Syllabus for JUS 377 – Professor Shlomo Aronson

Lecture topics and reading assignments

Week between 8-21/8-25-06
Introduction, course methodology, terminology, requirements
Required readings ahead of the classes and during the week:

Week between 8-28/9-1-06
Comparative history of national movements and revolutions: The United States, India and Israel. Zionism as a renaissance movement in modern times.
Readings:
Avineri: pp. 88-112.

Week between 9-6/9-11-06
"So precious little time..." from the Balfour Declaration to Hitler's rise to power to the Arab-Revolt of 1937-1939, the British "White Paper" on Palestine of May 1939 and the Holocaust.
Readings:

Week between 9-13/9-18-06
The road to independence, Arab intervention, the creation of the Arab refugee problem, and the transformation of the Yishuv to a state.
Readings:
Sachar: 247-349.
Week between 9-20/9-25-06
The Israeli Social-Democracy in David Ben-Gurion's Era: Israel quadruples its population, and goes to war in 1956.
Readings:
Sachar: 354-510.

Week between 9-27/10-4-06 (no class on Yom Kippur, 10-2-06)
Years of growth and change, the crisis of the political system in the early 60s', the belated impact of the Holocaust, and the road to the Six Day War.
Readings:
Sachar: 515-611.

Week between 10-6/10-11-06
The Six Day War and its immediate results: the paradoxes of an "enlightened occupation" and the birth of the settlement movement. Failure of initial peace efforts.
Readings:
Sachar: 615-735.
Recommended: Shlomo Aronson: Conflict and Bargaining in the Middle East, Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore and London, 1978, pp. 82-134 (to be Xeroxed if necessary).

Week between 10-13/10-18-06
From the Yom Kippur War of 1973 to Peace with Egypt in 1979 – the first Begin government and its domestic significance.
Readings:
Week between 10-20/10-25-06
The Second Begin administration: Iraq's nuclear reactor, enhanced settlement effort, the war in Lebanon and its ramifications.
Readings:
Sachar: 861-930.

Week between 10-27/11-6/06
The twisted road to the Israeli-Palestinian peace accords of Oslo 1993 and its ensuing failure.
Readings:
Sachar: 934-1018.

Week between 11-8/11-15-06
Ditto

Week between 11-17/11-22-06
The rise of Islamic fundamentalism and its ramifications, the Iraq War and Ariel Sharon's Likud government.

Readings:
Lewis, Bernard, Semites and Anti-Semites, 236-259.

Week between 11-27/12-4-06
The realignment of the Israeli political map: the disengagement from Gaza in 2005 and its domestic ramifications to the 2006 general elections.

Readings:

Last meeting on 12-6-06 – summing up.

Readings:

Final Exam: 12-15-06