

Selected Issues in the History of Zionism and the State of Israel

CC-HIS-646/582-11SP

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Wednesdays 9am - 12 noon Pacific/12 - 3pm Eastern

Course Description:

This course is an opportunity for students to engage in some of the major questions and dilemmas that faced the Zionist movement and its creation; the state of Israel. We shall look at issues such as Zionism and colonialism, the bi national idea, Britain; friend or foe of the Zionist movement. Issues concerning the period of statehood will include ethnicity, secular-religious divides and the notion of a Jewish - democratic state. The class will be heavily based on student reading and participation. It is designed to confront some of the critical issues being raised by Jews and non-Jews in the US and Europe today.

Course Requirements

- Students are expected to attend regularly and participate in class discussion. Please consult the Handbook of Academic Procedure if you are uncertain as to the attendance policy.
- Students are expected to keep abreast of the reading. In order to create an appropriate learning environment it is essential that you complete the reading assigned for each class which is approximately fifty pages per session.
- This is a cross-campus class and the overall group is split into two Forum groups. The groups will alternate each week posting to a threaded discussion on the guiding question for that week. Instructions and requirements can be found under Forums on the Course site in Sakai.
- Class presentation (details to be determined)
- A 10 page final paper, the subject of which will be determined by the student in consultation with their teacher. NB. Fifth Year students must submit their paper by April 11th. Fourth year students must submit their paper by May 9th.

Final Grades will be determined on the following basis:

- Class participation (Forum and in-class discussion) 30 %
- Class presentation 20 %
- Final paper 50%

January 19th

Introduction, Expectations.

Placing Zionism in Jewish History

January 26th

1) Zionism and Power

*Ehud Luz, *Wrestling with an Angel; Power, Morality and Jewish Identity* (Yale University Press, New Haven 2003) 42-65, 115-141.

Hannah Arendt, "Zionism Reconsidered," in M. Selzer, *Zionism Reconsidered* (Macmillan, London 1970) pp. 213-249.

D. Biale, *Power and Powerlessness in Jewish History* (Schocken, NY 1986) pp. 145-176.

February 2nd

2) Zionism and Colonialism

*Alexander Yakobson and Amnon Rubinstein, *Israel and the Family of Nations* (Routledge, London and NY 2009 pp. 65-82.

* Gershon Shafir, "Zionism and colonialism: a comparative approach," in Ilan Pappé, ed., *The Israel/Palestine Question Rewriting Histories* (London, 1999), pp. 81-96.

Ran Aaronsohn, "Settlement in Eretz Yisrael - A Colonialist Enterprise? "Critical" Scholarship and Historical Geography," *Israel Studies* 1, 2, 1996, 214-229.

February 9th

3) Zionism and the Bi-national Idea: From Mandate times to Today

Joseph Gorni, *Zionism and the Arabs* (Clarendon, Oxford 1987) 41-49, 118-128, 189-2002, 281-298.

*(ed). Paul Mendes-Flohr., *A Land of Two Peoples: Martin Buber on Jews and Arabs* (Oxford University Press, New York 1983).

*Tony Judt, "Israel: The Alternative," *New York Review of Books* 23rd October 2003.

* Benny Morris, *On State: Two States* (Yale University Press: New Haven, 2009)

February 9th

4) Britain: Friend or Foe in the Building of the Jewish National Home?

*Tom Segev, *One Palestine, Complete: Jews and Arabs under the Mandate* (NY, Metropolitan Books, 2000). 1-10.

*Anita Shapira, "Eyeless in Zion; when Palestine first Exploded," *The New Republic*, December 11, 2000, 26-34.

Joseph Heller, *The End of Myth: Historians and the Yishuv* (1918-1948) in ed. Jonathan Frankel, *Reshaping the Past: Jewish History and the Historians Studies in Contemporary Jewry An Annual X* (Oxford University Press, NY 1994) 112-138.

5) The Palestinian Arab Leadership: What was its policy during the Second World War?

*P. Mattar, *The Mufti of Jerusalem Al Haj Amin al-Husayni and the Palestinian National Movement* (Columbia University Press, 1992)

*Klaus-Michael Mallmann and Marin Cuppers, *Nazi Palestine: The Plans for the Extermination of the Jews in Palestine* (Enigma, NY 2010) pp. 88-101, 126-139.

February 16th

6) Jews and Zionism: The Last Days of the Mandate and the Anglo-Jewish Community

(To be distributed)

7) Jews and Zionism: American Jewry and Israeli policy; One Path or Many Paths?

*Peter Beinart, "The Failure of the American Jewish Establishment," *New York Review of Books* June 10, 2010.

February 23rd

8) Zionism and Power: 1948 Dilemmas.

*S. Yizhar, *Khirbet Khizeh* (Zmora Bitan Publishers, Jerusalem 2008)

Mordechai Bar-On , 'Remembering 1948,' Personal Recollections, Collective Memory, and the Search for "What Really Happened," in Benny Morris ed. *Making Israel* (University of Michigan Press, Ann Arbor 2007) pp.29-46.

*Anita Shapira, 'Hirbet Hizah: Between Remembering and Forgetting,' in Benny Morris ed. *Making History* (University of Michigan Press, Ann Arbor 2007) pp. 81-123.

*Benny Morris, "The Origins of the Palestinian Refugee Problem," in Laurence J. Silberstein, ed., *New Perspectives on Israeli History* (New York: 1991): 42-56

Efraim Karsh, *Palestine Betrayed* (Yale University Press, New Haven 2010). pp. 124-243.

<http://www.jewishideasdaily.com/content/detail/continue-reading-1948-palestine-betrayed>

March 2nd

9) The Holocaust and the Creation of the State of Israel: Reassessing the Connection?

David Arnow, "The Holocaust and the Birth of Israel: Reassessing the Causal Relationship," *The Journal of Israeli History* 15, 3 (1994) 257-281.

*Either: Evyatar Friesel, "The Holocaust and the Birth of Israel," *The Wiener Library Bulletin* 1979, 32, 51-60.

Or: _____, "On the Myth of the Connection Between the Holocaust and the Creation of Israel," *Israel Affairs* 14: 3, 446-466.

*Emil Fackenheim, "The Holocaust and the State of Israel: Their Relation," *Encyclopedia Judaica*, Jerusalem Year Book 1974

Ze'ev Mankowitz, "The Holocaust and Zionism," in (Eds.) I. Stockman-Shikmma, *Israel, The Middle East and the Great Powers* (Shikmma, Jerusalem 1984).

March 9th

10) Jews and Zionism: Apartheid South Africa and the Jewish community 1959-67

Gideon Shimoni, *Jews and Zionism: The South African Experience* (Oxford University Press, Cape Town 1980).

11) Israel and the Ethnic Question; Symbolic or Real?

*Sammy Smooha, 'Jewish Ethnicity in Israel: Symbolic or Real?' in Uzi Rebhun and Chaim Waxman, *Jews in Israel: Contemporary Social and Cultural Patterns* (Brandeis University Press, Hanover, 2004) 47-80.

Henriette Dahan-Kalev, "You're So Pretty--You Don't Look Moroccan," *Israel Studies* (6.2, Spring 2001)

Moshe Shokeid, "On the Sin We Did Not Commit in the Research of Oriental Jews," *Israel Studies* (6.2, spring, 2001)

Yael Guilat, "The Yemeni Ideal in Israeli Culture and Arts," *Israel Studies* 6.3, Fall 2001

March 16th

12) Israel: Secular and Religious Tensions

*Asher Cohen, "Changes in the Orthodox Camp and their influence on the deepening religious-secular schism at the outset of the Twenty-first century," in Alan Dowty ed. *Critical Issues in Israeli Society* (Praeger, Westport 2004) pp. 71-94.

Ed. Joseph E. David. *The State of Israel: Between Judaism and Democracy* (Israel Democracy Institute, Ahva, Jerusalem 2003)

March 23rd

13) The Religious and Nationalist Right in Israel: Current Trends

March 30th

14) The Palestinians and Holocaust Denial? What Purpose?

*Bar-On, Dan and SaliBa Sarsar. "Bridging the Unbridgeable: The Holocaust and Al-Nakba." *Palestine – Israel Journal of Politics, Economics & Culture*. Vol. 11, No. 1 (2004) pp. 63-70.

Lassoon, Kenneth. "Defending Truth: Legal and Psychological Aspects of Holocaust Denial." *Current Psychology* (2007) pp. 223–266.

Linn, Ruth and Ilan Gur-Ze'ev. "Holocaust as Metaphor: Arab and Israeli Use of the Same Symbol." *Metaphor and Symbolic Activity*, Vol. 11, No. 3 (1996), pp. 195-206.

Massad, Joseph. "Palestinians and Jewish History: Recognition or Submission?" *Journal of Palestine Studies*, Vol. 30, No. 1 (Autumn, 2000), pp. 52-67.

*Tossavainen, Mikael. "The Holocaust in Arab Public Discourse: Historicized Politics and Politicized History." *Jewish Political Studies Review* 20:3-4 (Fall 2008), unpaginated.

15) Is Anti-Zionism a New form of Antisemitism

Phyllis Chesler, *The New Antisemitism* (Jossey-Bass, NY 2003) see: ch. 7.

April 6th

16) A Jewish state and a democratic state: Contradiction or Compatibility?

*Alexander Jacobson and Rubinstein, *Israel and the Family of Nations* (Routledge, London 2009) pp. 124-191.

*Gadi Taub, 'A Jewish Democratic State,' *Jewish Chronicle* October 19, 2007.

*Azmi Bashara, "The Sovereignty Process in not yet Complete," Ed. Joseph E. David. *The State of Israel: Between Judaism and Democracy* (Israel Democracy Institute, Ahva, Jerusalem 2003) pp. 379-386.

Dowty, Alan, "Is Israel Democratic? Substance and Semantics in the "Ethnic Democracy" Debate," *Israel Studies* (4.2, Fall 1999)

Gavison, Ruth, "A Rejoinder to the "Ethnic Democracy" Debate," *Israel Studies* (4.1, Spring 1999).

As'ad Ghanem, Nadim Rouhama and Oren Yiftachel, "Questioning "Ethnic Democracy"" *Israel Studies* (3.2, Fall 1998).

April 13th

17) Teaching Israel? What are we trying to Teach?

*Lisa Grant, "Complex Reality: Navigating the Tensions in Israel Education," *Jewish Educational Leadership*, vol. 6, 2, Winter 2008, 22-27

*Alick Isaacs, "Israel Education: Exploring the Methodological Implications of Political Empowerment for Jewish Studies," *Jewish Educational Leadership*, vol.7, 1, fall 2008, 10-16.

Alex Sinclair, "A Conservative Jewish Educational Approach to post Zionism," *Conservative Judaism* 59, 1 2006, 29-58.

Lisa D Grant, 'Israel Education in Reform Congregational Schools,' in CCAR 2007, 3.
site81197.web07.intellisite.com/files/Publications/Journal/CCAR-2007_3-Grant.pdf