The Liberal Arts Program presents

Liberal Arts Speaker Series

The United States and the Arab Uprisings:
“Be identified with the emerging future rather than the decaying past”

Dr. Waleed Hazbun

23 Nov 2011
4:00-5:30 pm
LH 143

ABSTRACT INFO: What are the implications of the “Arab Spring” for US foreign policy in the Middle East? This lecture offers a postcolonial reading of the debate about this question in the American public sphere by highlighting how fails to recognize the experience and agency of Middle East states and societies. With a survey of the major US policy speeches and the debate conducted in major policy-oriented journals and media outlets, Dr. Hazbun argues that the US tends to privilege certain forms of global order and ignore the hierarchical power relations and means of violence deployed to sustain such orders while rejecting the legitimacy of the subjectivity, history, and memory of Arab political actors subject to this order. The talk will also consider if the Arab world is entering its own “post-cold war” moment in which the US and other major powers will have to take more seriously the role of these states as agents in international politics.

BIO: Waleed Hazbun is Associate Professor of Political Studies at the American University of Beirut. At AUB, he teaches international relations and US Foreign Policy and directs the Center for Arab and Middle East Studies (CAMES). He is the author of Beaches, Ruins, Resorts: The Politics of Tourism in the Arab World (Minnesota, 2008).

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Khadija ElCadi
Khadija.elcadi@qatar.tamu.edu
Phone: 4423.0145