Overview: This course considers how historians practice their craft in interpreting great events. The Arab-Israeli war of 1967 serves as the case study. We will read the most recent account of the war and then check it against a variety of primary source materials such as memoirs, documents, speeches, newspapers, maps, eye-witnesses and UN resolutions. We will constantly be asking if the sources support the new text or if there are other interpretations that might lead to different conclusions. We will be examining the text for tangents left unexplored and possibly worthy of further research. We will consider how politics, the availability of new archival sources, and the passage of time can also bring about a rethinking of events past. And what to make of competing or contradictory secondary interpretations? Our focus will be on Israel, the evolution of Israeli scholarship about the war, and the impact of the war on Israeli policy, society, culture and the national psyche. As such, we will also use poetry, music, film, satire, political cartoons and our own interviews with guest speakers who are veterans of the war as relevant source material. Finally, we will consider how the 1967 war shaped the contemporary positions and issues at stake in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Readings: Readings come from the required textbooks (below) or from articles and other materials available on the Internet or marked “posted” on the syllabus. “Posted” items have been scanned and are accessible at www.library.cmu.edu. Click on “cameo,” “course reserves,” type in “Eisenberg” and select the reserve readings for 79-200. Links for further research and reading on the 1967 war are on the course website: http://www.andrew.cmu.edu/user/sc24/1967war.html. We will also be reading from the 1967 Jerusalem Post, on microfilm in Hunt library. The reading load is unevenly distributed across the semester; students are expected to keep up entirely with the reading during the heavy weeks and enjoy the respite during the lighter ones. REMEMBER: THIS IS A 12 UNIT COURSE!

Requirements Students must attend every class session fully versant in the readings assigned for that day and prepared to participate in class discussion. Instructor intends to lecture minimally and instead facilitate discussion, debate and the comparison of research results and interpretations among students. Preparation, class attendance and participation are therefore of the utmost importance. Rigorous requirements are appropriate per a 12 unit course.
Films: There will be 3 Israeli feature films screened on 3 weekday evenings. If you cannot attend the screenings on the scheduled nights, you may view those films and additional documentaries at your convenience (but in time for the scheduled class discussions) in the video library in the basement of Hunt library. You will also write a paper comparing two documentaries (view at your convenience in the Hunt video library) with the textbook.

Grades: Final grades are based upon attendance, classroom participation, a series of research exercises, a mid-term project, short homework assignments and a take-home final paper. There will be many opportunities to earn extra credit by attending relevant local events (speakers, films, etc) The assignment schedule appears on the final page of this syllabus.

Required Texts


TA-DA! If you successfully complete this course, you will come away with two things: one, a very thorough understanding of the events and forces at play in the 1967 War and two, a newly acquired skill set which you can apply to your work in other courses, in graduate school, or in the “real world.” (!) Among those skills are:

- Reading and evaluating a piece of written scholarship
- Identifying a topic and organizing a research project
- Finding source material for your topic
- Working with primary source documents
- Conducting interviews; working with human resources
- Using video materials as sources
- Working with maps
- Working with secondary sources
- Comparing conflicting accounts of an event
- Using fiction, poetry, music, cartoon and film as sources
- Organizing your notes and materials
- Critiquing and creating a bibliography
- Critiquing and creating endnotes
- Writing a grammatically correct paper in interesting prose
- Submitting material for publication, knowing the publication process
• Reading and writing book reviews

**Introduction and Historical Overview**

14 Jan  Instructor’s Introduction;


19 Jan  **Martin Luther King Day – NO CLASS**

21 Jan  Instructor’s historical overview, pre-1948


**The Road to War**

26 Jan  Oren, *The Catalysts*


28 Jan  Oren, *The Crisis*

30 Jan  *Eban meets Johnson, Israel Studies*, posted

Footnoting: Writer’s Manual, Chapter 5, pp. 72-74, 93-111, 118-122

30 Jan  **ASSIGNMENT #1 DUE – identifying topics for further research**
2 Feb  Oren, *Countdown*

4 Feb  *Ben-Gurion Diaries, 18 May-4 June, Israel Studies, posted.*

**The 1967 War**

6 Feb  Oren, *Day 1*

9 Feb  Oren, *Day 2*

11 Feb  Oren, *Day 3*

13 Feb  Oren, *Day 4*

16 Feb  **Presidents’ Day – NO CLASS, but read:**

   Bickerton and Klausner, Chapter 6, pp. 144-157

18 Feb  Oren, *Day 5 and 6*

20 Feb  Oren, *Days 5 and 6*

23 Feb  Taking Oral History: Writer’s Manual, Chapter 11, pp. 177-184

**23 Feb**  Assignment #2 DUE – documentaries as source material

25 Feb  Guest Speaker – IDF veteran

**25 Feb**  Assignment #3 DUE – preparing research questions

27 Feb  Guest Speaker – young woman on the homefront

**Aftershocks**

1 Mar  Oren, *Aftershocks*


   Golda Meir, My Life (NY: Putnam’s, 1975) pp. 367-373 posted

   UN Resolution 242 on-line: http://www.mideastweb.org/242.htm

   Khartoum Resolution on-line: http://www.mideastweb.org/khartoum.htm

**1 March -- MONDAY NIGHT MOVIE:**  *Siege*
3 Mar discussion about the speakers and about Siege

3 Mar Assignment # 4 Due – using oral history in an essay

5 Mar Mid Semester Break – NO CLASS

8-12 Mar Spring Break – NO CLASS

The War of Attrition

Bickerton and Klausner, Chapter 7, pp. 168-182


15 Mar Assignment # 5 DUE – Research Project Proposal Exercise

15 March -- MONDAY NIGHT MOVIE: Late Summer Blues
http://www.jhvc.org/video_library/index.html (search alphabetized list of videos)

17 Mar Guest Speaker – War of Attrition veteran

19 Mar NO CLASS

22 Mar Discussion about Wednesday’s speaker and Late Summer Blues

22 Mar Assignment #6 DUE – quoting from an oral history source

Israeli Revisionism


24 Mar  Assignment #7 Due – Notetaking: Comparing different versions of an event

Book Reviews
26 Mar  Writer’s Manual, chapter 9, pp. 154-164

Multiple book reviews posted by Oren at http://www.shalem.org.il/oren/reviews.htm


Avi Shlaim, “The albatross of Victory” The Guardian International June 8, 2002 at http://books.guardian.co.uk/reviews/history/0,6121,729102,00.html

29 Mar  Norman. G. Finkelstein, “Abba Eban with Footnotes,” Journal for Palestine Studies, XXXII, no. 3 (Spring 2003) pp. 74-89 posted

Oren, “A Conversation with Michael B. Oren”

Conspiracy Theories and other interpretations of the War


How political scientists do history
Mapwork

Israel – 1967 War maps
http://www.us-israel.org/jsource/History/67warmaptoc.html


Relevant maps from Arab Gateway and UN, on course webpage:
http://www.andrew.cmu.edu/user/sc24/1967war.html

Literature

About A.B. Yehoshua:
http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/biography/yehoshua.html

Poetry
   Haim Hefer, “Parade of the Fallen” and “The Paratroopers are Weeping”
   Eli Alon, “If There is a God”
   Zelda, “How Much a Word Could Help”
   Yonathan Gefen, “Setting Up Camp”
   Meir Wieseltier, “Military Call-Up” all posted


About Yehuda Amichai:
http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/biography/amichai.html
Music

14 Apr

Jerusalem of Gold [Yerushalayim shel zahav]
Read all about Jerusalem of Gold (Yerushalayim Shel Zahav), especially “Career of a Song” and the translated lyrics at http://www.jerusalemofofgold.co.il/

To hear the first stanza and refrain of the song, click on the earphones at http://www.hebrewsongs.com/y.htm
An interview with Naomi Shemer:
http://www.jewishsf.com/bk000609/etgold.shtml

About Naomi Shemer:
http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/biography/shemer.html

Tomorrow [Machar]
Lyrics at http://www.hebrewsongs.com/song-machar.htm (English title should be “Tomorrow”)

Clip at
http://campuscgi.princeton.edu/~klez/zemerl/show.pl?title=Machar+(Tomorrow)

The [Wailing] Wall [Hakotel]
Lyrics at: http://www.hebrewsongs.com/song-hakotel.htm

To hear the refrain, click on the earphones at http://www.hebrewsongs.com/h.htm or listen to a clip at http://www.mostlymusic.com/albumdetails.asp?albumid=4001

(live picture of the Wall from the “Wallcam” at http://www.aish.com/wallcam/)

Nasser waits for Rabin posted

16 Apr

Spring Carnival – NO CLASS
Satire and Political Cartoons
19 Apr  E. Kishon and DOSH, So Sorry We Won (Tel Aviv: Ma’ariv, 1967)
Continued/


21 April  WEDNESDAY NIGHT MOVIE:  Avanti Popolo
http://www.sfjff.org/cgi-bin/sfjff_resource.pl?titleID=846

23 Apr  Discussion of Avanti Popolo as satire

After the 1967 War
26 Apr  Oren, Afterward

Shlomo Avineri, “Political Ideologies: From Consensus to Confrontation” in The Impact of the Six Day War, Stephen J. Roth, ed. (NY: St. Martin’s, 1988), pp. 197-208 posted

[FYI - Bickerton and Klausner, Chapters 8-12]

28 Apr  Organizing source material and writing for publication

30 Apr  Conclusion: contemporary implications of the 1967 War for Arabs and Israelis and the joys of being an historian with a great topic

Bickerton and Klausner, Conclusion, pp. 352-360.

TBA  FINAL PAPER DUE
## 79-200 Assignment Schedule

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<th>Subject</th>
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<td>30 January</td>
<td>Identifying topics and sources for further research</td>
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<tr>
<td>#2</td>
<td>23 February</td>
<td>Documentaries as source material</td>
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<tr>
<td>#3</td>
<td>25 February</td>
<td>Preparing Research Questions</td>
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<td>#4</td>
<td>3 March</td>
<td>Using oral history in an essay</td>
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<td>#5</td>
<td>15 March</td>
<td>Research Project Proposal exercise</td>
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<td>22 March</td>
<td>Quoting in an oral history essay</td>
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<td>24 March</td>
<td>Notetaking: comparing different versions</td>
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