Course Objectives
This course traces the history of the Arab-Israeli conflict from the rise of Zionism, through the various Arab-Israel wars, and up to the recent peace negotiations. Emphasis is on presenting the perspectives of all the parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict, and placing it in the context of the history of the Middle East as a whole.

Assessments
Student mastery of the learning outcomes will be assessed through class discussion, final exam, class presentation on an article from the required bibliography, and a five-page book review.

Grading
- Five-page book review, which has to complete by week seven (20%)
- Presentation on an article from the required bibliography (20%)
- Take Home Final Exam (50%)
- Attendance and participation (10%)

Bibliography

Course Topics and Readings

Week 1 (Janu.12-14) – Israel in the Middle East: A Conflict Within

Benny Morris, Righteous Victims, Chapter 1.

Ian Lustick, "To Build and to be Built By: Israel and the Hidden Logic of the Iron Wall", Israel Studies, 1, 1 (1996), 196-223.


Week 2 (Janu.21) – Nationalism: From the Ottoman Empire to the British Mandate

Benny Morris, Righteous Victims, Chapters 2 and 3.


Week 3 (Janu.26-28) – The Creation of a War Generation

Benny Morris, Righteous Victims, Chapter 4.


Documentary Film: Children of the Sun, director: Ran Tal, Israel 2008

Week 4 (Febr.2-4) – Catastrophe and Independence: The 1948 War

Benny Morris, Righteous Victims, pp.184-258


Week 5(Febr.9-11)– Super Powers, Internal Politics and the Road to War (1949-1956)

Avi Shlaim, The Iron wall, Chapters 2, 3, 4.

Benny Morris, Righteous Victims, Chapter 6.


Week 6 (Febr.16-18) – The Struggle for Hegemony in the Middle East (1956-1967)

Benny Morris, Righteous Victims, Chapter 7.

Avi Shlaim, The Iron Wall, Chapters 5-6.


Shlomo Aronson, "Israel's Nuclear Programme, the Six day War and its Ramifications", Israel Affairs, 6, 3/4 (2000), 83-95.

Week 7 (March.2-4) – The Cold War and the Arab-Israeli Conflict

Benny Morris, Righteous Victims, Chapter 8.


Week 8 (March 9-11) – Israel and Egypt; From War to Peace

Benny Morris, Righteous Victims, Chapters 9-10.


Yoram Meital, "Drums of War and Bells of Peace: Egypt's Perspective on the 1973 War", From War to Peace: Arab-Israeli Relations, 55-60


Week 9 (March 16-18) – Images of a Conflict

Books Review Presentations

Week 10 (March 30-Apr. 1) – Israel and the Palestinians: Between Jerusalem and Beirut

Benny Morris, Righteous Victims, Chapter 11.
Avi Shlaim, *The Iron Wall*, Chapter 10


Avraham Sela and Moshe Ma'oz, "The PLO in Regional Arab Politics: Taming a Non-State Actor*, *The PLO and Israel*, 97-120.

Week 11 (Apr.6-13) – Islamic Fundamentalism and the Conflict


David Menashri, "Iran, Israel and the Middle East Conflict", *Israel Affairs*, 12, 1 (2006), 107-122.

Week 12 (Apr.15) – Jewish Radicalism and the Peace Process


Week 13 (Apr.20-22) – From the Second Intifada to the Second War in Lebanon

Benny Morris, Righteous Victims, Chapter 14.

Avi Shlaim, The Iron Wall, Chapter 15.

Eyal Zisser, "Hizballah and Israel: Strategic Threat on the Northern Border" Israel Affairs, 12, 1 (2006), 86-106.


Week 14 (Apr.28) – Conclusion