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 it foundation until the present in contexts of the Palestine Israel conflict, international-affaires and social local and global changes. We will focuses 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,


Documents
The Balfour Declaration [http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/History/balfour.htm](http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/History/balfour.htm)

Week 2

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


Week 3

1948 Independent War or Nakba?


Week 4

The Social and the Political Challenges of the First Decade.


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


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.


Week 7

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


Documents

Film Waltz with Bashir

Week 8

From Oslo Accord and Rabin Murder


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


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?