The International Oil Market and the Political Economy of the Middle East

Paul Rivlin, Emory University, Spring 2008

This course examines the connections between the world's reliance on oil and the political economy of the Middle East. The first part of the course examines world energy markets and their development, with emphasis on the USA. It then places oil consumption into the wider energy context. The rise of China and India as energy consumers is also examined and some environmental issues are analyzed. The second part of the course looks at the Middle East as an oil supplier: what was the role of the West and how rentier states have come into being. Economic and strategic conclusions are drawn.

Course outline (14 weeks x 3 classes a week)

1. The Development of the International Energy Market

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(Klare Chap 1, Rivlin pp.26-39)
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2. The Oil Crisis of 1973 and its aftermath

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(Yergin Chap 28 and 29; Rivlin, pp. 15-25)
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3. Energy use and oil discovery patterns after 1973

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(Klare Chap,4,5)
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4. Oil Consumers: the USA

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(Klare Chap2, 3, Pollack)
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5. Oil Consumers: China and India

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(Madan, Downs, Economy, Congressional Budget Office, Winters and Yusuf Chap 5)
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6. Relying on the Middle East

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(Klare Chap 2, Washington Institute,)
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7. The Political Economy of the Middle East

(Waterbury and Richards 2,3,7,8,9, Sufyan, Rivlin (2000) pp. 40-59, Rivlin (2001) pp. 3-16, 199-206, Henry and Springborg 6)

8. Environmental Issues

9. Economic and Strategic Conclusions

Sources:

Books:

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Clement M. Henry and Robert Springborg, *Globalization and the Politics of the Middle East* (Cambridge University Press, 2001).

Michael Klare, Blood and Oil: The Dangers and Consequences of America's Growing Dependency on Imported Petroleum (The American Empire Project) Metropolitan Books, 2004

Paul Rivlin, Economic Policy and Performance in the Arab World (Lynne Rienner, 2001)

John Waterbury and Alan Richards, A Political Economy of the Middle East, (Westview Press, 2007).

Daniel Yergin, The Prize: The Epic Quest for Oil, Money and Power, (Free Press, 1991)

Reports

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Paul Rivlin, World Oil and Energy Trends: Strategic Implications for the Middle East http://www.inss.org.il/upload/(FILE)1190278091.pdf, 2000,

United Nations:

Arab Human Development Reports, 2002, 2003, and 2004.

The Brookings Foreign Policy Studies:

Energy Security Series, China, by Erica Downs

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The Brookings Foreign Policy Studies:

Energy Security Series, India, by Tanvi Madan

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Energy Information Agency (EIA):

Annual Energy Outlook 2007 with Projections to 2030:

http://www.eia.doe.gov/oiaf/aeo/pdf/overview.pdf

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Energy Perspectives: 1949-2006

http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/aer/pdf/perspectives.pdf

Council on Foreign Relations:

National Security Consequences of U.S. Oil Dependency Task Force Report No. 58

October 2006 http://www.cfr.org/content/publications/attachments/EnergyTFR.pdf

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International Energy Agency (IEA):

Oil Crises and Climate Challenges 30 Years of Energy Use in IEA Countries http://www.iea.org/textbase/nppdf/free/2004/30years.pdf

Foreign Affairs, September/October 2007:

Elisabeth Economy, The Great Leap Backwards (China's Environmental Disaster) http://www.foreignaffairs.org/20070901faessay86503/elizabeth-c-economy/the-great-leap-backward.html

Congressional Budget Office:

China's Growing Demand for Oil and Its Impact on U.S. Petroleum Markets http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/71xx/doc7128/04-07-ChinaOil.pdf

Congressional Budget Office:

The Economics of Climate Change: A Primer, 2003

Carnegie Endowment for International Peace:

Sufyan Alissa: The Challenge of Economic Reform in the Arab World, 2007 http://www.carnegieendowment.org/files/cmec_1_econ_reform_final.pdf

World Bank and Institute for Policy Studies:

Dancing with Giants: China, India and the Global Economy, 2007

Eds. L. Alan Winters and Shahid Yusuf

The Brookings Institution, The Hamilton Project:

An Economic Strategy to address Climate Change and Promote Energy Security, 2007 Jason Furman and others

The Washington Institute for Near East Studies:

Reducing Vulnerability to Middle East Energy Shocks, 2005

Patrick Clawson and Simon Henderson

Middle East Review of International Affairs (MERIA) Saudi Arabia and the US 1951-2002, Vol.6, no.3, September 2002. Josh Pollack,

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