

Dear Student:

Congratulations again on being selected to participate in the Political Economy Project's 2017 Middle East Political Economy Summer Institute. We are very excited and hope you are looking forward to it as much as we are. Below is a timeline for institute-related activities, information on travel & logistics, and information on this year's confirmed participants:

### **Clarification on Institute and Sessions**

Each student will be required to submit a short research narrative of 3000-4000 words by May 9th and complete all of the session readings in advance of the summer institute, which will begin on June 10th. Each faculty session is scheduled for approximately 2 hours and will be primarily lecture/seminar style. Students are expected to prepare a 10-15 minute presentation on their research, which will be followed by a group discussion of their work. The full list of confirmed faculty participants and the broad topics they have been asked to discuss is available below.

Once you submit your short research narrative it will be added to the PEP website and accessible using a password assigned to all participants. Faculty participants will be invited to review your narrative prior to the summer institute. Following the summer institute, one of our faculty members will be responsible for providing you with written feedback on your research narrative.

### **Timeline**

**April 17:** Readings will be accessible through a password protected folder on the PEP website (<http://www.politicaleconomyproject.org/summer-institute.html>) to all faculty and student institute participants. Information on accessing the folder will be sent in a subsequent email. All students are expected to complete the readings in advance of the summer institute.

**May 9:** Students will submit their research narratives of 3000-4000 words to Michael Ernst ([michaele@arabstudiesinstitute.org](mailto:michaele@arabstudiesinstitute.org)) who will make them available to all faculty and student participants via the summer institute webpage.

### **Four-day Institute Schedule:**

Arrive: June 9 (evening)

Day 1 Sessions & Student Presentations: June 10

Day 2 Sessions & Student Presentations: June 11

Day 3 Sessions & Student Presentations: June 12

Day 4 Sessions & Student Presentations: June 13

(can depart the evening of June 13 or morning of June 14)

### **Hourly Agenda, Days 1 & 3**

*Two Faculty Sessions and Three Student Presentations with Group Dinners*

9:00-9:30: Coffee and Introductory Comments

9:30-11:30: Faculty Session 1

11:30-12:00: Student Presentation 1

12:00-1:15: Lunch

1:15-3:15: Faculty Session 2

3:15-3:30: Coffee Break  
3:30-4:00: Student Presentation 2  
4:00-4:30: Student Presentation 3  
6:00: Group Dinner

### **Hourly Agenda, Days 2 & 4 (Late Morning Start)**

*Two Faculty Presentations with Two Student Presentations*

Breakfast/Coffee at Hotel and Early Morning Free

11:00-1:00 Faculty Session 1

1:00-2:15: Lunch

2:15-2:45: Student Presentation 1

2:45-3:15: Student Presentation 2

3:15-3:30: Coffee Break

3:30-5:30: Faculty Session 2

The final schedule will be made available as soon as all faculty participant travel arrangements have been finalized.

### **Travel & Logistics:**

#### **Flights:**

PEP will book your flight directly. Michael Ernst ([michaele@arabstudiesinstitute.org](mailto:michaele@arabstudiesinstitute.org)) will communicate with you by March 31st and assist in booking your flight.

#### **Travel by Train:**

For those of you traveling by train, please book your travel and forward all receipts to Michael Ernst ([michaele@arabstudiesinstitute.org](mailto:michaele@arabstudiesinstitute.org)). He will work with you to reimburse trains and other local travel (taxis, etc.) *after* the event.

\*Rail Travel Policy: Rail travel cannot exceed the rates charged for tourist or coach class accommodations. Reimbursement for Acela service on Amtrak is prohibited unless: (1) The business class fare does not cost more than the lowest available tourist/coach fare. For this option, a side-by-side price comparison must be attached to the Travel Reimbursement. (A screenshot of the difference in price with a visible date of travel for both fares will satisfy this requirement).

#### **Hotel:**

We will book the hotel rooms, but this is the address where you will be staying:

Courtyard Marriott Fair Oaks  
11220 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway  
Fairfax, VA 22030

#### **The Institute activities will be held on the campus of George Mason University:**

George Mason University  
4087 University Drive  
Commerce Building, 3rd Floor  
Room 3006  
Fairfax, VA 22030

**Confirmed Faculty Participants and General Session Topics (in no particular order):**

- Adam Hanieh (SOAS): Class Formation
- Sherene Seikaly (UC-Santa Barbara): Postcolonial Studies
- Sandra Halperin (University of London, Royal Holloway): State Formation
- Robert Vitalis (University of Pennsylvania): Imperialism
- Joel Beinin (Stanford University): Labor
- Max Ajl (Cornell University): World Systems Theory

**Confirmed Student Participants:**

- Amal Ahmad (UMass-Amherst), The No-State Solution and Implications for the Palestinian Economy
- Danya Al-Saleh (UW-Madison), Between Knowledge and Hydrocarbons: An Institutional Ethnography of Texas A&M's Branch Campus in Qatar
- Kristen Alff (Stanford University), The Business of Property: Levantine Companies, Land, Law, and Global Capitalist Development, 1838-1928
- Nur Arafeh (Independent Scholar), Theorizing Resistance Economy in Palestine
- Omnia Khalil (CUNY), Urban Social Justice and Violence in Times of Revolution, Bulaq, Egypt
- Paul Kohlbry (Johns Hopkins University), Of plots and deeds: Land registration and the making of property in the West Bank
- Anna Levy (Independent Scholar), Governance by non-governments: How can the economic and political composition of international organizations be mapped across borders?
- Jana Nakhal (AUB), Women Cooperatives: Models of Organization and Structure of Political Contest
- Janet Smith (Cornell University), Arab development aid as an alternative model to the dominant Western aid paradigm
- Cihan Tekay (CUNY), State, Society, Capital, and Electricity in Turkey

Sincerely,  
Samer Abboud

**PEP Pedagogy Working Group:** Samer Abboud (Arcadia University); Max Ajl (Cornell University); Omar Dahi (Hampshire College); Bassam Haddad (George Mason University); Shana Marshall (George Washington University), and Ziad Abu-Rish (Ohio University).

**Political Economy Project (PEP) Steering Committee:** Joel Beinin (Stanford University), Omar Dahi (Hampshire College), Wael Gamal (Journalist), Bassam Haddad (George Mason University), Adam Hanieh (SOAS, University of London), Shana Marshall (George Washington University), Sherene Seikaly (University of California, Santa Barbara), Ahmad Shokr (New York University), Mandy Turner (Kenyon Institute, East Jerusalem), Rafeef Ziadeh (SOAS), Tariq Dana (Birzeit University), and Samer Abboud (Arcadia University).