

**University of Pittsburgh**

**Fall Term 2014-2015**

# **Spatial Planning in Contested Spaces: The Case of Israel and Palestine**

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**Courseweb site:** <http://courseweb.pitt.edu/>

## **Course description:**

Modern day Israel and Palestine – that is the land between the Mediterranean Sea and the Jordan River - covers an area that is six times smaller than the state of Pennsylvania, but has about the same population size (about 12.7 million people). In addition to the high density of population this land is the heart of a religious, ethnic, national, and political conflict. This context makes spatial planning an immense challenge and on the other hand spatial planning is used often as a tool for achieving various political agendas.

After presenting some brief background on the geography and the history of the land, this course will focus on the following topics amongst others: National and regional planning, the New Towns scheme, water planning issues, transportation planning, Jerusalem's geopolitical question, tourism development in historic cities such as Nazareth, Acre, Bethlehem, the fence of separation, affordable housing plans, etc.

## **Course Requirements:**

1. Submission of two research assignments during the semester (30% each = 60%)
2. Research paper (40%), due at the end of the Fall Term

## **Course outline and reading assignments**

### **Week 1 (August 28)**

Introduction to the Course and some Historical, Geographical and Geopolitical Background on the land west to the Jordan River

### **Week 2 (September 4)**

Socialist Nation building and transformation into a neoliberal economic system, the history of planning in Israel, the “Development Towns” (Arad as a case study)

#### Reading:

Amiran, D. H. K. (1978) Geographical aspects of national planning in Israel: The management of limited resources, *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers*, vol. 3, 1:115-128.

Shachar, A. (1971) Evaluation of National Urbanization Policy, *Journal of the American Institute of Planners*, 37:6, 362-372.

Shachar, A. (1998) Reshaping the Map of Israel: A New National Planning Doctrine, *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, vol. 555, 209-218.

Yiftachel, O. (2000) Social Control, Urban Planning and Ethno-Class Relations: Mizrahi Jews in Israel’s ‘Development Towns’, *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, vol. 24, 2:418-438.

### **1<sup>st</sup> Assignment given (Due October 2)**

“Planning Bedouin cities and villages”

### **Week 3 (September 11) – No Class**

Prof. Shoval is a keynote speaker at a workshop in San-Sebastian, Spain

### **Week 4 (September 18)**

The planning system and planning paradigms, metropolitan planning and national planning (Water issues and TAMA 31, 35)

#### Reading:

Alfasi, N. (2006) Planning policy? Between long-term planning and zoning amendments in the Israeli planning system, *Environment and Planning A*, 2006, vol. 38, 553-568.

Feitelson, E. (2013) The Four Eras of Israeli Water Policies, in N. Becker (ed.), *Water Policy in Israel: Context, Issues and Options*. Dordrecht: Springer.

Feitelson, E., and Rosenthal, G. (2012) Desalination, space and power: The ramifications of Israel’s changing water geography, *Geoforum* 43, 272-284.

### **Week 5 (September 25 – no class – Rosh Hashana)**

## **Week 6 (October 2)**

Borders, the “fence of security” and the “settlements” over “the green line”

### Reading:

Brooks, R. (2009) *Jerusalem Wall: A decade of division and Urban incarceration*, Jerusalem: International Peace and Cooperation Center.

Cohen, S. E. (2007) Israel’s West Bank Barrier: An Impediment for Peace? *The Geographical Review*, vol. 96, 4:682-695.

Newman (2002) The geopolitics of peace-making in Israel-Palestine, *Political Geography*, vol. 29, 629-646.

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Assignment given (due October 16)**

“Tourism planning in historic cities”

## **Week 7 (October 9)**

Gated communities and case studies of planning for sub-sectors in recent years: Kibbutzim, Arab towns, Bedouins, Haredim

### Reading:

Khamaisi, R. (1995) Land ownership as a determinate in the formation of residential areas in Arab localities in Israel, *Geoforum*, vol. 26, 2:211-224.

Meir, A. (2005) Bedouin, the Israeli state and insurgent planning: Globalization, localization or glocalization? *Cities*, vol. 22, 3:201-215.

Rosen, G., and Razin, E. (2009) The Rise of Gated Communities in Israel: Reflections on Changing Urban Governance in a Neo-liberal Era, *Urban Studies*, vol. 46, 8:1702-1720.

Yiftachel, O. (1999) Between nation and state: ‘fractured’ regionalism among Palestinian-Arabs in Israel, *Political Geography*, vol. 18, 218-307.

## **Week 8 (October 16)**

Tourism planning in historic cities: Acre, Nazareth and Bethlehem

### Reading:

Cohen-Hattab, K. and Shoval, N. (2007) 'Tourism Development and Cultural Conflict: The Case of "Nazareth 2000"', *Social and Cultural Geography* vol. 8, 5: 701-717.

Shoval, N. (2013) Street Naming, Tourism Development and Cultural Conflict: The Case of the Old City of Acre/Akko/Akka, *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers*.

### **Week 9 (October 23)**

Urban development and planning of Jerusalem I

#### Reading:

Hasson, S. (2001) Territories and identities in Jerusalem, *GeoJournal*, vol. 53, 311-322.

Shoval, N. (2008) 'Transformations of the urban morphology of Jerusalem: Present processes and future scenarios, in S. Hasson (ed.), *Jerusalem: The Challenge of Transition*. Jerusalem: Floersheimer Institute for Policy Studies.

Thawaba, S., and Al-Rimmawi, H. (2012) Spatial Transformation of Jerusalem: 1967 to Present, *Journal of Planning History*, vol. 12, 1:63-77.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Assignment given (due December 11)**

Research paper "Jerusalem's geopolitical futures"

### **Week 10 (October 30)**

Urban development and planning of Jerusalem II

#### Reading:

Charney, I., and Rosen, G. (Forthcoming) Splintering skylines in a fractured city: High-rise geographies in Jerusalem, *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space*.

Shlay, A., and Rosen, G. (2010) Making Place: The Shifting Green Line and the Development of "Greater" Metropolitan Jerusalem, *City and Community*, vol. 9, 4:358-389.

### **Week 11 (November 6)**

Tourism Planning in Jerusalem I

#### Reading:

Shachar, A. and Shoval, N. (1999) "Tourism in Jerusalem: A Place to Pray," in D. Judd and S.S. Fainstein (eds.), *The Tourist City*. New Haven: Yale University Press.

Shoval, N. (2006) 'The Geography of Hotels in Cities: An Empirical Validation of a Forgotten Theory. *Tourism Geographies*, vol. 8, 1: 56-75..

### **Week 12 (November 13)**

Tourism Planning in Jerusalem II

Reading:

Cohen-Hattab, K. and Shoval, N. (2015) *Tourism, Religion and Pilgrimage in Jerusalem*. London and New York: Routledge. Chapters 5 & 6.

**Week 13 (November 20)**

Jerusalem's geopolitical futures?

Reading:

Bollens, S. A. (2012) *City and Soul in Divided Societies*. London and New York: Routledge. Chapter 11, pp. 124-144.

Klein, M. (2005) New and Old Walls in Jerusalem, *Political Geography*, vol. 24, 53-76.

Hasson, S. (2010) Israel's Geopolitical Dilemma, *Eurasian Geography and Economics*, vol. 51, 6: 694-715.

Yiftachel, O., and Yaakobi, H. (2002) Planning a bi-national capital: Should Jerusalem remain United? *Geoforum*, 33: 137-145.

Invited responses to Yiftachel and Yakobi, *Geoforum*, 33: 275-288.

**Week 14 (November 27 – no class - thanksgiving)**

**Week 15 (December 4 – no class)**

Prof. Shoval is a keynote speaker at a workshop in Bolzano, Italy

**Week 16 (December 11)**

Presentations of the research papers (15 minutes plus questions) and submitting them.

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**Course Policies:**

Pitt's Academic Integrity Policy: "Cheating/plagiarism will not be tolerated. Students suspected of violating the University of Pittsburgh Policy on Academic Integrity will be required to participate in the outlined procedural process as initiated by the instructor. A minimum sanction of a zero score for the quiz, exam or paper will be imposed."

Plagiarism: It is important that the written and oral work that you present in this course reflect your own reading, critical analysis, and writing. Plagiarism includes: a) submitting someone else's work in your name whether that someone else is someone you know or someone who posted their work on the Internet; and whether you paid for

the material or not; b) submitting your own work from another course without disclosure to the instructor; c) copying passages verbatim or in close paraphrase from published or unpublished material written by someone else without properly using quotation marks and/or without citing your source.

Citation of Sources: In everything you write for this class, you must properly cite your sources using either the Chicago (footnote) or MLA (parenthetical citations and works cited) methods. For references on how to cite according to different academic styles, see <http://pitt.libguides.com/citationhelp>

General writing help is available through the Writing Center:  
<http://www.composition.pitt.edu/writingcenter/>

Late papers: For every business day that a paper is late, your grade will be lowered by 10 points out of 100 for that assignment.

Rewrites: Rewrites will not be allowed on the papers in this class. Pay careful attention to comments and markings on previous assignments in order to improve your writing over the course of the semester.

Students with disabilities: If you have a disability for which you are or may be requesting an accommodation, you are encouraged to contact both your instructor and the Office of Disability Resources and Services (216 William Pitt Union, 412-648-7890; TDD: 412-383-7355; fax: 412-624-3346) as early as possible in the term. DRS will verify your disability and determine reasonable accommodations.

Absence policy: You may have 3 absences from class during the semester—**NO QUESTIONS ASKED**. This includes minor illness so take care of yourself. **For each additional absence that is not excused, you will lose 2 points out of 100 for the semester.** If you have a serious medical condition that requires hospitalization and as a result you miss more than 3 classes, you will need to bring documentation of the hospitalization and accommodations will be made, as appropriate. If other unforeseen circumstances cause you to miss class, please discuss an excused absence with the instructor. Job interviews, activities for other classes, extracurricular activities, family events, are NOT unforeseen circumstances. Use your 3 “free passes” for these if necessary. Religious holidays are excused absences (see below). *Absences other than illness will be excused only if the student brings a 1 page paper to the next class summarizing the readings for the class missed.*

Religious holidays: “the University of Pittsburgh has a tradition of recognizing religious observances of members of the University community in instances where those observances may conflict with University activities. When such conflict occurs, students and faculty should make every effort to reach mutually agreeable arrangements to reschedule the academic activity or provide a substitute activity or evaluation. *Students should be encouraged to alert faculty to the potential for such conflicts as early in the term as possible.*”

Technology ground-rules: Cell phones may not be used at any time. Do not expect to access documents using your smart phone. Computers, tablets, and the like are

permitted under the following conditions: it is expected that you are using your device to take notes and/or access information relevant to the class, including readings. If you can't resist the urge to check Facebook or e-mail during class, I recommend that you not use electronic devices during class.

E-mail: “Each student is issued a University e-mail address (username@pitt.edu). Students are expected to read e-mail sent to this account on a regular basis. Failure to read and react to University communications in a timely manner does not absolve the student from knowing and complying with the content of the communications.”