

Davidson, Christopher M. **The United Arab Emirates: a study in survival**. L. Rienner, 2005. 333p bibl index afp ISBN [1-58826-274-X](#), \$59.95. Reviewed in 2006feb CHOICE.

Davidson is thoroughly familiar with the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and teaches political science there at Shaikh Zayed University. The UAE, a neglected subject of scholarly inquiry, is a remarkable success story of stability, managing the impact of modernization on an essentially traditionalist society. In six chapters Davidson succinctly provides a most useful review and analysis of the UAE's overall history, the status of its social, political, and economic development, and future prospects. He has used his connections with and knowledge of various UAE institutions to good advantage. The UAE's survival and continued prosperity is examined in the context of an unusually large number of expatriate communities whose members comprise four-fifths of the UAE's total households. Nearly half the population is non-Arab. Many foreign workers are without their families, a problem compounded by the fact that only a third of UAE's population is female. **Summing Up:** Recommended. Upper-division undergraduates and above. - *M. Slann, Pennsylvania State University, Wilkes-Barre Campus*