In this lecture, Professor Davis will explore questions surrounding why there has been such little progress towards democratization in the Arab world. He will argue that in actuality there is widespread support for democracy in the Arab world, as manifested in numerous public opinion polls. The lecture will examine the impact of oil wealth on democratization as well as exogenous factors, especially US foreign policy in the region. Also, Professor Davis will discuss "neighborhood effects," the impact of neighboring countries on states that have tried to democratize, e.g., Lebanon.