COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course is an introduction to modern Iranian society and politics. It begins with the Constitutional Revolution 1905-1909, the country’s first democratic movement and follows the events leading up to the Iranian Revolution of 1979. It examines the outcomes that have defined the Islamic Republic of Iran. We will discuss the rule of Reza Shah and his son Mohammad Reza Shah Pahlavi, the coup d’état against prime Minister Mossadegh (1953), the Iranian Revolution (1979), the Iran-Iraq War (1980-1988), the Reform Movement (1977-2005), the Green Movement of 2009. We will also look at the Iran’s geopolitical power and influence, Iran’s nuclear program, Iran’s role and US-Iran tensions.