







2010/11

Summer Courses and Special Programs



The Middle East and the World:

A Middle Eastern Perspective on International Relations

Academic Hours: 45 * Credits: 3 * June 29 - July 27, 2010 * RIS Course Number: SPME206

Dr. Ronen Zeidel

This course will provide the student with a broad geopolitical analysis of the situation in the Middle East and North Africa. Using geopolitics, the student will understand the global importance of this region, its interconnections with other continents: Europe, North America and the Far East, as well as the social, geographical, cultural and political dynamics holding this region together.

The course will include a discussion of a wide variety of issues ranging from oil and gas to Arab identity and Middle Eastern conflicts. All subjects will be presented in an original manner, differing from the discourse of the international media and emphasizing the local Middle Eastern perspective. At the same time, reasons for western connections to the Middle East and reliance on its resources will also be discussed.

Visual accessories will include satellite maps and a day tour to the city of Haifa in the trace of the 1948 War.

This course is open to all students interested in the Middle East who are eager to discover what lies behind the often misleading media coverage of this region. Students of Middle Eastern history, international politics, geopolitics, religions, economy, journalism, military studies, anthropology, culture studies and political science will find this course particularly insightful.