Week 1—January 9

An Introduction to the Middle East

Reading: Bernard Lewis, What Went Wrong? The Clash Between Islam and Modernity in the Middle East

-$250 deposit to travel providers due 1/11; signed cancellation policy to Global Programs Office due 1/11; students must ensure financial aid has been approved by 1/14

Week 2—January 16

The Gulf States and the Arab Spring

Speaker: Rachel Bronson, Vice President for Studies, Chicago Council on Global Affairs

Reading: Bronson, “Saudi Arabia’s Intervention in Bahrain: A Necessary Evil or a Strategic Blunder?”

-submit payment in full to travel providers by 1/21

Week 3—January 23

Higher Education in the Gulf: Problems and Prospects

Speaker: Henry S. Bienen, President Emeritus, Northwestern University

Reading:

Assignment: Research Project Proposal—Each project group will develop a 2-3 page description of their proposed research topic, which includes: specific and narrowly-focused research question(s) to be addressed while in country; background and context that confirms the viability and uniqueness of the topic; availability of sources and contacts to conduct that research; a description of the topic’s importance, timeliness, economic, or social significance; and an identification of possible in-country visits with companies, agencies, NGOs, etc.
Week 4—January 30—no class

Week 5—February 6
Women in the Middle East: from Education to Entrepreneurship

Week 6—February 13—**class meets from 3 – 6 p.m.**
Oil and Natural Gas: The Transformation of the Gulf States

Speaker: Giacomo Luciani, Scientific Director of the Masters in International Energy of the Paris School of International Affairs.


Assignment: Research group literature review—Each project team will submit a comprehensive literature review examining all secondary information relevant to its topic. A literature review is a prose synthesis of past research into areas related to the topic, complete with citations. It includes a discussion of the contributions made by prior studies and a clear description of what is still unresolved. It should also discuss how the team’s research will fit into the knowledge progression outlined in the review. This background research is pertinent for understanding prior research on the topic as well as properly preparing students for in-country meetings. The GIM SharePoint website contains examples of literature reviews submitted by IPG teams in past years. Acceptable literature reviews can vary dramatically in size and scope. Top-notch GIM literature reviews have generally examined 25-30 sources and been 8-15 double-spaced pages in length.

-HTH confirmations due to Global Programs office on 2/18; iSOS emergency record locators due to Global Programs office on 2/18

Week 7—February 20—no class

Week 8—February 27
Partners in the War on Terror? The United States and the Gulf
Speaker: TBD


-Passport copies and required visas due to Global Programs office on 3/4

**Week 9—March 6**

**Corporate Social Responsibility and the Middle East**

Speaker: Caroline Kaeb, Northwestern Law School

Reading: TBD

-Travel Guides due to Global Programs office on 3/11

**Assignment:** In-country research plan--The in-country research plan outlines your scheduled in-country itinerary of business meetings, detailing companies and contacts, as well as an outline of the planned questions for each meeting. Prepare a detailed matrix of five or more investigative research meetings arranged in-country, detailing companies and contacts. The best plans will include day/time/location (address) of meeting; name/description of organization; name/title/bio of interviewee; agenda and interview guide (outline of the planned questions) for each meeting. Include also a description of why you are meeting with this company and what value you expect they will add to your research.

If meetings are not all confirmed, indicate which are confirmed, which ones you are still waiting to hear from, and which ones you have not reached out to yet. Still include as much information as possible from the above list.

**Week 10—March 13**

April 10—**post-trip class and oral presentation**

April 12—**final projects due**