Course Description

No movement in modern Jewish history has had a greater impact on Jewish life than Zionism. Bringing millions of Jews together in a new state, the movement has radically altered the way Jews view themselves and the nature of their internal relations as well as their interaction with the surrounding society. This course will examine the origins of Zionism, the ideological alternatives to the movement, the influence of other ideologies and cultural settings on Zionist ideology, and its critiques.

Course Requirements

1. Full attendance in class, current preparation of class readings and participation in class discussion (10% of the final grade)
2. Midterm Paper -- designed to draw on the readings and class discussions – (30% of final grade).
3. A Take-Home Final Exam: The final will be in the form of an essay question that will encompass all the readings done during the term and will integrate issues raised in class discussions (60% of the final grade)

Key Books Used in the Syllabus

Walter Laqueur, A History of Zionism (New York, 1972)
Gideon Shimoni, The Zionist Ideology (Hanover, 1995)

Course Outline

1. Introduction: Zionism in the Context of Modern European Jewish History
   Readings:
   Laqueur, pp. 3-39.

   Suggested:
   Hertzberg, pp.14-100.
   Avineri, pp. 3-13; 217-227.

2. The Forerunners of Zionism: Alkalai, Kalischer, Hess
   Readings:
   Shimoni, pp. 52-82
   Hertzberg, pp. 103-139 (Alkalai, Kalischer, Hess)

   Suggested:
3. The East European Crisis of Enlightenment; Pinsker and Hibat Zion; Moshe Lilienblum and Peretz Smolenskin.
Readings:
Hertzberg, pp. 143-198 (Smolenskin, Ben-Yehoudah, Lilienblum, Pinsker)
Laqueur, pp. 56-83.
Suggested:
Avineri, pp. 56-87

Readings:
Shimoni, pp. 85-103
Hertzberg, pp. 204-245 (Herzl, Nordau)
Suggested:
Laqueur, pp. 84-135.
Amos Elon, Herzl (New York, 1975)
Avineri, 88-111.

5. Ahad Ha-Am and the Cultural Question
Readings:
Avineri, 112-124.
Hertzberg, pp. 249-277 (Ahad Ha-Am)
Suggested:
Shimoni, pp. 104-112, 269-278.
Laqueur, pp. 136-269.

6. The Religious Critique and The Evolution of Religious Zionism
Readings:
Shimoni, pp. 127-165
Hertzberg, pp. 417-431 (Kook)
Suggested:
Aviezer Ravitzky, Messianism, Zionism, and Jewish Religious Radicalism (Chicago, 1996), 10-78.

7. Socialism and Zionism: The Socialist Critique and the Labor Movement
Readings:
Shimoni, pp. 166-235.
Hertzberg, pp. 353-366 (Borochov), 372-374, 379-383 (Gordon)
Suggested:
Laqueur, pp. 270-288; 416-437

8. **Revisionist Zionism and its Clash with Labor**
   
   **Readings:**
   Shimoni, pp. 236-266.
   Hertzberg, 556-570 (Jabotinsky)
   Laqueur, pp. 338-383.

   **Suggested:**
   Avineri 159-186

9. **Weizman and the British Mandate:**
   
   **Readings:**
   Hertzberg, pp. 573-588 (Weizmann).
   Laqueur, pp. 441-504.

   **Suggested:**

10. **American Zionism**
    
    **Readings:**
    Hertzberg, pp. 503-523 (Schechter and Brandeis).

    **Suggested:**

11. **Brit Shalom and Bi-nationalism**
    
    **Readings:**
    Herzberg, pp. 440-465 (Magnes and Buber)

12. **The "New Hebrews" and the "Canaanite" alternative to Zionism**
    
    **Readings:**
Suggested:


13. *Post Zionism and the Mizrahi Critique of Zionism*
Ilan Pappe, "Post-Zionist Critique on Israel and the Palestinians: Part I: The Academic Debate", *Journal of Palestine Studies*, pp. 29-41
Uri Ram, "The State of the Nation: Contemporary Challenges to Zionism in Israel", *Constellations*, 6 (3), pp. 325-338(14)

Suggested:


14. *Palestinian Critique of Zionism*