UC Santa Barbara historian Salim Yaqub, an expert in the history of U.S. foreign relations, will examine U.S. and Middle East relations, sources of hostility, and prospects for reconciliation on Monday, March 20 in a Town Forum lecture sponsored by the UCSB Affiliates and the UCSB History Associates.

The program will begin at 7:30 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall at 21 East Constance Avenue in Santa Barbara.

The cost of the lecture is $8 for UCSB Affiliates, History Associates, and Chancellor's Council members, $10 for others. Contact the UCSB Office of Community Relations at 893-4388 to register, as space is limited.

In his presentation, Yaqub, an associate professor of history, will focus on two distinct, but mutually reinforcing historical trends—the emergence in the Middle East of political Islam in the wake of the perceived failures of secular nationalism, and the rise of U.S. unilateralism and intervention in the affairs of the Middle East.

Yaqub earned his doctorate in American history from Yale University. His area of specialization is the U.S. involvement in the Middle East from 1945 to the present.

Yaqub is the author of "Containing Arab Nationalism: The Eisenhower Doctrine and the Middle East" (University of North Carolina Press, 2004).

He is currently writing a book on U.S.-Arab relations in the 1970s.
About UC Santa Barbara

The University of California, Santa Barbara is a leading research institution that also provides a comprehensive liberal arts learning experience. Our academic community of faculty, students, and staff is characterized by a culture of interdisciplinary collaboration that is responsive to the needs of our multicultural and global society. All of this takes place within a living and learning environment like no other, as we draw inspiration from the beauty and resources of our extraordinary location at the edge of the Pacific Ocean.