subject to revision.
**Academic Integrity:**
Academic integrity is of central importance to education at UAEU. Students have the responsibility to know and observe the requirements of the UAEU Code of Academic Honesty available: [https://www.uaeu.ac.ae/en/catalog/plagiarism_and_academic_integrity.shtml](https://www.uaeu.ac.ae/en/catalog/plagiarism_and_academic_integrity.shtml) and the penalties resulting from violation of this code. This code forbids cheating, fabrication or falsification of information, multiple submission of academic work, plagiarism, abuse of academic materials, and complicity in academic dishonesty. Cheating in any form and on any academic work results in serious penalties that include dismissal from the university.

**Students with Special Needs:**
Students with special needs are encouraged to discuss their needs with the course instructor. You need to contact the Special Needs Services Center at +971 3 7134264 or email (disabilityservices@uaeu.ac.ae). All academic accommodations must be arranged through that office: [http://www.uaeu.ac.ae/en/student_services/special_needs/](http://www.uaeu.ac.ae/en/student_services/special_needs/)

**Student Support Services:**
If you need more support please go to the Student Academic Success Program: [http://www.uaeu.ac.ae/en/university_college/sasp/](http://www.uaeu.ac.ae/en/university_college/sasp/). This program provides students with academic support services such as Independent Learning Centers (ILCs), Tutorials, Writing & Speaking Centers. All students are encouraged to use these Centers.