

# INTS 240: Peace and Conflict in the Middle East

This course briefly reviews the complex history, politics, economics, and international relations of West Asia, aka the Middle East. The term “Middle East” was probably first coined by Captain Alfred Thayer Mahan in his 1890 book, *The Influence of Sea Power upon History, 1660-1783*. Because of its strategic significance, the term has found currency. But it is alien to the heterogeneous peoples and cultures of the region. The region’s unique historical circumstances (ecological, religious, and oil) have given it the appearance of a culture-area.

**Units:** 3

**Program:** [International Relations, Peace and Conflict Resolution](#) Middle East