Questions about Jewish Israeli identity occupied Israeli society from its first days. Already from the end of the nineteen 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.
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**


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**


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


Film: *Children of the Sun*
Week 5
The Struggle for Modern Jewish Identity after 1948


Films  Salah Shabati

Week 6
The Modern Jewish Religious Identity


Survey of Israeli Jews Beliefs, Gutman Center for Survey 2009

Film Hasder

Week 7
Gender and Modern Jewish Identity


Week 8
Mizrahkim or Arab Jews  ? Are they the other?


Week 9
The Israeli Russian Identity

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

Week 10
Israeli Jewish identities in multi culture society
