Course Objectives

This course examines the multifaceted nature of political Islam in the contemporary world. We will begin by learning the basic tenants of Islam, and key concepts and theoretical understandings of the relationships between Islam and politics. Building on the approaches developed in the first part of the course, we will examine how Islam has influenced politics differently in various parts of the world including the Middle East, Southeast Asia, and South Asia.

The course objectives are as follows: (1) students will familiarize with theoretical debates about the roles of Islam in politics; (2) analyze the impact of Islam on politics in the contemporary world; and (3) gain empirical knowledge about how Islam functions differently in various countries.

Grading Criteria

A ≥ 93.5 AB=87.5-93.4 B=82.5-87.4 BC=77.5-82.4 C= 69.5-77.4 D=60-69.4 F ≤ 59.9

- Participation (5 %): Students are required to attend class regularly and participate actively in class discussions and debates. I expect you to do the readings and to be ready to engage in discussion. I expect you to be on time. Show respect to your classmates and instructor by coming to class on time. In order to grade participation, I will ask students to write several reflection notes during the class hours, which will be counted toward the participation grade.

- Two Mid-term Exams (50 %): There will be two in-class exams during the semester. The mid-term exams will be a combination of short answers and essays. Exam questions will come from lectures, power points, and required readings. Thus, it is in your interest to come to class, take
good notes, and keep up with the readings in order to do well on the exams.

- **Paper Proposal and Annotated Bibliography (15%)**: Paper proposal and annotated bibliography must be submitted via Canvas on **October 22nd**.

  - **Paper Proposal**

    Your paper proposal should describe your project in about 750 words or less. In your outline, you should do the following:
    1. Identify your research puzzle/problem/question
    2. Identify an outcome that you would like to explain
    3. Describe the importance of the puzzle/problem/question
    4. Briefly explain your argument (your argument can change later)
    5. Relate briefly your work’s contribution to the academic literature (this is where your annotated bibliography would be helpful)

  - **Annotated Bibliography**

    Annotated bibliography should be based on peer-reviewed journal articles, book chapters or books. You should have a listing of **Seven (7)** sources. The sources should be highly relevant to your paper. They can help you to sharpen your research question and argument as well as to identify what your contribution would be to the academic literature. Each reference should be briefly annotated (about 150 words or so). Use the Chicago style citation. The Chicago style guide is available on Canvas. For your paper, use the Chicago style footnote citations.

    This is how your annotated bibliography looks like.


    **150 words (a brief description about the article and how &why this particular reading will be helpful for your research paper).**


    **150 words (a brief description about the article and how &why this particular reading will be helpful for your research paper).**
helpful for your research paper).


150 words (a brief description about the article and how & why this particular reading will be helpful for your research paper).

● Research Paper (30%): Each student will be required to write an analytical paper of 10-12 pages typed and double spaced on any topic related to the course. The paper is due on December 15th by midnight. Papers handed in late will be graded down at the rate of 1/2 grade per day. It is your responsibility to make sure that the instructor receives paper on time.

● Graduate Student Expectations: Graduate students will be expected to write a longer paper of 20-25 pages. It should have a clear puzzle, draw on the relevant theoretical literature, and use evidence effectively to back up arguments. Although it is not necessary to have an original hypothesis, graduate students expected to synthesize and critically reflect on existing scholarly literature, highlighting their own insights.

The papers will be discussed in several separate sessions involving the course instructor and all graduate students, both while writing the papers and after they are completed.

Grading Criteria for Graduate Students

Paper Outline and Annotated Bibliography (25%): Due on October 5th
Literature Review (25%): Due on October 31st
Paper Presentation (10%): Schedule the date of presentation by November 15th
Research Paper (40%): December 15th

Class Policies

● Academic Honesty: Students at the UW-Madison are expected to adhere to the Honor Code: In the event of academic dishonesty, the instructor will award a grade of zero for the project, paper or examination in question, and may record an F for the course itself.

● Cell Phone: When you come to class, please turn off your cell phone and put it out of sight. If you use or check your cell phone during class, you will be asked to leave the room.

● Laptop: You are allowed to use a laptop to take notes. You must stay on task so that your
laptop screen content does not distract those seated near you. If you are not observing laptop protocol, I will close your laptop. If you violate the protocol more than once, you will be asked to leave the room.

● **Make-Up Exams**: There will be no make-up exams under any circumstances unless they are pre-approved by the instructor in the event of (a) genuine family emergency, (b) travel away from Madison on University-related obligations, or (c) severe illness or injury. Be sure to come on time for the exam.

● **Email etiquette**: Always use a greeting and spell my name correctly. Be polite. Briefly and politely state the reason why you are emailing. Use standard punctuation, grammar, and spelling. Sign it with your name. Please change the subject line so that I know what you need.

● **Special Accommodation**: Any student who has a disability and is in need of classroom accommodations, please contact the instructor and the McBurney Disability Resource Center in 702 West Johnson Street at the beginning of the semester.

● **Extra Credit**: Students are invited to attend films, lectures, and panels that deal with comparative politics. I will inform you in advance for those events. To receive extra credit, after the event, you are required to write a single page write-up about your response to the presentation. What did you learn from the presentation? Do you agree or disagree with the speaker’s argument? What did the presentation make you think about? Extra credit will go toward your participation grade or count favorably toward final grades for the borderline cases.

● **Grade Inquiry**: I do not discuss grades via email or telephone. If you would like to discuss your grades, feel free to make an appointment with me or visit me during office hours.

● The deadline for dropping a course without ‘W’ on transcript will be on September 13th.

**Required Readings**


● Other readings are posted on Canvas.

**Schedule of Readings and Discussions**
Week 1

September 7: Introductions and Overview of Course Topics and Expectations

Week 2

September 12: Religion and Comparative Politics


September 14: Key Concepts


  Part I: Islam in the Middle East

Week 3

September 19: Islamism in the Vernacular in Turkey I


September 21: Islamism in the Vernacular in Turkey II


Week 4

September 26: Islam, Nationalism, and Democracy in Turkey

The Rise of AKP: How Erdogan Made Turkey Authoritarian Regime Again.

September 28: The Egyptian Muslim Brotherhood I


Week 5

October 3: The First Mid-Term Exam

October 5: Library Day

I will be away in Washington D.C. for assessing our Wisconsin in Washington DC program. Please use the class hours to think about your paper topic and to search some relevant sources in libraries.

Week 6

October 10: Arab Spring


October 12: Iran- Islamism from Above I


Week 7

October 17: Salafi Movement


*** Paper Proposal and Annotated Bibliography Due on October 22nd ***

October 19: ISIS


**Part II. Islam in Southeast Asia**

**Week 8**

**October 24: Indonesia**

Joseph Chinyong Liow, Religion and Nationalism in Southeast Asia, pp. 1-17 & pp.175-217

**October 26: Indonesia II**


https://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2017/03/saudi-arabia-salman-visit-indonesia/518310/

**Week 9**

**October 31: Comparison Between Indonesia and the Middle East**


**November 2: Malaysia**

Joseph Chinyong Liow, Religion and Nationalism in Southeast Asia, pp.135-174

Week 10

November 7: Comparison Between Malaysia and Indonesia


November 9: Thailand

Joseph Chinyong Liow, Religion and Nationalism in Southeast Asia, pp. 99-134.


Week 11

November 14: Philippines

Joseph Chinyong Liow, Religion and Nationalism in Southeast Asia, pp. 62-98.


November 16: Burma


Week 12

November 21: ISIS in Southeast Asia and South Asia


November 23: Happy Thanksgiving!

Part III: Islam in South Asia

Week 13

November 28: Pakistan: Islamism from Above I

Peter Mandaville, Islam and Politics, Chapter 5, pp.229-244.


November 30: Bangladesh


Week 14

December 5: The Second Mid-Term

December 7: Student Paper Presentations

Week 15

December 12: Student Paper Presentations & Wrap-up

*** Final paper is due on December 15th by midnight***