

# Political Islam and Middle Eastern Politics Training Course

## Professional Development Training Course Outline

|          |                                               |               |                         |
|----------|-----------------------------------------------|---------------|-------------------------|
| Category | Political Science and International Relations | Duration      | 5 Days                  |
| Base Fee | \$1,500 USD                                   | Delivery Mode | Online / On-site Hybrid |

### Course Introduction

Political Islam and Middle Eastern Politics Training Course provides a **comprehensive and nuanced understanding** of the complex interplay between **Political Islam** and the geopolitical landscape of the **Middle East and North Africa (MENA)**. It moves beyond simplistic narratives, equipping participants with the **critical analytical tools** necessary to deconstruct the historical evolution, diverse ideologies, and contemporary manifestations of political Islam. We'll explore how this potent force has shaped everything from state-building and governance to regional conflicts and global security, challenging conventional perspectives and fostering a deeper appreciation for the region's multifaceted dynamics.

The program delves into the **historical roots of modern Middle Eastern politics**, tracing the emergence of key political systems, ideologies, and social movements. We'll examine the impact of **colonialism, nationalism, and state formation**, as well as the enduring influence of **religion** on political life. The course provides a rigorous, scholarly framework to analyze the rise of **Islamist movements**, their varying approaches to political power, and their complex relationships with both state and non-state actors. By blending historical context with contemporary case studies, participants will be able to navigate the intricate political landscape of the MENA region with confidence and expertise.

### Programme Curriculum

#### Political Islam and Middle Eastern Politics Training Course

##### Introduction

Political Islam and Middle Eastern Politics Training Course provides a **comprehensive and nuanced understanding** of the complex interplay between **Political Islam** and the geopolitical landscape of the **Middle East and North Africa (MENA)**. It moves beyond simplistic narratives, equipping participants with the **critical**

**analytical tools** necessary to deconstruct the historical evolution, diverse ideologies, and contemporary manifestations of political Islam. We'll explore how this potent force has shaped everything from state-building and governance to regional conflicts and global security, challenging conventional perspectives and fostering a deeper appreciation for the region's multifaceted dynamics.

The program delves into the **historical roots of modern Middle Eastern politics**, tracing the emergence of key political systems, ideologies, and social movements. We'll examine the impact of **colonialism, nationalism, and state formation**, as well as the enduring influence of **religion** on political life. The course provides a rigorous, scholarly framework to analyze the rise of **Islamist movements**, their varying approaches to political power, and their complex relationships with both state and non-state actors. By blending historical context with contemporary case studies, participants will be able to navigate the intricate political landscape of the MENA region with confidence and expertise.

### Course Duration

5 days

### Course Objectives

1. **Deconstruct** the historical and ideological foundations of **Political Islam** and its diverse currents.
2. Analyze the **geopolitical dynamics** and regional rivalries shaping the modern Middle East.
3. Evaluate the role of **Islamist movements** in state-building and democratic transitions.
4. Examine the **Arab uprisings** and their long-term impact on political stability and governance.
5. Understand the complexities of the **Sunni-Shia divide** and its political ramifications.
6. Critically assess the influence of **external powers** on Middle Eastern politics.
7. Analyze the **role of oil** and political economy in shaping regional alliances and conflicts.
8. Explore the intersection of **gender, society, and politics** within Islamist ideologies.
9. Develop **critical thinking skills** to evaluate media narratives and academic discourse on the MENA region.
10. Differentiate between **Islamism, Salafism, and Jihadism** and their varying political strategies.
11. Investigate the rise of **non-state actors** and extremist groups like ISIS and their impact on regional security.
12. Analyze **Iran's foreign policy** and its role in the regional balance of power.
13. Formulate **evidence-based assessments** of future political trends and security challenges in the Middle East.

### Organizational Benefits

- Equip staff with a deep, current understanding of a critical global region, fostering better-informed decisions.
- Improve the ability to anticipate and respond to political risks and instability in key markets and operational zones.
- Provide a competitive edge by enabling more accurate forecasting and strategic planning related to the MENA region.
- Foster a nuanced appreciation for regional socio-political dynamics, enhancing communication and relationship-building.
- Build internal and external credibility as a knowledgeable and reliable partner on Middle East affairs.

### Target Audiences

1. Government & Diplomacy Professionals.

2. International Business Executives.
3. NGO and Humanitarian Workers.
4. Journalists & Foreign Correspondents.
5. Academics & Researchers.
6. Security & Defense Personnel.
7. Political Risk Analysts.
8. Policy Makers.

## **Course Outline**

### **Module 1: The Foundations of Political Islam**

- Introduction to Political Islam: Defining key terms, historical origins, and core ideologies.
- The Muslim Brotherhood: Ideological evolution and its role in modern politics.
- Salafism vs. Jihadism: Differentiating between political and non-political Salafist movements.
- Islamist Thinkers: Exploring the intellectual currents that shaped Islamist thought.
- **Case Study:** The rise and fall of the Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt.

### **Module 2: The Modern Middle East State System**

- Post-Colonial State Formation: Examining the legacy of colonialism and state-building.
- Authoritarianism & Rentier States: Analyzing the resilience of autocratic regimes in the MENA region.
- The Role of Oil: Understanding the impact of energy resources on political stability and foreign policy.
- Political Legitimacy: How Middle Eastern states use religion and nationalism to maintain power.
- **Case Study:** The political dynamics of Saudi Arabia and the role of the religious establishment.

### **Module 3: The Iranian Revolution and the Shia Crescent**

- The 1979 Revolution: Causes, consequences, and the establishment of the Islamic Republic.
- Iran's Regional Ambitions: Analyzing Iran's foreign policy and its proxy networks.
- Hezbollah & Political Power: The transformation of Hezbollah from a resistance group to a political actor.
- The Sunni-Shia Proxy War: Investigating regional conflicts in Syria and Yemen.
- **Case Study:** The sectarian dimension of the Syrian Civil War.

### **Module 4: The Arab Uprisings and Their Aftermath**

- Drivers of the Revolutions: Socio-economic factors and the role of social media.
- Political Islam's Moment: The electoral successes and subsequent setbacks of Islamist parties.
- The Rise of Counter-Revolution: Analyzing the forces that opposed democratic change.
- State Failure and Civil War: Examining the collapse of the state in Libya and Yemen.
- **Case Study:** The divergent outcomes of the Arab Spring in Tunisia and Syria.

### **Module 5: Terrorism, Extremism, and Non-State Actors**

- The Evolution of Jihadism: From al-Qaeda to the Islamic State.
- ISIS & the Caliphate Project: Understanding the ideology, recruitment, and strategy of the Islamic State.
- Foreign Fighters & Lone Wolves: The global reach of jihadist ideology.
- Counter-Terrorism Strategies: Evaluating international and regional responses to extremism.
- **Case Study:** The rise and territorial defeat of ISIS in Iraq and Syria.

### **Module 6: Turkey, The Gulf, and Regional Rivalries**

- Turkey's Neo-Ottomanism: Analyzing the foreign policy of the Justice and Development Party (AKP).
- GCC Dynamics: The political and economic power of the Gulf Cooperation Council.
- The Qatar Crisis: Understanding the diplomatic and political blockade of Qatar.
- The UAE's Foreign Policy: Examining its assertive role in the region.
- **Case Study:** The competition for influence between Turkey, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE.

### **Module 7: The Israel-Palestine Conflict and Broader Regional Politics**

- Historical Context: The origins of the conflict and its enduring impact on regional politics.
- Hamas & Palestinian Politics: The role of the Islamist movement in the Palestinian territories.
- Israel's Security Challenges: Analyzing threats from both state and non-state actors.
- The Abraham Accords: Examining the normalization of relations between Israel and Arab states.
- **Case Study:** The political dimensions of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

### **Module 8: The Future of Political Islam and the Middle East**

- Post-Islamism: Debating whether the era of political Islam is over.
- New Political Movements: The rise of new civil society groups and protest movements.
- The Geopolitical Outlook: Forecasting future trends in regional stability and power balances.
- Climate Change and Food Security: Analyzing emerging non-traditional security threats.
- **Case Study:** Political and economic reforms in Saudi Arabia under Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman.

## **Training Methodology**

This course employs a participatory and hands-on approach to ensure practical learning, including:

- Interactive lectures and presentations.
- Group discussions and brainstorming sessions.
- Hands-on exercises using real-world datasets.
- Role-playing and scenario-based simulations.
- Analysis of case studies to bridge theory and practice.
- Peer-to-peer learning and networking.
- Expert-led Q&A sessions.
- Continuous feedback and personalized guidance.

**Register as a group from 3 participants for a Discount**

Send us an email: [info@fineskilltrainingcenter.com](mailto:info@fineskilltrainingcenter.com) or call +254769199797

### **Certification**

*Upon successful completion of this training, participants will be issued with a globally- recognized certificate.*

### **Tailor-Made Course**

*We also offer tailor-made courses based on your needs.*

### **Key Notes**

- a. The participant must be conversant with English.
- b. Upon completion of training the participant will be issued with an Authorized Training Certificate
- c. Course duration is flexible and the contents can be modified to fit any number of days.
- d. The course fee includes facilitation training materials, 2 coffee breaks, buffet lunch and A Certificate upon successful completion of Training.
- e. One-year post-training support Consultation and Coaching provided after the course.
- f. Payment should be done at least a week before commence of the training, to FINESKILL TRAINING CENTER account, as indicated in the invoice so as to enable us prepare better for you.

## Upcoming Scheduled Sessions

| Start Date  | End Date    | Location | Price   |
|-------------|-------------|----------|---------|
| 07 Sep 2026 | 11 Sep 2026 | Physical | \$1,500 |
| 14 Sep 2026 | 18 Sep 2026 | Physical | \$1,500 |
| 21 Sep 2026 | 25 Sep 2026 | Physical | \$1,500 |
| 28 Sep 2026 | 02 Oct 2026 | Physical | \$1,500 |
| 05 Oct 2026 | 09 Oct 2026 | Physical | \$1,500 |
| 12 Oct 2026 | 16 Oct 2026 | Physical | \$1,500 |
| 19 Oct 2026 | 23 Oct 2026 | Physical | \$1,500 |
| 26 Oct 2026 | 30 Oct 2026 | Physical | \$1,500 |

Ready to enroll or request a customized program? Book online or contact us:

Register Online Now

Email: [info@fineskilltrainingcenter.com](mailto:info@fineskilltrainingcenter.com) | Website: [www.fineskilltrainingcenter.com](http://www.fineskilltrainingcenter.com)