

**Professor Ela Bauer**

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**Winter 2013**

**Sociology 174**

**Jewish Experience; the Formation of Modern Jewish Israeli Identity.**

**Course time: Tuesday & Thursdays 9:00-10:20, Young 192**

Questions about Jewish Israeli identity occupied Israeli society from its first days. Already from the end of the nineteenth century until the establishment of the State of Israel (1948), the formation of new Jewish identity was part of Jewish nation building. New Jewish immigrants who arrived to Palestine throughout this period, were required to leave behind in the Diaspora their old traditional Jewish identity and adapt to a new Hebrew Israeli(?) identity. The term *Sabra*, represented this new Israeli identity. In the following years, however, the *Sabra* lost its hegemony to new Israeli identities that reflected changes in Israeli society.

This course will analyze the transitions that occurred regarding the articulations of Jewish Israeli identities.

**Note on classroom conduct**

Discussion, questioning, and an openness to intellectual challenges are critical to any academic undertaking, and will form the foundation of how this class will be conducted: questions, debates, and discussion are encouraged. All views are welcome in the classroom, along with spirited debate. Discussion should be based on reference to the evidence and the relevant reading material, and must at all times be expressed in a respectful manner. Disruption of the class, rants, diatribes, and personal attacks will not be tolerated

**Office Hours and Contact Information**

Tuesday & Thursdays 10:30 -noon in 3238 Social Sciences & Humanities Email:  
[elabau@gmail.com](mailto:elabau@gmail.com).

**Course Assignments**

All assignments are to be turned in via digital-drop off on SmartSite at the time noted. Upload under "Assignments." The final essay is due at the time of the course final. If you are **not** working in Word on a PC, save your document as an RTF (rich text format) file.

## **Course Requirements**

Participation 10 %  
Film or Book review paper, 2-3 pages, 20%  
Midterm paper: take-home essay. 30%  
Final , take-home exam . 10-12 pages 40%

### **Week 1**

#### **Introduction: Identity and Modern Jewish Experience**

Rogers Brubaker and Frederick Cooper, "Beyond 'Identity'," *Theory and Society* 29 (2000): XX -47;

Paul R. Mendes Flohr & Jehuda Reinharz *The Jew in the Modern World* (Oxford 1980), Introduction

Film : *World Class Kids*

### **Week 2**

#### **The National Jewish Identities**

Moshe Maor 'The History of Zionism' , *The Israel Studies Anthology*

<http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/isdf/text/maor.html>

### **Week 3**

#### **The Modern Jewish Identity in Ottoman Palestine**

Ben Halpern and Jehuda Reinharz *Zionism and the Creation of a New Society* (Oxford 1998), 8-45.

#### **From the Old Jew to the Hebrew Man ; The Development of Modern Hebrew Identity in Interwar Period.**

Oz Almog *The Sabra the Creation of the New Jew*, Berkeley CA University of California Press 2000, 1-35, 255-263.

Anat [Helman](#), [“Even the dogs in the street bark in Hebrew”](#): national ideology and everyday culture in Tel-Aviv. *Jewish Quarterly Review* 92, 3-4 (2002) 359-382.

Film: Children of the Sun

## **Week 5**

### **The Struggle for Modern Jewish Identity after 1948**

Aviva Zeltzer-Zubida and Hani Zubida 'Patterns of Immigration and Absorption in Israel', *The Israel Studies Anthology*, <http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/isdf/text/anthologytoc.html>

Yosef Gorny, 'The "melting pot" in Zionist thought' *Israel Studies* 6,3 (2001) 54-70.

Films Salah Shabati

## **Week 6**

### **The Modern Jewish Religious Identity**

Tamir Sorek 'Religiosity , National Identity and Legitimacy : Israel as an Extreme Case, *Sociology* 43(3), 2009 477-496.

*Survey of Israeli Jews Beliefs, Guttman Center for Survey 2009*

*Film Hasder*

## **Week 7**

### **Gender and Modern Jewish Identity**

Rivka Bar Yosef 'Comments on Barndow's Ideology , Myth and Reality, Sex Equality in Israel' , *Sex Roles* 9, 4 1983 419-428.

Pnina Motzafi – Haller, 'Negotiating Difference in Israel Scholarship : Towards A New Feminist Discourse, Adriana Kemp and other (ed.) *Israelis in Conflict, Hegemonies Identities and Challenges* Sussex Academic Press Portland, 2004, 162-188

## **Week 8**

### **Mizrahkim or Arab Jews ? Are they the other?**

Henriette Dahan-Kalev, 'The 'other' in Zionism: the case of the Mizrahim'. *Palestine-Israel Journal* 8,1 (2001) 90-96.

Yoav Peled 'Towards a redefinition of Jewish nationalism in Israel? The enigma of Shas' , *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, 1998 21:4, 703-727.

Erez Tzfadia, 'Public policy and identity formation : the experience of Mizrahim in Israel's development towns, *Journal for the Study of Sephardic and Mizrahi Jewry* 1 (2007) 57-82.

## **Week 9**

### **The Israeli Russian Identity**

Nelly Elias 'Between Russianness, Jewishness and Israeliness; identity', *Journal of Jewish Identities* 4, 1 (2011) 87-104

Nelly Elias 'The New Second Generation non-Jewish "olim" Black Jews and Children of migrant Workers in Israel, *Israel Studies* 15,1 (2010) 73-94.

## **Week 10**

### **Israeli Jewish identities in multi culture society**

Lisa Anteby – Yemini 'Being Oleh in a Global World: From Local Ethnic Community to Transnational Community in Adriana Kemp et al. (eds.) *Israelis in Conflict: Hegemonies, Identities and Challenges*, Sussex Academic Press 2004, 144- 160.

David Newman and Uri Ram 'Hegemonic Identities', Adriana Kemp et al. (eds.) *Israelis in Conflict: Hegemonies, Identities and Challenges*, Sussex Academic Press 2004, 1-18