What explains the radicalization and de-radicalization of political actors? Why do some groups use non-violent means to pursue their political goals, whereas others turn toward violence? Once radicalized, when are groups more likely to continue armed strategies, and when will they decide to de-escalate and return to non-militant campaigns? Drawing on theories from political science and psychology, this course examines the impact and interaction of group-, domestic-, and international-level factors on the politics of radicalization and de-radicalization. To do so, the course will apply insights from the political violence literature to explore the behavior of various militant and non-militant political organizations in the Middle East and North Africa.

CLASS SCHEDULE: May 31 to July 10, MONDAYS & WEDNESDAYS 6:00pm- 9:30pm

Enrollment in this class is open to anyone: to get more information about registering for Summer 2011 classes at the University of Maryland, please visit www.oes.umd.edu