Women in Israel – Achievements and Dilemmas

Course in UCI, Winter 2013

Dr. Anat Maor

Course Description:
This course will deal with the power and difficulties of women in the contemporary Israeli society. Its goal is to study and explore the status of women in the political structure of Israeli society. Students will encounter the complexity, challenges, and difficulties in the young democracy of Israel. The course of study will be accompanied by readings and discussions of Israeli current women status.

Course Objectives:
• Learn the political issues that the Israeli women faces today.
• Develop a critical approach to the political debates regarding women within Israel society.

Course requirements:
• Weekly Reading and Active participation in class discussions - 10%
• Presentation: Gender Personal Experience/ Outlines of the Final Paper/ An Article - 20%
• Final Paper about one of the topics of the Course (10 pages) - 70%

Required Reading List


Course Topics & Syllabus
Class 1: Introduction: Feminism Values, History, interdisciplinary and Pluralism within feminism.

Opening: course orientation, syllabus distribution, and course overview.


Woolf Virginia (1929). *A room of One's Own*.

**Class 2: History: Women in Israel during the Pioneer Era, the Establishment of the State, and the Beginning of Feminism in Israel**


**Class 3-4: The Status of Women in Israel’s Labor Force and the Gender Pay Gap**


Class 5-6: The Status of Women in Israeli Politics

Women in Israel, part four, 253-268; 269-286.


Class 7-8: The Socio Economic debate and its Influence on women's Poverty

Women in Israel, Part 3, 209-224; Part 5, 341-346; 395-422.


**Addition: The Status of Women in Israeli Science and Higher Educational Policy**


**Class 9: Legislation for the Advancement of Women in Israel**

**Women in Israel**, Part four, 237-252.


**Class 10: Women in Judaism and the Religious Coercion in Israel**

Women in Israel, Part 3, 225-234; Part 4, 269-286; 287-308.


**Class 11: The Status of Arab Women in Israel**

Women in Israel, Part 2, 51-64; Part five, 423-441.


**Class 12: Women Serving in the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) and In the Peace Movements.**

Women in Israel, Part two, 35-50; Part four, 309-322.


**Class 13 - 14: The Struggle against Violence toward Women; Sexual Harassment, and the Trafficking of Women**


**Class 15: The Double Carrier Dilemma: Work and Family**

*Women in Israel, Part one, 25-34; Part 5, 323-340; 347-362*  


Class 16: The Institutional Situation: The Bodies Responsible for Advancing Women and the task of women organizations in Israel

Women in Israel, Introduction, 1-21


Classes 17-18: Students Presentations:
Gender Personal Experience/ Outlines of the Final Paper/ An Article

Classes 19-20: Conclusion and Outlook:
Achievements and Failures in the Advancement of Women in Israel, 2013