

Contentious Politics in North Africa (K001332)

Due to Covid 19, the education and evaluation methods may vary from the information displayed in the schedules and course details. Any changes will be communicated on Ufora.

Course size	<i>(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)</i>		
Credits 5.0	Study time 150 h	Contact hrs	45.0 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2020-2021

A (semester 1)	English	Gent	online discussion group	5.0 h
			online lecture	25.0 h
			microteaching	10.0 h
			lecture	5.0 h

Lecturers in academic year 2020-2021

Zemni, Sami	PS05	lecturer-in-charge
El Kahlaoui, Soraya	PS05	co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2020-2021

	crdts	offering
Master of Science in Teaching in Languages (main subject Oriental Languages and Cultures)	5	A
Master of Science in Teaching in Social Sciences (main subject Political Science)	5	A
Master of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures (main subject China)	5	A
Master of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures (main subject India)	5	A
Master of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures (main subject Japan)	5	A
Master of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures (main subject Middle East Studies)	5	A
Master of Science in Conflict and Development Studies	5	A
Master of Arts in Global Studies	5	A
Exchange Programme Oriental Languages and Cultures	5	A
Exchange Programme History	5	A
Exchange Programme in Political and Social Sciences	5	A

Teaching languages

English

Keywords

Maghreb, North-Africa, history, colonialism, resistance, nationalism and state building, political and economic democratization, Islamism, political Islam, Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco.

Position of the course

The general objective of the course is to acquaint students with the modern history of North-Africa, Europe's closest, yet still largely unknown neighbor. We will do this by studying the forms of political contention that exist in the Maghreb, social mobilizations and resistance to developmental policies.

Contents

The first part of this course offers students a historical overview of the political evolution of the North-African region. First, the pre-colonial situation is briefly explained in order to be able to better interpret the impact of growing European imperialism in the 19th century. Next, the European economic, political and military penetration is discussed, employing a comparative perspective. Examined is the extent to which the colonization of Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, and to a lesser degree Libya and Mauritania), showed similarities and differences with respect to economic and political parameters. Much

attention is paid to the genesis of nationalist trends and movements prior to independence, while particularly addressing the Algerian case. The second part of the course is thematically structured. The goal is for the students to learn to acquire knowledge of, and apply theoretical and historical knowledge to analyze political processes of change in the Third world in general and more specifically the Maghreb. This will be done through seminars in which different themes are highlighted: neoliberal development, resistance, extractivism, food sovereignty,....

Initial competences

No specific prior knowledge is required. The course builds further on a general level of academic thinking and working; generally acquired knowledge of state theory and nation-building.

Final competences

- 1 To have a profound comparative understanding of the historical evolutions (mainly 20th century) of the main North-African countries.
- 2 To have a profound insight into main theoretical models of analysis concerning political developments in the main North-African countries
- 3 To be able to use independently academic arguments in debates on political transformations in North Africa
- 4 To be able to independently analyze in a scientific manner political phenomena in the region
- 5 Collaboration with peers during joint tasks

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Lecture, microteaching, online discussion group, online lecture

Extra information on the teaching methods

Lectures + Seminars, Group Work

Learning materials and price

All articles are provided through UFORA, powerpoints, movies.

References

- Anderson, Lisa, *The State and Social Transformation in Tunisia and Libya. 1830-1980*, Princeton University Press, 1986
- Ayeb, H., & Bush, R. (2019). *Food Insecurity and Revolution in the Middle East and North Africa: Agrarian Questions in Egypt and Tunisia*. Anthem Press.
- Berque, Jean, *Le Maghreb entre les deux guerres*, Paris, Le Seuil, 1962
- Laroui, Abdallah, *L'Histoire du Maghreb. Un essai de synthèse*, Centre Culturel Arabe, Casablanca, 1995
- Willis, M. (2014). *Politics and power in the Maghreb: Algeria, Tunisia and Morocco from independence to the Arab Spring*. Oxford: Oxford University Press

Course content-related study coaching

Interactive support through Ufora; fixed office hours, Department-related tutoring: Departmental library + research by the Middle East and North Africa Research Group (MENARG)

Evaluation methods

continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the first examination period

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the second examination period

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation

Open book examination, assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation

examination during the second examination period is possible

Extra information on the examination methods

Students get three assignments **during the semester**

1. Micro-teaching: students prepare a class in group (literature provided) and introduce the class.
2. Online multiple choice open book exam on the historic part of the course
3. Project: students work in group during the semester on a joint project.

Calculation of the examination mark

Micro-teaching: 20%

Online open book exam: 20%

Project: 60%

Facilities for Working Students

none