Centre for West Asian Studies  
School of International Studies  

Course for M.Phil.

Course No. : WA 615  
Course title : West Asian Economies: Issues in Development  
Course teacher : Dr. Sameena Hameed  
Credits : 3  
Instruction Method : Lectures, Seminars and tutorials  
Evaluation Method : Sessional work and Semester examination  
Course Duration : One Semester  
Contact hours : 03 per week

Course Content

1. Development: Key Concepts  
   - Difference between growth and development  
   - Development debates  
   - Problems of development (poverty, unemployment, disparities)

2. Economic Profile of the Region  
   - Natural Resources: Depleting stocks and alternatives (focusing on energy),  
   - Agriculture: land reforms, productivity and technology  
   - Industrialisation: Choice of Industry, nature of technology  
   - Human Resources: Demography, problems of unemployment  
   - Growth of service sector  
   - Different structural characteristics of the West Asian economies with special reference to few Arab Economies, Iran, Turkey and Israel (oil and non-oil economies, labour surplus and labour deficit economies, agrarian economies, economies in transition as well as innovation and service based economies).

3. Oil and Development:  
   - Growth of oil industry in the region.  
   - Impact of oil on development: Intra-regional disparities and emerging regional stratification  
   - Rentier nature of the regime in oil-based economies and new facets of Rentierism.  
   - Problems of industrialisation and capital formation.
4 State and the Economy

- Relative roles of the state and the market in development process.
- The different ramifications of process of economic liberalisation, privatisation of state enterprises, rise of informal sector in the economies of the region.
- Market and state failures in inclusive growth and development (disparities in regional distribution gender, minorities), Public Private Partnership.

5. Development Strategies: an Appraisal

- Plans and planning
- Comparative account of state led development strategies and the neoliberal regime in the region.
- Problems of unemployment and skill generation
- Land degradation and food security
- Poverty, social welfare policies, development challenges in conflict zones, economic disparities.
- Arab Spring-Economic dimensions

6. West Asia in the World Economy

- Role of trade in the development of the region.
- Foreign investment, aid and debt problem of the region.
- Development implications of globalisation, the labour and capital flows between West Asian and North African countries.

Suggested Readings


**Articles**


