Sample Course Outline

Modern History

ATAR Year 12

Unit 4 – Elective 3: The struggle for peace in the   
Middle East since 1945

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Sample course outline

Modern History – ATAR Year 12

Semester 2 – Unit 4 – The modern world since 1945

This outline is based on Elective 3: The struggle for peace in the Middle East since 1945

**The development of historical skills is intrinsic to the teaching of this unit.** (This content is shown beneath this table.)

The impact of the following forces should be considered, where appropriate, throughout the unit:

* economic
* international relations
* leadership
* political
* social.

| **Week** | **Syllabus content** | **Suggested teaching points** |
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| 1–2 | * factors between 1945 and 1948 leading to the establishment of the state of Israel and the immediate consequences for relations between Jews and Arabs * the consequences of the involvement of the United States, Britain and the Soviet Union in the Middle East over the period, in both the continuing conflict and the peace process * the significant ideas of the period, including * imperialism * Arab nationalism * Zionism * Fundamentalism * terrorism * the impact of significant individuals and groups both in working for and in opposing peace | **Historical background leading to the establishment of the state of Israel**   * The League of Nations mandates (establishment of the British mandate) at the San Remo conference in 1920 * Balfour Declaration, Hussein-McMahon Agreement and Sykes-Picot Agreement * Consequences of the British Mandate for Arabs and Jews – the impacts of migration, British rule and violence * Impact of the Arab Revolt and World War Two on Geo-Politics in the Middle East   **Moves towards Israeli independence**  **(1945–1948)**   * Aims and objectives of different groups active in the Middle East post WWII (1945) including Zionists, Arab nations, the United Nations and terror groups * The rise of Arab nationalism * United States lobbying the Jewish Agency and Soviet Union support of Communism * Impact of the Holocaust (*Shoah*) and post WWII migration of Jewish people including the 1946 White Paper policy restrictions * The King David Hotel Bombing (1946) * United Nations General Assembly and Resolution 181 (1947) * The United Nations Special Committee on Palestine (UNSCOP) and Partition * Establishment of the Israeli Defence Forces (IDF) and the Arab Armies * Ben-David Gurion, The Jewish Agency, Irgun and the Deir Yassin Massacre, The Arab League and Liberation Army   **The establishment of the state of Israel**   * Responses to partition (Jewish and Arab) * End of the British Mandate of Palestine and Israeli Proclamation of Establishment / Declaration of the state of Israel (1948) |
| 3–4 | * reasons for, and consequences of key conflicts between Arabs and Israelis, including   + the Arab-Israeli War (1948–49)   + the Suez War (1956) * the attempts to settle conflicts between Arabs and Israelis, including   + the 1949 Armistice   + the role of the United Nations * the consequences of the involvement of the United States, Britain and the Soviet Union in the Middle East over the period, in both the continuing conflict and the peace process * the significant ideas of the period, including   + imperialism   + Arab nationalism   + Zionism   + Fundamentalism   + terrorism * the impact of significant individuals and groups both in working for and in opposing peace | **Key conflicts between the Arabs and Israelis, and attempts to settle those conflicts**   * **The first Arab Israeli War (1948–49)** * Reasons for the War and key events * The War of Independence vs *al-Nakba* * Zionism and ‘revisionist’ perspectives * Short- and long-term consequences of the conflict (acquisition of land, diplomatic recognition and population migration) * **The 1949 Armistice** – The Green Line   + The new borders of Israel   + Palestinian Arabs remain stateless * The United Nations Truce Supervision Organisation (UNTSO) and the Mixed Armistice Commissions (MAC’s)   + United Nations Resolution 1949   + Tripartite agreement (1950) * The role of Egypt – leadership changes * The Baghdad Pact (1955) * **The Suez War (1956)**    + The Suez Canal – geopolitical and economic significance and the influence of the Cold War   + Significance of Imperialism and the emergence of Pan-Arab Nationalism   + Rising significance of the Unites States and the Soviet Union and declining influence of Britain   + Nationalisation of the Suez Canal   + Consequences of the Suez War – European power in the Middle East, shipping routes via the Straits or Tiran and the rise of Arab nationalism in other states   + The United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF) * The United Arab Republic (1958 – 1961) * Ben-David Gurion, King Abdullah of Transjordan, the *fedayeen,* Gamal Abdel Nasser, the Palestine Conciliation Commission (PCC) |
| 5–6 | * reasons for, and consequences of key conflicts between Arabs and Israelis, including * the Six-Day War (1967) * the attempts to settle conflicts between Arabs and Israelis, including * Security Council Resolution 242 (1967) * The role of the United Nations * the consequences of the involvement of the United States, Britain and the Soviet Union in the Middle East over the period, in both the continuing conflict and the peace process * the significant ideas of the period, including * imperialism * Arab nationalism * Zionism * Fundamentalism * terrorism * the impact of significant individuals and groups both in working for and in opposing peace | **Key conflicts between the Arabs and Israelis, and attempts to settle those conflicts**   * Arab nationalism and increasing tensions in the region, particularly around borders * The influence of the Cold War and relations between the United States and the Soviet Union (arms race). * Syria/Egypt mutual defence agreement (1966) * Egypt/Jordan defence agreement (1967) * The creation of the Palestinian National Council (PNC) and the Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) by the Arab League * PLO structure and the Fatah * **The Six-Day War (1967)** * Closure of the Straits of Tiran and Israel’s response * Strikes against Egypt’s air force and Israel’s victory * Consequences of the Six-Day War including Israel’s acquisition of land from surrounding Arab nations. * The Arab populations of Jerusalem, the West Bank and the Gaza Strip * Settlements in Occupied Territories – The Israeli narrative and the Palestinian narrative * **The role of the United Nations and Security Council Resolution 242 (1967)** * International responses to the Six-Day War including those of Israel, Egypt, Jordan and Syria * Palestine National Council – 1969 elections and increased militant actions * The influence of the Soviet Union (military provisions and the War of Attrition) and the United States negotiation of the Rogers Plan * Arafat appointed leader of the PLO * Yasser Arafat, Gamal Abdul Nasser, King Hussein, Golda Meir, different member groups of the PLO (such as the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) and the Fatah), the Arab League   **Task 5: Source Analysis – The Six-Day War (Week 6)** |
| 7–8 | * reasons for, and consequences of key conflicts between Arabs and Israelis, including * the Yom Kippur/Ramadan War (1973) * Israeli military intervention in Lebanon (1978, 1982) * reasons for, and consequences of, other conflicts in the Middle East, including * Iranian Revolution (1979) * the attempts to settle conflicts between Arabs and Israelis, including * Camp David Accords (1978) * the 1979 Peace Treaty * the role of the United Nations * the consequences of the involvement of the United States, Britain and the Soviet Union in the Middle East over the period, in both the continuing conflict and the peace process * the significant ideas of the period, including * imperialism * Arab nationalism * Zionism * Fundamentalism * terrorism * the impact of significant individuals and groups both in working for and in opposing peace | **The significant increase in terrorism in the Middle East and Europe**   * Movement of Palestinian refugees * PLO headquarters move to Lebanon * Black September Organisation * The Munich Massacre (1972)   **Key conflicts between the Arabs and Israelis, and attempts to settle those conflicts**   * The Yom Kippur/Ramadan War (1973) * The significance of Yom Kippur * The involvement of the United States and the Soviet Union * The United Nations Security Council and Resolution 338. * Role of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) in ending the conflict and the influence of oil on the actions of the Superpower nations. * Key consequences – restoration of Arab pride, change in Israeli leadership and Israeli intelligence. * Likud Party and ultranationalism * Geneva Peace Conference (1973) * Anwar Sadat’s speech to the Knesset * Camp David Accords (1978) * ‘The Framework for Peace in the Middle East’, brokered by the USA, the roles of Carter, Sadat and Begin * Private summit – no media * Negotiation and outcome * The Israel-Egypt Peace Treaty (1979) * Consequences – Egypt expelled from the Arab League * Consequences – involvement of the US; financial aid, alliance with Israel * Nobel Peace Prize and the assassination of Anwar Sadat * Military intervention in Lebanon (1978) * The PLO and terror attacks in Israel * Operation Litani   **Other conflicts in the Middle East**   * Iranian Revolution (1979) * The rise of Islamic fundamentalism * Collapse of the Monarchy and the establishment of an Islamic Republic. * Consequences of the Revolution for the region – continuing conflict and Islamic terror groups competing for power and reactions from the West * Anwar Sadat, OPEC, Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC), Menachem Begin, Golda Meir, Jimmy Carter, Henry Kissinger, Shah Pahlavi, the Grand Ayatollah Khomeini   **Task 6: Explanation – The Iranian Revolution**  **(Week 8)** |
| 9–10 | * reasons for, and consequences of key conflicts between Arabs and Israelis, including * Israeli military intervention in Lebanon (1978, 1982) * the nature and consequences of Palestinian reactions to Israel, including the Intifada (1987–1993) and the beginning of the 2nd Intifada (2000) * reasons for, and consequences of, other conflicts in the Middle East, including * the Iran/Iraq War (1980–88) * the attempts to settle conflicts between Arabs and Israelis, including * the role of the United Nations * the consequences of the involvement of the United States, Britain and the Soviet Union in the Middle East over the period, in both the continuing conflict and the peace process * the significant ideas of the period, including * imperialism * Arab nationalism * Zionism * Fundamentalism * terrorism * the impact of significant individuals and groups both in working for and in opposing peace | **Key conflicts between the Arabs and Israelis, and attempts to settle those conflicts**   * Military intervention in Lebanon (1982)   + Religious and ethnic division in Lebanon (composition of Lebanon)   + Reasons for military intervention   + Significance of the conflict in the region and of the PLO   + Sabra and Shatila Massacres – impacts on domestic and international opinions   + Hezbollah and Iran   **Other conflicts in the Middle East**   * The Iran/Iraq War (1980–1988)   + Key causes of the conflict – territory, oil rich land, waterway trade routes   + 4 September,1980 – Iran shelled several border posts   + 22 September, 1980 – Iraqi forces invaded Western Iran (joint border)   + Tanker Wars and chemical warfare   + Consequences of the involvement of the US and Soviet Union and financial assistance from allies   + Propaganda in Western Nations   + UN Security Council Resolution 598   + 1988 cease-fire, formal peace agreement 1990   **Key conflicts between the Arabs and Israelis, and attempts to settle those conflicts**   * The Intifada (1987–1993)   + Causes – continued settlement construction in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, increased Palestinian protests and challenges to the PLO   + Increasing violence and civil disobedience in the Middle East   + Israel – external reactions * Declaration of Palestine (1988) * Ronald Regan, Menachem Begin, Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC), Yasser Arafat   **Task 7 Part A: Historical inquiry – Attempts to settle conflicts between Arabs and Israelis (Issue: Week 10)** |
| 11–13 | * reasons for, and consequences of key conflicts between Arabs and Israelis, including * the nature and consequences of Palestinian reactions to Israel, including the Intifada (1987–1993) and the beginning of the 2nd Intifada (2000) * reasons for, and consequences of, other conflicts in the Middle East, including * the First Gulf War (1990–91) * the attempts to settle conflicts between Arabs and Israelis, including * the Oslo Accords (1993) * the Camp David Summit (2000) * the role of the United Nations * the consequences of the involvement of the United States, Britain and the Soviet Union in the Middle East over the period, in both the continuing conflict and the peace process * the significant ideas of the period, including * imperialism * Arab nationalism * Zionism * Fundamentalism * terrorism * the impact of significant individuals and groups both in working for and in opposing peace | **Other conflicts in the Middle East**   * The First Gulf War (1990–1991)   + Background – revenge for humiliating defeat at the hands of the Iranians and the accusation that Kuwait was stealing oil from the border region   + Request to cancel Iraqi debt   + The roles of Saddam Hussein and George Bush throughout the conflict   + The collapse of the USSR   + Operation Desert Storm   **Key conflicts between the Arabs and Israelis and attempts to settle those conflicts**   * The Stockholm Declaration * The Madrid Conference (1991) * Israeli elections 1992 and mandate to negotiate for peace   + Increasing violence   + Religious extremism   + Hamas and the *Fatah* * The Oslo Accords (1993)   + Secret meetings   + Letters of mutual recognition and the end of the Intifada   + Level of success and reasons for it   + Flaws in the Accord * Assassination of Yitzhak Rabin (1995) * Change in Palestinian leadership * Increased terrorism using suicide bombs * Oslo II (Taba Accord)   + PLO covenant calling for the destruction of Israel * Israeli elections in May (1996) * The Hebron Agreement (1997) * Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon * The role of the United Nations * The Camp David Summit (2000)   + the Roadmap to Peace   + Involvement of the United States   + Why was there no resolution after 15 days of face-to-face negotiations? * The 2nd Intifada (2000) * Likud party leader Ariel Sharon – visit to the Temple Mount * Escalation of violence * External reactions to the Intifada * Yasser Arafat, Yitzhak Rabin, Benjamin Netanyahu, Bill Clinton, King Abdullah II of Jordan, Ehud Barak, Hamas, the *Fatah*   **Task 7 Part A: Historical inquiry – Attempts to settle conflicts between Arabs and Israelis (Submit: Week 13)**  **Task 7 Part B: In-class validation – Attempts to settle conflicts between Arabs and Israelis (Week 13)** |
| 14 | * revision of Unit 3 and Unit 4 content | * preparation for Semester 2 Examination |
| 15 | **Task 8: Semester 2 Examination – Unit 3 and Unit 4 Content** | |

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| Historical Skills |
| The following skills will be developed during this unit.  **Chronology, terms and concepts**   * identify links between events to understand the nature and significance of causation, continuity and change over time * use historical terms and concepts in appropriate contexts to demonstrate historical knowledge and understanding   **Historical questions and inquiry**   * frame questions to guide inquiry and develop a coherent research plan for inquiry * identify, locate and organise relevant information from a range of primary and secondary sources * acknowledge and reference sources, as appropriate   **Analysis and use of historical sources**   * identify the message, origin, purpose and context of historical sources * analyse and synthesise evidence from different types of historical sources * evaluate the reliability and usefulness of historical sources   **Perspectives and interpretations**   * analyse and account for the different perspectives of individuals and groups in the past * evaluate different historical interpretations of the past and how they are shaped by the historian’s perspective * evaluate the significance of ideas, events and people   **Explanation and communication**   * develop texts that integrate appropriate evidence from a range of sources to explain the past and to sustain an argument * communicate historical understanding, using historical knowledge, concepts and terms |