You may write with a partner or by yourself. If you write with a partner you will both receive the same paper grade.

The paper counts for either ½ or 1/3 of the course grade—the latter if the midterm raises your average.

Papers should be 10 pages (double spaced) in length for single author, or 12 pages (double-spaced) for partnerships, excluding figures, graphs and tables. Figures, graphs and tables are encouraged.

You can choose to write
   A. A paper on a topic (see suggestions below)
   B. A book report (suggestions below)
   C. A paper on a minority group (list below)

Papers must be approved by Friday, February 18.
For A and B, you must get your title approved and your partner approved (if applicable), by sending an e-mail to Dalia Ghanem, dghanem@ucsd.edu.
For C, you must submit a paragraph describing the topic of your paper for approval, by sending an e-mail to Dalia Ghanem, dghanem@ucsd.edu.

No more than two papers can be written with the same title (i.e., on the topic, book or minority group), so claim your title quickly!

Papers can be submitted anytime until Tuesday March 11. If you submit (electronically) by Tuesday February 26 you will receive comments which you can use to improve the final draft.

In any case all papers are due by Tuesday March 11 at midnight. Please submit electronically to whoever gave you comments on the first draft. If you did not submit a first draft, submit to Karmen Suen, ksuen@ucsd.edu. If you have a first draft with comments on it you must submit it with the final draft on Tuesday March 11.

Points will be deducted for lateness at a rate of 10 percentage points per day late.

Feel free to submit early.
A. Suggested Topics for Middle East Economics

Please feel free to choose your own topic, but here are some ideas.

1. Why is it so difficult for Middle Eastern countries to implement East-Asian style policy reforms (competitive markets, export-oriented manufacturing, investment in human capital)?

2. Why didn’t population recover after the bubonic plague of the Middle Ages in the Middle East as it did in Europe?

3. What is Islamic Economics? Describe its’ history, motivation and speculate on its’ future.

4. Describe voluntary labor migration in the Middle East (with tables, graphs and numbers). Why is it so prevalent? Discuss its’ advantages and disadvantages.

5. Describe the economic conditions which have fostered transition to democracy in Turkey. Why do these not exist in other Middle Eastern countries?

6. Describe the economic position of Palestinians in Jordan.

7. Describe the economic position of Palestinians in Lebanon.

8. Discuss how a particular country has dealt with corruption.

9. Discuss the problem of “dependence on foreign oil” for the U.S. and evaluate possible policy solutions.

10. How has the OPEC cartel developed since 1973? Explain how an economic cartel works. Pay particular attention to the period since the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

11. Under what conditions does economic theory predict that sanctions will influence a country’s policies? What does that tell us about sanctions on Iran?

12. Governance in the Middle East


13. The Economics of Peace in the Middle East in the 1990s


15. The Euro-Mediterranean Initiative


16. Israeli-Palestinian economic relations

Aix Group, Economic Road Map: An Israeli-Palestinian Perspective on Permanent Status (Jerusalem, January 2004).


Peres Center for Peace, *Future Economic Relations between Palestine and Israel* (Tel Aviv, June 2004), pp. 1-22.


**B. Suggested Books for Middle East Economics**

*Feel free to choose any book you like that involves economics and the Middle East, including books from scripture. You may use this list as a guide.*

*A good book report should motivate the topic, explain the basic arguments and facts, discuss critically whether you think the basic argument makes sense (including some data or analysis to support your critique) and make a recommendation to the reader. (Try to choose a book you would recommend.) Examples of book reviews can be found in The Journal of Economic Literature, New York Times Book Review and New York Review of Books.*

(some of these are from Kuran and Nugent’s references in “Economic Development” *Oxford Encyclopedia of the Modern Islamic World* (1) 393-397.)


Inalcik, H., and D Quataert An Economic and Social History of the Ottoman Empire. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.


Landes, David, *Bankers and Pashas*, (Cambridge, MA 1958), Western banking in the 19th century Middle East.


*Women in the Middle East*


Moghadam, Valentine M. “Globalization and women in the Middle East,” Middle East Women’s Studies Review (Fall-Winter 2002), pp. 16-20.


**Financial Development**


**Globalization in the Middle East**


Lawrence, Robert Z., A US-Middle East Trade Agreements: A Circle of Opportunity? (Peterson Institute, Washington, DC, 2006); Ch. 2: The State of Arab Economies: Global engagement, Reforms, and Regional Trade Agreements. [Only available to read online]

C. Minorities in Middle East

The following is a list of 33 minority groups in 14 Middle Eastern Countries. Your objective is to write a paper describing some or all of these subjects:

a. the economic history of the minority group (in that country),

b. their geographic and occupational distribution in the country,

c. the economic content of grievances the minority might have with the state (e.g., economic discrimination),

d. the political, religious, militant or social welfare groups that represent the minority,

e. the extent to which these groups provide economic services to the minority,

f. the extent to which a Diaspora provides economic services to the minority.

The paper should provide an analysis of these issues rather than a collection of facts.

**Topic approval**: a paragraph describing the topic of your paper and what references you plan to use is required.

Feel free to come up with other minority groups in the Middle East.

http://www.cidcm.umd.edu/inscr/mar/data/middletbl.htm

Gpop98: Group Population in 1998 in 000s (Explanation of population estimates)

Prop98: Proportion of group population to total population
<table>
<thead>
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<th>Type</th>
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0.2000
communal contender

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indigenous peoples

MOROCCO
SAHARAWIS
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ethnonationalist

SAUDI ARABIA
SHI'I
3118
0.1500
religious sect

SUDAN
NUBA
1597
0.0480
communal contender

SUDAN
SOUTHERNERS
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0.2500
ethnonationalist

SYRIA
ALAWI
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communal contender

TURKEY
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0.2000
ethnonationalist