

**History 370**  
**History of Modern Israel**  
**Spring 1999**

Dr. Kenneth W. Stein  
121 Bowden Hall  
404-727-4472  
kstein@emory.edu

205 White Hall  
T-Th 11:30am - 12:45pm

Office hours: Tuesday 10-11pm, Thursday, 1:30-2:30-pm

**Course Description:** This undergraduate lecture course will review the history of modern Israel from the inception of Zionism to the present. The four periods of study will be the ideological formations (to 1917), Zionist autonomy in Palestine (to 1948), the problems and successes of sovereignty (to 1977) and the quest for identity and normalization (to the present). Issues to be discussed will include the structure of the old and new Yishuv, immigrations to Eretz Yisrael, British rule in Palestine, Arab-Israel wars, relationships with the great powers, sociological associations and cleavages, Israeli literature, Israel-Diaspora relations, religion and state policy interaction, the political and economic systems, constitutional issues, Arab-Israeli wars and the peace process with Arab neighbors.

**Grading:** There will be a mid-term and a final examination. However, students may write a 10 page paper to satisfy the writing requirement. Papers are due the last day of class. If students opt to write a paper, then the two examinations and paper will each count one-third of the final grade. If students choose only to take the examinations, grading will be based upon one-third for the mid-term and two-thirds for the final. Students must announce their intentions to write a paper in a written note to the professor by February 5, 1999.

The mid-term examination will be held on Tuesday, March 16, 1999 during class period. Please bring one large blue book to the examination. **Do not write** on the blue book. Be sure it is **a large blue book**.

The final examination will be held on Monday, May 3, 1999 from 4:30-7:00pm. Please bring two large blue books to the examination. **Do not write** on the blue books. Be sure you bring **two large blue books**.

Students are expected to do all the readings assigned here, both the required texts and reserve readings. Students should complete the reading for a particular week *prior* to the week's assignments.

For your interest and individual viewing, *Tkuma*, a six part video (VCR) produced for Israel's 50th anniversary celebration is available from me on request. These six videos are the best pictorial history of Israel's origins, evolution, and present state of affairs. Each video is 55 minutes in length.

**Required texts:**

Alter, Robert, Modern Hebrew Literature, Behrman House, 1975.

Arian, Asher. The Second Republic Politics in Israel, Chatham, New Jersey: Chatham House Publishers, 1998.

Gilbert, Martin. Israel: A History, New York : Morrow, 1998.

Horowitz, Dan and Moshe Lissak, Trouble in Utopia The Overburdened Polity of Israel, Albany: New York: State University of New York Press, 1988.

Laqueur, Walter B. A History of Zionism From the French Revolution to the Establishment of Israel, New York, MJF Books, 1972.

**\*Indicates assigned articles are at the reserve desk in Woodruff Library.**

Class assignments:

**January 14** - first day of class, orientation, syllabus distribution, and course overview

**Week of January 18 - Origins of Zionism and the Old Yishuv in Eretz Yisrael**

Laqueur, Walter B. A History of Zionism From the French Revolution to the Establishment of Israel, pp. xi-209; 384-437.

\*Avineri, Shlomo, "Zionism as a National Liberation Movement," Jerusalem Quarterly, Winter 1979, pp. 133-144.

\*Kolatt, Israel, "The Organization of the Jewish Population of Palestine and the Development of its Political Consciousness Before World War I," in Moshe Ma'oz (ed.) Studies in Palestine During Pre-Ottoman Period, Jerusalem, Magnes Press, 1975, pp. 211-245.

\*Kolatt, Israel, "The Zionist Movement and the Arabs," Studies in Zionism, No. 5, April 1982, pp. 129-157.

\*Katz, Jacob, "The Forerunners of Zionism," Jerusalem Quarterly, 7, Spring 1978, pp. 10-21.

\*Landes, David S., "Palestine Before the Zionists," Commentary, February 1976, pp. 47-56.

**Week of January 25 - Zionists, the Balfour Declaration and World War I**

Laqueur, Walter B. A History of Zionism From the French Revolution to the Establishment of Israel, pp. 209-269.

\*Verete, Mayir, "The Balfour Declaration and Its Makers," Middle Eastern Studies, Vol. 4, 1970, pp. 48-76.

**Week of February 1 - The Palestine Mandate and the New Yishuv - 1920-1939**

Gilbert, Martin. Israel : A History, pp. 3-81.

Laqueur, Walter B. A History of Zionism From the French Revolution to the Establishment of Israel, pp. 270-337; 441-504.

\*Berkson, Isaac B., "Jewish Education in Palestine," in Harry Vitteles and Khalil Totah (eds.) The Annals of The American Academy of Political and Social Science, 164, Philadelphia, November 1932, pp. 139-154.

\*Kedourie, Elie, "Sir Herbert Samuel and the Government of Palestine," Middle East Studies, 5, 1969, pp. 44-68.

\*Stein, Kenneth W., "Palestine's Rural Economy, 1917-1939," Studies in Zionism, Vol. 8, No. 1, 1987, pp. 25-49.

\*Wasserstein, Bernard, "Patterns of Communal Conflict in Palestine," in Ada Rapoport- Albert and Steven J. Zipperstein (editors), Jewish History: Essays in Honor of Chime Abramsky, 1988, pp. 611-628.

\*Wasserstein, Bernard, "'Clipping the Claws of the Colonizers'," Middle Eastern Studies, Vol. 13, No. 2, May 1977, pp. 171-194.

### **Week of February 8 - The Palestine Mandate, the British, and the Arabs - 1939-1945**

Gilbert, Martin. Israel : A History, pp. 82-120.

Laqueur, Walter B. A History of Zionism From the French Revolution to the Establishment of Israel, pp. 338-383; 505-563,

\*Stein, Kenneth W., "Conclusions," The Land Question in Palestine, (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press), 1984, pp. 212-221.

### **Week of February 15 - The end of the Mandate: illegal immigration, the United Nations, Israel's establishment, and war of independence, 1945-1949**

Gilbert, Martin. Israel : A History, pp. 121-249.

Laqueur, Walter B. A History of Zionism From the French Revolution to the Establishment of Israel, pp. 564-600.

\*Cohen, Michael J., "Truman, the Holocaust, and the Establishment of the State of Israel," The Jerusalem Quarterly, No. 23, Spring 1982, pp. 79-94.

\*Shapira, Anita, "Conclusion: The Birth of the State," Land and Power The Zionist Resort to Force 1881-1948, Oxford University Press, 1992, pp. 355-370.

\*Stein, Kenneth W., "One Hundred Years of Social Change: The Creation of the Palestinian Refugee Problem," in Laurence J. Silberstein (ed.) New Perspectives on Israeli History, New York, pp. 57-81.

\*Sternhell, Zeev, "Epilogue: From the State-in-the-Making to the Nation-State," The Founding Myths of Israel, Princeton University Press, 1998, pp. 318-345.

### **Week of February 22 - The Israeli Political System**

Arian, Asher. The Second Republic Politics in Israel, Chatham, New Jersey: Chatham House

Publishers, 1998 (all).

**Week of March 1 - Israeli Foreign Affairs, 1949-1967**

Gilbert, Martin. Israel : A History, pp. 250-383.

\*Brecher, Michael, "Jerusalem: Israel's Political Decisions, 1947-1977," The Middle East Journal, Vol. 32 No. 1 Winter 1978, pp. 13-34.

**Week of March 8 - Spring Break**

**Week of March 15 - The Arab-Israeli war of 1967 and Its Diplomatic Aftermath**

**March 16 - Mid-term Examination**

**Week of March 22 - Israeli Foreign Affairs, 1967 - 1977.**

Gilbert, Martin. Israel : A History, pp. 384-495.

\*Safran, Nadav, "America's Israel Connection," Jerusalem Quarterly, Summer 1977, pp. 3-30.

**Supplemental lecture - Ilan Segev, Consul of Israel to the Southeast, "Israel and the Arab World," 3pm White Hall (TBA)**

**Week of March 29 - Israeli society and culture I**

Horowitz, Dan and Moshe Lissak, Trouble in Utopia The Overburdened Polity of Israel, Albany: New York: State University of New York Press, 1988. (all)

\*Avruch, Kevin, "The Emergence of Ethnicity in Israel," American Ethnologist, Vol. 14 No. 2, May 1987, pp. 327-339.

\*Don-Yehiya, Eliezer, "Religious Leaders in Political Arena: Case of Israel," Middle Eastern Studies, Vol. 20, No. 2, April 1984, pp. 154-171.

\*Eisenstadt, S.N., "Change and Continuity in Israeli Society II. Dynamic Conservatism vs. Innovation," The Jerusalem Quarterly, No. 2, Winter 1977, pp. 3-11.

\*Eisenstadt, S.N., "Israeli Society -- Major Features and Problems," The Jerusalem Quarterly, No. 1, Fall 1976, pp. 28-35.

\*Peres, Yochanan, "Ethnic Relations in Israel," American Journal of Sociology, Vol. 76, No. 6, July 1970-May 1971, pp. 1021-1047.

**April 1 - no class, Passover holiday**

**Week of April 5 - Israeli society and culture II**

**April 6 - Guest lecture, Professor Shalom Goldman, "Modern Israeli Literature: Trends and Reflections."**

Alter, Robert, Modern Hebrew Literature, Behrman House, 1975. (all)

**Week of April 12 - Israeli Foreign Affairs, 1977-1999 - Patterns of Normalization**

Gilbert, Martin. Israel : A History, pp. 496-619.

\*Eisenberg, Laura Zittrain, "Passive Belligerency: Israel and the 1991 Gulf War," The Journal of Strategic Studies, Vol. 15, No. 3, September 1992, pp. 304-329.

\*Stein, Kenneth W., "Continuity and Change in Egyptian-Israeli Relations, 1973-1997," Israel Affairs, (vol. 3, nos. 3 & 4), Spring/Summer 1997, pp. 296-320.

**Week of April 19 - Israel in the 21st Century**

**April 22** - last day of class

**May 3, 1999** - Final Examination, 4:30-7:00pm