

Professor Ela Bauer

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Winter 2013

HIS 113

History of Modern Israel

Course time: Tuesday & Thursdays 4:40- 6:00 , Wellman 202

Course Description

Long time before the state of Israel established, the idea of Jewish state already driven variety of controversial and emotional responses inside the Jewish people and outside of it. The controversial responses did not stop after the state of Israel established and continue until our time. In this course will examine the history of Israel from its foundation until the present in contexts of the Palestine Israel conflict, international- affairs and social local and global changes. We will focus on the uniqueness of Israel and the challenges of being Jewish and Democratic state.

Note on classroom conduct: Discussion, questioning, and an openness to intellectual challenges are critical to any historical inquiry or other 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. Questions, comments, and challenges are encouraged. 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.

Course Requirements

Final grades will be based on the following breakdown:

Participation: 10 %

Book review paper 2-3 pages: 20%

Midterm paper: take-home essay: 30 %

Final , take-home exam . 10-12 pages: 40 %

Course Assignments

All assignments are to be turned 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.

Week 1

Introduction

When does the history of the state of Israel begun,

Shlomo, Avineri, *The Making of Modern Zionism: Intellectual Origins of the Jewish State*, 1981 N.Y, 5-13

Ben Halpern and Jehuda Reinharz *Zionism and the Creation of a new Society* New York & Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1998, 8-24

Documents

The Sykes Picot Agreement http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/History/sykes_pico.html

The Balfour Declaration <http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/History/balfour.htm>

Report of Palestine Royal Commission 1937

<http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/History/peel1.html>

Week 2

The formation of the political, social, economic and cultural Israeli Spheres

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.

Jehuda Reinharz 'The Transition From Yishuv to State Social and Ideological Changes, Laurence J. Silberstein, (ed.), *New Perspectives on Israeli History*, New York and London: New York University Press, 1991, 27- 42.

Week 3

1948 Independent War or Nakba ?

Yoav Gelber 'The Israeli – Arab War of 1948: History Versus Narratives ' in Bar-On Mordecai (eds.), *A Never-Ending Conflict* 2004 , London 43-68.

Benny Morris 'The Origins of the Palestinian Refugee Problem', Laurence J. Silberstein, (ed.), *New Perspectives on Israeli History*, New York and London: New York University Press, 1991, 42- 55

Don Peretz 'Early Policy towards the Arab Population 1948 – 1955', Laurence J. Silberstein, (ed.), *New Perspectives on Israeli History*, New York and London: New York University Press, 1991, 82-102.

David Tal 'The Historiography of the 1948 War in Palestine The Mission Dimension', *The Journal of Israeli History* Vol. 24 No. 2 September 2005 183-202.

Week 4

The Social and the Political Challenges of the First Decade.

Eliezer Don Yehiya 'Political Religion in a New State: Ben – Gurion's Mamlachtiyut', Troen, S. Ilan and Noah Lucas (eds.), *Israel: The First Decade of Independence*, Albany: State University of New York Press, 1995, 171- 192.

Moshe Lissak , 'The Demographic – Social Revolution in Israel in the 1950s ; The Absorption of the Great Aliyah', *Journal of Israeli History* 22:2 2003 1-31.

Motti Golani 'The Sinai War and Suez Crisis, 1956-7' *The Israel Studies Anthology*

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

Films *Salah Shabati*

Week 5

When the land changed its visage

Arye Naor ' "Behold Rachel Behold" The Six Day War as a Biblical Experience and its Impact on Israel's Political Mentality', *The Journal of Israeli History* Vol. 24 No. 2 September 2005, 224-256.

Michel Oren The Six – Day War , Bar-On Mordecai (eds.), *A Never-Ending Conflict* 2004 , London, 133-146.

Week 6

The 1970s; Something cracked in Israel

Mitchell Bard *Israel Makes Peace With Egypt*,

http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/Peace/peace_with_Egypt.html

Charles S. Liebman 'The Myth of Defeat; the Memory of the Yom Kippur War in Israeli Society', *Middle Eastern Studies* Vol. 29 No. 3 July 1993, 399-418.

Newman, David. A comparative study of Gush Emunim and Peace Now, *Middle Eastern Studies* 28/3 (1992): 509-530

Yehiam Vaits 'The Road to the Upheaval; a Capsule History of the Herut Movement 1948 – 1977', *Israel Studies* 10:3, 2005 54 – 86.

Week 7

The 1980s ; The War that was far away from Home

Guy Ben Porat 'Israeli Society Diversity Tensions and Governance', Guy Ben-Porat, Yagil Levy, Shlomo Mizrahi, Arye Naor and Eraz Tzfadia (ed.) *Israel Since 1980* Cambridge University Press 2006, 7-41.

Arye Naor The Political System: Government Parliament and the Court, Guy Ben-Porat, Yagil Levy, Shlomo Mizrahi, Arye Naor and Eraz Tzfadia (ed.) *Israel Since 1980* Cambridge University Press 2006, 69-91.

Documents

Film Waltz with Bashir

Week 8

From Oslo Accord and Rabin Murder

Shlomo Ben Ami 'So Close and Yet so Far ; Lessons From the Israeli Palestinian Peace Process' , *Israel Studies* 10, 2 2005, 572-590.

Shlomo Mizrahi 'The New Politics: Interest Groups and Alternative Channels' Guy Ben-Porat, Yagil Levy, Shlomo Mizrahi, Arye Naor and Eraz Tzfadia (ed.) *Israel Since 1980* Cambridge University Press 2006

Amnon Rubinstein, "Toward Rabin's Assassination," *From Herzl to Rabin*, 136-158

Remarks by PM Yitzhak Rabin on Receiving the Nobel Prize for Peace (December 10, 1994)
<http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/biography/rabinnobel.html>

Week 9

Israel at the age of Globalization

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.

Uri Ram The State of the Nation Cotemporary Challenges to Zionist in Israel Adriana Kemp et al. (eds.) *Israelis in Conflict: Hegemonies, Identities and Challenges* 305-321.

Week 10

What is the meaning of Jewish Democratic State?

Gadi Taub 'Israel Democracy and the Jewish State', *Chronicle of Higher Education* August 10 2007