

Programme

APRIL	Wednesday 16	Introduction to Political Regimes, Dr Wissam Lahham	17:00-19:00
	Wednesday 23	Introduction to Political Regimes, Dr Wissam Lahham	17:00-19:00
	Friday 25	Introduction to Political Regimes, Dr Wissam Lahham	17:00-19:00
	Wednesday 30	Introduction to Political Regimes, Dr Wissam Lahham	17:00-19:00
MAY	Friday 2	Measuring Democracy	17:00-19:00
	Wednesday 7	Case Study from the Arab World	17:00-19:00
	Friday 9	Case Study from Central Asia	13:00-15:00
	Wednesday 14	Case Studies from SE Asia: Philippines and Thailand	13:00-15:00
	Friday 16	Case Study from Europe: Hungary	17:00-19:00
	Wednesday 21	Case Study from South America	17:00-19:00
	Friday 23	Case Study from the Balkans	17:00-19:00
	Wednesday 28	Discussion of Papers	17:00-19:00

This online course is accessible through Microsoft Teams. Its schedule follows EEST (Beirut/Gaza time).

Introduction to Political Regimes



Dr Wissam LAHHAM

Political scientist with a focus on constitutional law and political order, author of a number of research studies addressing the role of religion and constitutionalism, civic values, political reform and monetary history of Lebanon. He holds a PhD in political science and writes frequently on issues related to Lebanese constitutional practices. Lahham is a senior researcher for the "Legal Agenda" specialized in constitutional and parliamentary affairs. He teaches "political thought" and "Lebanese political regime" at the Institute of Political Science at Saint Joseph University of Beirut. He is also a specialist in numismatics.

This introduction offers a comprehensive exploration of political regimes, tracing their conceptual evolution from ancient and classical philosophical foundations—rooted in Greek thinkers like Aristotle and Arab scholars such as Al Farabi—to modern frameworks shaped by theorists like Hobbes, Montesquieu and Rousseau, as well as contemporary debates on populism and institutional design.

Case Studies from across the World

Participants will critically analyse how thinkers across history have categorized systems of governance, dissecting the principles, virtues, and flaws underpinning each model.

It will be followed by case studies from across the world: Europe, the Arab region, Africa, Central Asia, Southeast Asia and Latin America.

By combining theoretical study with multiple case studies, the course fosters a nuanced understanding of how political regimes both shape societies and adapt to evolving socio-economic conditions, human needs, ideologies and crises.

Application Details

Apply here: [application form](#)

Deadline: 13 April

Response Date: Applicants with completed files will receive a response by 14 April

Course Starts: 16 April

This workshop is tailored for **MA students, third-year BA students** and recent **graduates in social sciences**. It is also open to **young professionals and activists** involved in human rights, social engagement, or political participation, regardless of formal academic status.

In the selection process, priority will be given to fostering diversity, ensuring broad representation across cultural backgrounds, professional experiences and ideological perspectives to enrich group discussions and collaborative learning.

Enrolment & Certification

Students enrolled in the Arab master's programme in Democracy and Human Rights receive credits for this course. Exterior students are awarded a certificate from the Institute of Political Science:

A Certificate of Attendance for students who have attended at least 9 out of 12 sessions. It is granted on attendance only, without the requirement of passing an assessment.

A Certificate of Completion for students who have attended at least 9 out of the 12 sessions and who have engaged with lecturers, participated in class activities and successfully completed the required assessment. Success is measured against predetermined standards for knowledge, skills or competencies.



This online course is offered by the Arab master's programme in Democracy and Human Rights, with the support of the European Union.

To learn more about the programme, visit our [website](#).

For updates on our activities, follow our [social media pages](#).