



Centre for Gulf Studies

# The 2012 Gulf Studies



## Conference

An interdisciplinary conference on  
the Gulf region (Arabia, Iran, Iraq),  
past and present

16–20 July 2012

Three days after the Gulf Research Meeting  
at Cambridge, 11–14 July 2012

Website: [www.ex.ac.uk/iais](http://www.ex.ac.uk/iais)

Convenor: Dr James Onley ([J.Onley@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:J.Onley@exeter.ac.uk))

Send questions about logistics to Jane Clark [Jane.Clark@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:Jane.Clark@exeter.ac.uk)

# PROGRAMME

draft: 12 June 2012

**IAIS** Institute of Arab & Islamic Studies (the conference venue)  
**LT 1** Lecture Theatre 1, IAIS  
**LT 2** Lecture Theatre 2, IAIS  
**SR 1** Seminar Room 1, IAIS (to the left of LT 1)

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## MONDAY, 16 JULY

**1:00–6:00** REGISTRATION & COLLECTION OF ROOM KEYS (Holland Hall, Streatham Campus)

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**6:00** DRINKS (Holland Hall bar, 1<sup>ST</sup> floor)

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**7:30** WELCOME DINNER (Holland Hall, ground floor), DRESS: casual

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**8:30** AFTER DINNER DRINKS (Holland Hall bar, 1<sup>ST</sup> floor)

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## TUESDAY, 17 JULY

**7:00–8:30** BREAKFAST (Holland Hall, ground floor)

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**8:45** ARRIVAL OF VIPs (IAIS)

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**9:00** WELCOME & INTRODUCTION (LT1 & LT2, IAIS)  
James Onley (Director, Centre for Gulf Studies, IAIS)

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**9:15** ANNOUNCEMENTS (LT1 & LT2, IAIS)

- *Journal of Arabian Studies* (editorial team)
- Association of Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Studies

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**9:45**

PANEL 1: **Iran and the GCC: Part 1** (LT 1 & LT 2)  
Chair: TBA

- The Iranian Foreign Policy towards the GCC under Ahmadinejad (**Luciano Zaccara**, Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona & IAIS, Exeter)
- The IRI's Domestic and Regional Policies and Its Impact on the Arab States of the Persian Gulf since June 2009 (**Gholam Vatandoust**, American University of Kuwait)

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**11:00** BREAK: COFFEE & BISCUITS (IAIS, ground floor)

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**11:45**

PANEL 2: **Iran and the GCC: Part 2** (LT 1 & LT 2)  
Chair: TBA

- The Gulf Region and the Arab Spring: The Iranian Factor (**Mahjoob Zweiri**, Qatar University)
- WMD-Free Zone in the Persian Gulf as a new basis for a security arrangement (~~**Mansour Salsabili**, Harvard University~~) **cancelled**

**12:45** BUFFET LUNCH (IAIS entrance foyer)

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**2:15**

PANEL 3: **The Arab Spring in the GCC: Part 1** (LT 1 & LT 2)

Chair: TBA

- The Prospect of Reform in The GCC Countries in The Arab spring Process (**Abdulnabi Alekry**, National Center for Studies, Bahrain)
  - The Role of Political Islam on Public Discourse and Political Activity in the GCC (**Omar Mahmood Mohamed**, Bahrain Center for Strategic, International and Energy Studies)
  - An Inter-Disciplinary Analysis of the State-Religion-Sectarian Tensions in the Arab Gulf following the "Arab Spring" (**Cornelia Epuras**, Arab Centre for the Development of the Rule of Law and Integrity, Beirut)
  - ~~The Politics of Distribution: State Building and Sects in the Arabian Peninsula (Gwenn Okruhlik, Qatar University & Brookings Doha Center) **cancelled**~~
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**4:00** BREAK: COFFEE & BISCUITS (IAIS, ground floor)

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**4:30**

PANEL 4: **The Arab Spring in the GCC: Part 2** (LT 1 & LT 2)

Chair: TBA

- State and Sectarianism in Bahrain (**Mohammed Mattar**, IAIS, Exeter)
  - Boycotting of Businesses in Bahrain along Sectarian Lines (**Jasim Husain**, former MP, Bahrain)
  - Security Sector Reform in the Gulf States since 2011 (**Elham Fakhro**, International Institute for Strategic Studies, London)
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**6:00** END

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**6:45** PRE-DINNER DRINKS (Reed Hall bar)

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**7:45** CONFERENCE DINNER (Reed Hall), DRESS: smart-casual

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**8:45** AFTER DINNER DRINKS (Reed Hall bar)

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## **WEDNESDAY, 18 JULY**

**7:30–9:00** BREAKFAST (Holland Hall, ground floor)

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**9:30**

PANEL 5: **History: Part 1** (LT 1)

Chair: TBA

- Arabian Politics around Water: A History of Abu Dhabi's *Qasr al-Hosn* (**Laurent Lambert**, St Antony's College, Oxford & **Shohei Sato**, Waseda University, Tokyo)
- The Ajam Migration from Southwestern Iran to Kuwait: Push-Pull Factors between 1880 and 1938 (**Mohammad Alhabib**, Royal Holloway, London)
- The Bedouins and the Creation of New Towns in the Eastern Gulf in the Days of Ibn Saud (**Saeed Alqahtani**, King Khalid University, Saudi Arabia)

PANEL 6: **Tourism Development: Part 1** (LT 2)

Chair: TBA

- Hidden Treasures: The Potential of Geotourism in Saudi Arabia (**Abdulaziz Al-Bassam**, King Saud University, Saudi Arabia)
- Tourism on a Plate: Marketing Responsible Geotourism in the Sultanate of Oman (**Peter Keage**, Ministry of Tourism, Oman)
- Planning for and Management of Sustainable Tourism within Environmentally Sensitive Areas [ESAs] in Saudi Arabia (**Ali Omar Al-Sulbi**, University of Dammam, Saudi Arabia)

PANEL 7: **Education** (SR 1)

Chair: TBA

- Communication Skills and Employability in the Arabian Gulf: The Case of Oman (**Rahma Ibrahim Al-Mahrooqi**, Sultan Qaboos University)
- "Our Stock in Trade that Has Been Returned to Us": Transnational Circuits and the Forging of the Islamic University of Medina" (**Mike Farquhar**, LSE)
- Off-Campus Orientalism: New Generation Western Universities in the Gulf (**M.H. Ilias**, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi)

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**11:30** BREAK: COFFEE & BISCUITS (IAIS, ground floor)

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**12:00**

PANEL 8: **History: Part 2** (LT 1)

Chair: TBA

- Buraimi Dispute: Role of Shaikh Zayed 1952-1955 (**Saif Al Bedwawi**, Military Museum and History Centre, UAE)
- Britain and Oman: Semblances of Sovereignty in Era of Decolonization (**Will Clegg**, Balliol College, Oxford)

PANEL 9: **National Identity and Heritage** (LT 2)

Chair: TBA

- Come and Watch Us, Maybe: Film Tourism in the UAE (**Alia Yunis**, Zayed University, Abu Dhabi)
- ~~Who is Bahraini? Bahrain Television and the Quest of Defining "Bahraini-ism"~~ (~~**Wafa Alsayed**, Georgetown University~~) **cancelled**

PANEL 10: **Sport** (SR 1)

Chair: TBA

- Salaam Dunk: A Comparative Ethnography of Female Athletes in Two Middle Eastern Countries (**Geoff Harkness**, Northwestern University in Qatar)
- Sustainability Questions on GCC Investments in Sports: A Critical assessment of UAE and Qatari Football (**Nnamdi Madichie**, University of Sharjah)

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**1:00** BUFFET LUNCH (IAIS entrance foyer)

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**2:30**

PANEL 11: **Geopolitical Challenges of the Gulf States in the Era of "Arab Revolutions"** (LT 1 & LT 2)  
Chair: Ala Al-Hamarneh (University of Mainz, Germany)

- Re-Thinking GCC–USA Relations: An Analysis of Policies, Discourses and Practices in Light of the "Arab Revolutions" (**Corinna Mullin**, SOAS, London)
- "Looking for the Lost Pearl": A Geopolitical Analysis of the Bahraini Crises (**Hala Kindelberger**, University of Marburg, Germany)
- "The Saudi Darwinism": A Geopolitical Strategy of Regime's Stability? (**Ala Al-Hamarneh**, University of Mainz, Germany)
- A Conference for Security and Cooperation in the Middle East: Chances and Challenges in the Wake of the "Arab Revolutions" (**Ali Fathollah-Nejad**, SOAS, London & University of Münster, Germany)

PANEL 12: **Tourism Development: Part 2** (SR 1)

Chair: TBA

- Tourism in Bahrain: A Continuous Search for Economic Development and for Preservation of Cultural Heritage (**Magdalena Karolak**, Prince Mohammad Bin Fahd University, Saudi Arabia)
- Nationalization Policies and the GCC Tourism Industry: Human Resource Development (HRD) as a Key to Sustainable Development (**La'aleh Al-Aali**, University of Manchester)
- The Role of Training in the Sustainable Development of Iran's Tourism Sector in Meeting the Challenges of Globalization (**Maryam Shademan Pajouh**, Durham University & Teesside University, UK)
- ~~The Price of Branding: Tourism and the Elusive Search for 'Culture' among Emiratis in Dubai, UAE~~ (**Akbar Keshodkar**, Zayed University, Dubai) **cancelled**

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**4:30** BREAK: COFFEE & BISCUITS (IAIS, ground floor)

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**5:00**

PANEL 13: **Rentierism and Reform in the GCC: Part 1** (LT 1 & LT 2)

Chair: TBA

- Transitions IN Authoritarianism: Political Reform in the Arab Gulf States Reconsidered (**Mary Ann Tetreault**, Trinity University, Texas & **Mohammed Al-Ghanim**, Georgetown University)
- The Political Economy of Reform in the Arab Gulf States (**Nasser bin Ghaith**, independent researcher & **Koji Horinuki**, Institute of Energy Economics, Tokyo, Japan)
- Political Culture and Political Reform in the United Arab Emirates (Marta **Saldaña Martín**, IAIS, Exeter & Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Spain)
- ~~Rentier 2.0? Entrepreneurship as a Policy Response to Gulf Development Challenges~~ (**Crystal Ennis**, University of Waterloo, Canada) **cancelled**

PANEL 14: **Tourism Development: Part 3** (SR 1)

Chair: TBA

- The Impact of "Integrated Tourism Projects" on the Urban Development of Oman (**Aurel von Richthofen**, GUTech, Oman)
- Archaeological Sites in Wadi Al-Ghayran of the Rub' Al Khali Desert: Spatial Analysis as a Critical Tool for Research, Conservation and Sustainable Tourism

Planning in Saudi Arabia (**Ali Madan Al-Ali**, Independent Researcher, Saudi Arabia)

- The Development of Cultural Heritage Tourism in Saudi Arabia: Bridging the Gap (**Yahya Mofreh Al-Zahrani**, Naif Arabic University for Security Science, Saudi Arabia)

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**6:30** END

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**7:30** TAXI SERVICE TO TOWN (depart from: Holland Hall)  
DINNER IN TOWN (see list of restaurants)  
CALL TAXI TO RETURN TO HOLLAND HALL (tel. 01392 666666)

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## THURSDAY, 19 JULY

**7:30–9:00** BREAKFAST (Holland Hall, ground floor)

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**9:30**

PANEL 15: **Rentierism and Reform in the GCC: Part 2** (LT 1 & LT 2)

Chair: TBA

- Social Media and the Reconfiguration of Public Discourse on Women's Rights in the Arab Gulf (**Leila DeVriese**, Hamline University, USA)
- Rentier State Theory: State Building and Socioeconomic Perspectives in the Arabian Gulf (**Mahmood Abdul Ghaffar**, Bahrain Center for Strategic, International and Energy Studies)

PANEL 17: **Tourism Development: Part 4** (SR 1)

Chair: TBA

- Welcome and Leave My Country Alone: Reconciling Preservation Efforts and Tourism Promotion in the GCC (**Shannon McNulty**, Texas A&M University at Qatar)
- On Media and the Image: The GCC States as a Case Study (**Massimiliano Fusari**, Massimedia Consulting)

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**10:30** BREAK: COFFEE & BISCUITS (IAIS, ground floor)

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**11:00**

PANEL 18: **The Sustainability of GCC Political Economies after the Arab Spring: Patronage vs. Development? Part 1** (LT 1)

Chair: Kristian Coates-Ulrichsen (LSE)

- The Social Dynamics of the Privatization of Rent in the GCC (**Omar Al-Shehabi**, GUST University, Kuwait)
- A Citizens' Income as Alternative Distribution Regime for GCC Rentier Systems (**Steffen Hertog**, LSE)
- Stuck in an Impasse? The Politics of Economic Diversification in Kuwait (**Sebastian Adelung**, Durham University, UK)

PANEL 19: **Museums** (LT 2)

Chair: TBA

- An Institution of Cultural Power and the Role of the Tourist: Reading Islam through the Doha Museum of Islamic Art (**Courtney Dorroll**, University of Arizona)
- The Museum-Cultural Heritage Relationship in the GCC: The Effects of the Use of Western-Style Museum Theory and Practice on Local Visitorship and Tourism (**Pamela Erskine-Loffus**, independent researcher, New York)
- Museums in the GCC: Development for Whom? (**Alexandra Hirst**, Durham University)

FILM: **Polygyny in Oman: A Filmic Approach to the Study of a Social Phenomenon** (SR 1), a 45 minute film, followed by Q&A

Chair: **Annemarie Profanter** (Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, Italy)

Discussant: **Stephanie Ryan Cate** (Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, Italy)

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**12:30** BUFFET LUNCH (IAIS entrance foyer)

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**2:00**

PANEL 20: **The Sustainability of GCC Political Economies after the Arab Spring: Patronage vs. Development? Part 2** (LT 1)

Chair: Kristian Coates-Ulrichsen (LSE)

- Labour Nationalization Policies in the UAE and the Unemployment Conundrum (**Tariq Bin Hendi**, Imperial College, London; Mubadala, Abu Dhabi)
- Critiquing the "Dubai Model": Its Scope and Limits in the Study of the Political Economy of Abu Dhabi, Qatar and Bahrain (**Matthew Gray**, The Australian National University, Canberra)

PANEL 21: **Urban Development** (LT 2)

Chair: TBA

- Anthropology of the Emirati City: Youth and Public Space in Abu Dhabi (**Laure Assaf**, Université Paris Ouest Nanterre La Défense, France)
- Development and Architecture in the Gulf: Three Case Studies (**Andreas Jozwiak**, Trinity University, Texas)

PANEL 22: **Art** (SR 1)

Chair: TBA

- Public Art in the Gulf (**Marjorie Kelly**, American University of Kuwait)
- Art in the UAE (**Frauke Heard-Bey**, ADACH, UAE)

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**3:00** BREAK: COFFEE & BISCUITS (IAIS, ground floor)

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**3:30**

PANEL 23: **Migrants** (LT 1)

Chair: TBA

- Growing Pains: (Un)mapping Geographies and Genealogies of Diaspora in Dubai, UAE (**Alisha Ticku**, York University, Canada)
- Arab Spring and its Impact on Migrant Population in the Gulf Region (**Anisur Rahman**, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi)

- Globalisation through Segregation: Migrants and Power in Qatar (**Robina Mohammad**, University of Strathclyde & **James Sidaway**, National University of Singapore)
- ~~The Mythology of Migrants (**Jane Bristol-Rhys**, Zayed University, Abu Dhabi)~~  
**cancelled**

PANEL 24: **Foreign Affairs and Policy** (LT 2)

Chair: TBA

- Religion, Ideology, and Strategic Calculation: The Arab Gulf Monarchies and the Arab-Israeli Conflict (**René Rieger**, IAIS, Exeter & Ludwig Maximilians University of Munich)
- Re-Orientalizing the Gulf: The Arab Spring and the GCC's New Strategic Partnership With Southeast Asia (**Sean Foley**, Middle Tennessee State University, USA)
- Redesigning Japan's Gulf Policy after the Tsunami (**Makio Yamada**, St Antony's College, Oxford)
- In Search of Relative Autonomy: Iranian Policy and Relations with Latin America (**Robert Mason**, IAIS, Exeter)

PANEL 25: **Tourism Development: Part 5** (SR 1)

Chair: TBA

- Place Making and Tourism Development in the Gulf Region: Sustainable Models for Learning, Reflection and Growth (**David Kendall**, Goldsmiths, University of London)
- Towards a Long-Term Tourism Paradigm for the Gulf (**Arnd Bätzner**, University of St Gallen, Switzerland)

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**6:00** END

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**7:00** TAXI SERVICE TO TOWN (depart from: Holland Hall)  
DINNER IN TOWN (see list of restaurants)  
CALL TAXI TO RETURN TO HOLLAND HALL (tel. 01392 666666)

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**9:17** SUNSET: RAMADAN BEGINS

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## FRIDAY, 20 JULY

**8:00–9:30** BREAKFAST (Holland Hall, ground floor)

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**10:00**

PANEL 26: **Energy (R)evolutions in the Gulf** (LT 1)

Chair: Mari Luomi (Georgetown University in Qatar)

- The Politics of Energy Policy in the Gulf Arab States: Shortage and Reform in the World's Storehouse of Energy (**Jim Krane**, University of Cambridge)
- Gulf Monarchies and Multilateral Institutions in the Climate Change Era (**Mari Luomi**, Georgetown University in Qatar)
- The Domestic Gasoline Pricing Game in Kuwait (**Ingrid Krüger**, University of Oslo)
- Future of Energy Policy in Persian Gulf (**Abbas Maleki**, MIT, USA)



- GCC Intra-Regional Electricity Trading (**Laura El-Katiri**, Oxford Institute for Energy Studies) **cancelled**

PANEL 27: **Constructing Heritage, Re-Constructive Identity** (LT 2)

Chair: TBA

- Abu Dhabi, Dubai, and Sharjah: Conflicting Pasts in a Coordinated Present (**Victoria Hightower**, North Georgia College and State University)
- “Live Our Heritage!” Culture, Identity, and the Heritage Industry in the UAE (**Nadine Scharfenort**, University of Mainz, Germany)
- Beyond Boundaries: Exploring Hybrid Heritage in Abu Dhabi (**Sarina Wakefield**, The Open University, Milton Keynes)
- ~~Heritage and Health: Differing Attitudes, Behaviors, and Influences Among Young Emirati Women with Respect to Weight, Health, and Beauty~~ (**Sarah Trainer**, University of Arizona) **cancelled**

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<b>12:00</b>	BUFFET LUNCH (IAIS entrance foyer)
<b>1:00</b>	CLOSING REMARKS BY JAMES ONLEY (LT 1 & LT 2)
<b>3:00</b>	TAXI SERVICE TO TOWN (depart from: Holland Hall) TOUR OF EXETER DINNER IN TOWN WITH REMAINING DELEGATES (call James Onley: 07891 018350) CALL TAXI TO RETURN TO HOLLAND HALL (tel. 01392 666666)

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**Note:**

If you spot any errors in this programme, or have any questions about it, please email Dr James Onley at [j.onley@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:j.onley@exeter.ac.uk)