

Course #1 *June 21-June 24, 2021*

The Middle East after the Arab Upheaval: Is There a New Regional System?

The Middle East is rapidly changing. Political structures are evolving, some states remain in name only, and religious conflicts threaten to cause further destruction. The coronavirus pandemic added to the burden. Exploiting this chaos, external powers have stepped in, turning the region into a competitive arena. This course will offer students the tools to understand the root causes of the major conflicts and their political and economic impact on people, societies, and prospects for regional peace and stability.

Monday, June 21, 2021

Understanding the Middle East: Structure, Forces, and Trends

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| 16:00 17:00 (IL time) | Dr. Kobi Michael | Orientation |
| 17:00 18:00 | Brig. Gen.(ret.) Itai Brun | The evolving Middle East and the attempts to demarcate a regional structure |
| 18:00 18:15 | Coffee break | |
| 18:15 19:15 | Amb. Dan Shapiro or Brig. Gen. (ret.) Assaf Orion | Ramifications of the Biden presidency and the post-Trump era for Middle East dynamics |
| 19:15 19:30 | Coffee break | |
| 19:30 20:30 | Mr. Daniel Rakov | Russia's return and consolidation in the Middle East |

Tuesday, June 22, 2021

The Aftermath of the Arab Spring

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| 16:30 17:30 | Ms. Orit Perlov | From a different angle – the Arab region through social media networks |
| 17:30 17:45 | Coffee Break | |
| 17:45 18:45 | Mr. Yoram Schweitzer | From Al Qaeda to the Islamic State: The Salafi Jihadi Threat |
| 18:45 19:00 | Coffee break | |
| 19:00 20:00 | Dr. Carmit Valensi | The erosion of sovereignty and the rise of non-state actors – Syria as a case study |

Wednesday, June 23, 2021

Rivals for Regional Hegemony

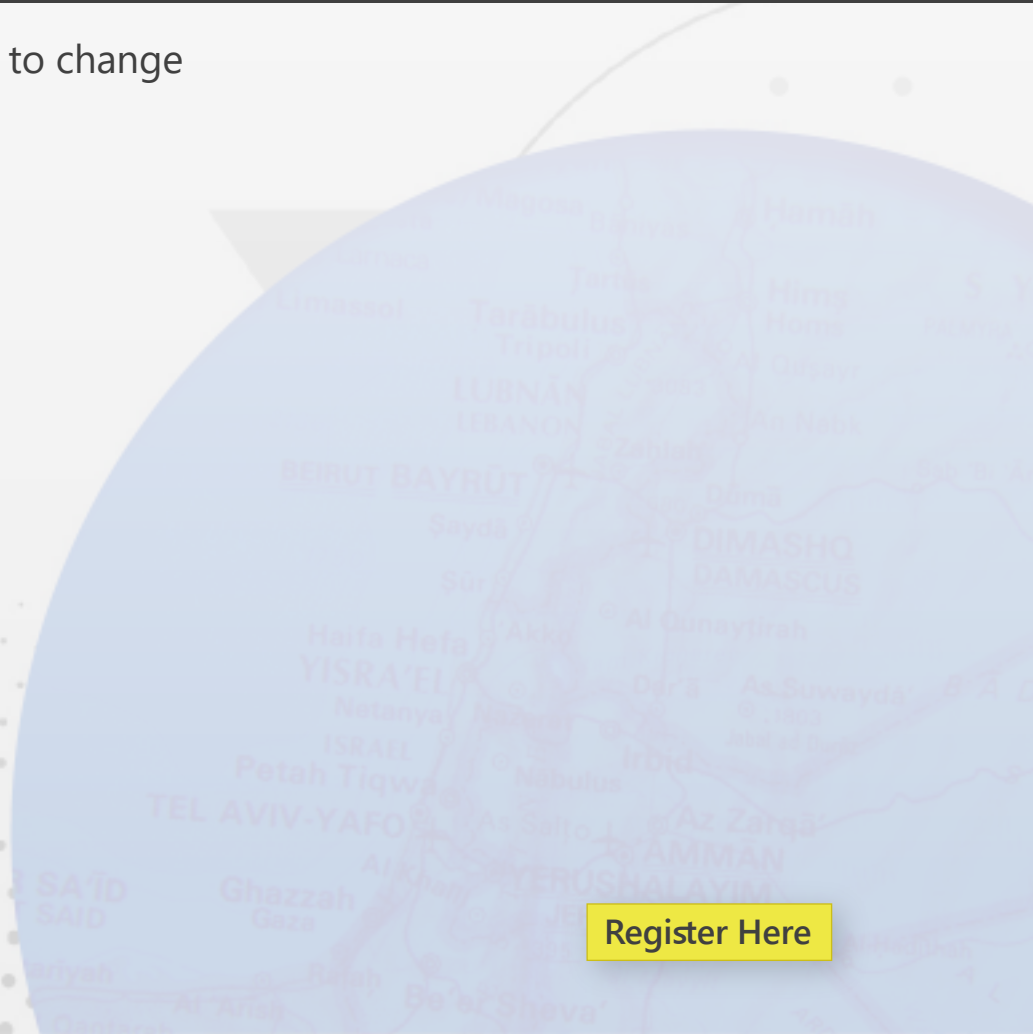
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| 16:30 17:30 | Dr. Raz Zimmt | Iran inside out – a look into Iran's domestic policies and its regional hegemonic efforts in the broader Middle East |
| 17:30 17:45 | Coffee Break | |
| 17:45 18:45 | Dr. Gallia Lindenstrauss Amb. Dr. Oded Eran | Turkey – is it in fact a rising power? The East Mediterranean – Gulf Energy Nexus |
| 18:45 19:00 | Coffee break | |
| 19:00 20:00 | Dr. Ofir Winter | Egypt – between autocracy and chaos |

Thursday, June 24, 2021

Looking Ahead

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| 16:30 17:30 | Virtual field tour | Israel's northern border (Syria and Lebanon) – history, current reality, and future trends |
| 17:30 17:45 | Coffee Break | |
| 17:45 19:15 | Moderator – Dr. Kobi Michael Brig. Gen. (res.) Udi Dekel Brig. Gen. (ret.) Assaf Orion Ms. Sima Shine Dr. Yoel Guzansky Amb. Dr. Oded Eran | INSS Experts panel: Regional stability and beyond – is an Arab Spring 2.0 expected? |
| 19:15 19:30 | Coffee Break | |
| 19:30 20:00 | Concluding and closing remarks | |

* Program is subject to change



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