

## Sociology

Enseignements

Langue

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## DAFF 25A22 - GEOPOLITICS OF THE MIDDLE EAST: THE SUNNI-SHIA RELATIONSHIPS

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course aims to provide an overview of the Sunni-Shia relationships since the death of the Prophet Muhammad when the question of succession was raised, until today. The question of succession gave birth to two different - and sometimes rivaling - conceptions of the prophetic message as well as political power: the Caliphate supported by the Sunnis-to-be, and the Imamate, supported by Ali's family and followers, later called Shia Muslims. The Sunni-Shia relationships impact the geopolitics of the Middle East but are also shaped by the regional geopolitics. The purpose of this seminar is to take a critical approach in order to understand that the Sunni-Shia divisions also take place in particular political and regional contexts, and to go beyond a strictly confessional reading of geopolitical issues in the Middle East.

### ENSEIGNANTS

Eva ZAHIRI

### TYPE

Séminaire

### LANGUAGE OF TUITION

English

### SEMESTER

Spring 2020-2021

### COURSE VALIDATION

Oral presentation (40%) Written exam: article review OR short essay (50%) In-Class participation (10%)

#### Lectures conseillées / Recommended readings

##### Lectures principales / Main readings

*Ofra Bengio and Meir Litvak (ed.), The Sunna and Shia in History. Division and Ecumenism in the Muslim Middle East, New York, Palgrave Macmillan, 2011*

*Emprunter / Borrow*

- Bengio Ofra, Bengio Ofra, et Litvak Meir. *The Sunna and Shi'a in history: Division and ecumenism in the Muslim Middle East*. Basingstoke : Palgrave Macmillan. 2011.

*Vali Nasr, The Shia Revival. How Conflicts within Islam Will Shape the Future, New York-London, YW. W. Norton & Company, 2007*

*Emprunter / Borrow*

- Nasr Seyyed Vali Reza. *The Shia revival : how conflicts within Islam will shape the future*. New York London : W. W. Norton. 2006.

*Laurence Louër, Sunnites et chiites. Histoire politique d'une discorde, Paris, Le Seuil, 2017*

*Emprunter / Borrow*

- Louër Laurence. *Sunnites et chiites : histoire politique d'une discorde*. Paris : Éditions du Seuil. 2017.