

## COURSE DETAIL

### GEOPOLITICS OF THE MIDDLE EAST THROUGH THE LENS OF SUNNI-SHIITE RELATIONS

**Country**

France

**Host Institution**

Institut d'Etudes Politiques (Sciences Po)

**Program(s)**

Sciences Po Paris

**UCEAP Course Level**

Upper Division

**UCEAP Subject Area(s)**

Political Science Near East Studies

**UCEAP Course Number**

142

**UCEAP Course Suffix**

M

**UCEAP Official Title**

GEOPOLITICS OF THE MIDDLE EAST THROUGH THE LENS OF SUNNI-SHIITE RELATIONS

**UCEAP Transcript Title**

GEOPOL/MIDDLE EAST

**UCEAP Quarter Units**

4.50

## **UCEAP Semester Units**

3.00

### **Course Description**

The death of the Prophet and his succession gave rise to two different and sometimes rival conceptions of religious authority and political power in Islam. The historical perspective enables us to understand the changing relationships, reconfigurations, and contemporary dynamics in the Middle East. This course, based on a multidisciplinary approach, examines the impact of relations between Sunnis and Shiites on the geopolitics of the Middle East, and the extent to which they are also shaped by regional geopolitics. As these divisions are part of specific political and regional contexts, it is necessary to go beyond a strictly confessional reading of regional geopolitical issues. This course develops critical thinking skills, as well as the capacity for analysis and reflection, in order to shed light on the multidimensional dimension of these interactions.

The death of the Prophet and his succession gave rise to two different and sometimes rival conceptions of religious authority and political power in Islam. The historical perspective will enable us to understand the changing relationships, reconfigurations and contemporary dynamics in the Middle East. The aim of this course, based on a multidisciplinary approach, is to understand the impact of relations between Sunnis and Shiites on the geopolitics of the Middle East, but also to grasp the extent to which they are also shaped by regional geopolitics. As these divisions are part of specific political and regional contexts, it is necessary to go beyond a strictly confessional reading of regional geopolitical issues. This study will enable students to develop their critical thinking skills, as well as their capacity for analysis and reflection, in order to shed light on the multidimensional dimension of these interactions.

### **Language(s) of Instruction**

French

### **Host Institution Course Number**

CAFF 25F40

**Host Institution Course Title**

GEOPOLITIQUE DU MOYEN-ORIENT AU PRISME DES RELATIONS SUNNITES-CHIITES

**Host Institution Course Details**

<https://syllabus.sciencespo.fr/fr/?202420%2F269302=>

**Host Institution Campus****Host Institution Faculty****Host Institution Degree**

Seminar

**Host Institution Department**

International Relations

**Course Last Reviewed**

2024-2025

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