

Israeli and Palestinian Film

CLTR 3450 Summer 1, 2011

Professor Sarina Chen

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Sequence [Tue, Thus 1:30-5:00]

Office hours: Tue. 1:30-5:00

This Israeli- Arab conflict stands in the center of this course. Questions of history, identity, conflict, and co-existence are explored through documentary and fiction films.

In particular, we will be looking at how the unique resources of the film/video medium can be used to express ideas, bridge conflicts, portray differing points of view, and persuade. Students complete several short papers and a final research paper or creative project.

Texts:

Adam LeBor, *City of Oranges*, New York 2007

Expectations:

A seminar is based on the active participation of its members. You will be regularly assigned to make oral presentations of assigned readings for the purpose of stimulating discussion, as well as to prepare handouts on films and readings. In addition to these weekly assignments, you will be asked to produce 1 short paper (4-5 pages) based on your reactions to the films, readings, or outside events (topics will be suggested, but open topics are welcome as well). The final project (8-10 pages or equivalent) should be based on a topic that you have decided to research further as a result of your involvement in the course, or could take the form of a creative project.

Attendance and class participation are essential in this seminar setting, and written explanations for each missed class are required. Grades will be computed as follows: Class discussion and participation 25%, Presentation 25%, short papers 20%, final project 30%.

The syllabus might have some changes during the semester.

SCHEDULE:

Introduction:

1. May 10, Tue. Introduction and screening of "**walk on Water**" (Eytan Fox 2004) Reading: Shlomo Aronson, **The Holocaust and Israel's Domestic, Foreign and Security Policy** , in: <http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/isdf/text/aronson.html>
2. May 12, Thur. screening of "**O Jerusalem**" (Elie Choraqui, 2006)
Reading: Yoav Gelber, The Israeli-Arab War of 1948, in: <http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/isdf/text/gelber.html>

The wars:

3. May 17, Tue. Screening of **Avanti Popolo** (Rafi Bokai, 1986)
Reading: A. Samuel Becket, Waiting for Godot:
<http://www.samuel-beckett.net/Waiting for Godot Part1.html>
B. Jerom P. Crabb, Theater of The Absurd, in:
<http://www.theatredatabase.com/20th century/theatre of the absurd.html>

Additional films: Waltz with Bashir (Ari Folman,2005)

Beaufort (yosef sider, 2007)

Shteit Etzbaot Mi'Tzidon (Eli Cohen, 1986)

Conflict and Gender:

4. May 19, Thur. Screening of **Rana's Wedding** (*Al qods fee yom akhar*, Hany Abu-Assad, 2002)
Reading: Gertz & khalifi, chapter 6 ("Roadblock movies")
5. May 24, Tue. Screening of **The Syrian Bride** (Eran Riklis , 2004)
Reading: A. Naomi Weiner-Levy, The Flagbearers: Israeli Druze Women Challenge Traditional Gender Roles, in:
<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1525/aeq.2006.37.3.217/pdf>
B. Optional: David Tal, The six days war, in:
<http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/isdf/text/tal.html>
- 6 . May 26, Thur. Screening of **Hamsin** (Daniel Wachsmann, 1982)
Reading: Gershon Shafir and Yoav Peled, The Frontier erupts: the intifadas. Pp. 184-212 (See in Blackboard)
7. May 31, Tue. Screening of **Only Human** (Dominic Harari and Teresa Pellegri, 2004)

Reading: Zhenchao Qian and Daniel T. Lichter, Social Boundaries and Marital Assimilation: Interpreting Trends in Racial and Ethnic Inter-marriage, in:
<http://www.jstor.org/stable/pdfplus/25472448.pdf>

8. June 2, Thur. Screening of **Atash** (Taugiq Abu-Veil, 2004)

Reading: Lila Abu-Lughod, Do Muslim Women Really Need Saving? Anthropological Reflections on Cultural Relativism and Its Others,
in:<http://www.jstor.org/stable/pdfplus/3567256.pdf>

Due date of the first assignment

Settlers:

9. June 7, Tue. Screening of **The settlers** (Ruth Walk, 2004)

Reading: Tolan, the Lemon Tree, Ch. 11-12

David Newman, From Hitnachelut to Hitnatkut: The impact of Gush Emunim and the Settlement Movement on Israeli Politics and Society. In:

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/pdfplus/30245772.pdf>

Optional solutions- terror:

10. June 9, Thur. Screening of **To die in Jerusalem** (Hilla Medalia, 2007)

Reading: John Rosenberger, Discerning the Behavior of the Suicide Bomber: The Role of Vengeance. In: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/pdfplus/27511651.pdf>

Optional: Frances S. Hasso, Discursive and Political Deployments by/of the 2002 Palestinian Women Suicide Bombers/Martyrs. In:

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/pdfplus/3874340.pdf>

11. June 14, Tue. Screening of **Munich** (Steven Spielberg, 2005)

Reading: on Blackboard

Optional solutions- Cooperation:

12. June 16, Thur. Screening of **Behind the Bars** (Uri Barabash, 1984)

Reading: Gershon Shafir and Yoav Peled, Agents of Political change, pp. 213-230 (Blackboard)

13. June 21, Tue. Screening of **The Knowledge is the beginning** (Paul Smaczny, 2005) (Blackboard)

14. June 23, Thur. Screening of Screening of **Arna's Children** (Juliano Mer Khamis, 2004) (Blackboard)

Reading: Sandy Tolan, *The Lemon Tree*, chapters 13-14,

15. June 28, Tue. Screening of **Ajami** (Scandar Copti and Yaron Shani, 2009)

Reading: Gertz, "Epilogue" and Grossman, chapter 18 and epilogue