BCNM05 (NM 2324): Contemporary Islamic Movements, Prof. Roja Fazaeli

Duration: Semester B
Contact hours p/w: 2 hours per week
Assessment: 1 x 3,000-word essay and other assignments set by the lecturer
Weighting: 5 ECTS

Description: This module examines contemporary Islamic social and political movements and thought. The history of the revivalist and Islamic movements in Iran, Egypt, Afghanistan, as well as transnational Islamist movements such as Al-Qaeda and Daesh, are studied. Sources include the writings of founders and followers alongside critical scholarship. The uprisings in the Middle-East and North-Africa, widely known as the “Arab Spring,” will be discussed in the form of class presentations.

Indicative Resources


Saleem Haddad, Guapa, Other Press, 2016.

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

· Discuss the diversity inherent in Islamic thought and social and political movements;

· Contextualise religious thought within Islamic political narratives;

· Analyse the interaction between state, politics, law and religion in the Islamic world.

Methods of Teaching and Student Learning
The lectures are mainly participatory. Students are asked to prepare the assigned readings before each class and there are discussion groups assigned during each class. The lectures are delivered using PowerPoint, videos and photos. There are a number of field trips designed to increase student learning and support different learning styles.

Methods of Assessment

a) This module is continuously assessed by one essay (2500-3,000 words worth 60%).
b) 90% attendance at lectures is required to pass the module.