



Power, Politics and Governance in the Gulf Cooperation Council

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The last decade has seen enormous changes take place throughout the six states of the Gulf Cooperation Council (Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Bahrain, Oman, and Qatar). These changes include a transition to a younger generation of political rulers in several Gulf states, the introduction of new governance structures and economic development plans, heightened political conflicts within and beyond the region, and the GCC's deep involvement in the political economy of neighboring Arab states. Given these dynamics, this lecture examines the ways in which political and economic power has developed in the Gulf since independence, and the significance that this holds for the politics of the region. The lecture will elaborate and critique dominant Rentier State approaches to the Gulf, as well as explore issues of citizenship, migrant labor, and the Gulf's connection to class and state formation in the wider Middle East.

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