

LEGISLATION AND POLITICS IN ISRAEL

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Brooklyn College, 2014

Course Objectives:

1. Study the Essence and the Importance of Legislation
2. Learn the Politics, Strategic and tactics in Legislation
3. Follow Legislation closely by taking part in a Simulation of Legislation

Course requirements:

1. Active participation in classroom discussions - 10%
2. Present a Law Proposal (an Article) - 20%
3. Final paper about one of the topics of the Course - 70%

Basic Reading:

Maor A., (2011). **Legislation and Politics** - The Success of Private Legislation in Israel - LAP-Lambert Academic Publishing AG & CO.KG, Germany

Part 1: The Essence and the Importance of Legislation

Week 1. Why It's so Important? -The Law as a basic stone in the democratic system.

1.b - The Israeli Politics System – The National Government Institutions

Week 2: The Development of the Vision and the legal Situation in Israel: The Declaration of Independence;

2.b The Lack of Constitution in Israel.

Week 3: Who is the Legislative Initiative-The government? The private Parliament member? - The private Parliament member as an Legislative Initiator

3.b How Comes the Ideas ? - The Origins of the Parliamentary Bills

Week 4: What is the spirit of the bills? - The Values Dimension of the laws

4.b The Basic laws in Israel

Part 2: Politics, Strategic and tactics in Legislation

Week 5: How does a bill Pass? - The procedure of the Privat Legislation

5.b. How to build networks? – The Networking of the Political Actors in the Legislation Act

Week 6: How to Succeed? -The Strategies of the MP vs. Government

6.b. How to Build the Power? - MPs and the Advocacy Coalitions

Week 7. How to win? - MPs winning Strategies with their colleges

7.b. How to Influence? - The Rhetoric strategy

Part 3 : The Contest of Legislation

Week 8: legislation and Gender

Week 9: Religious and Secular Legislation

Sum: Simulation of Legislation

Week 10: To Prepare and to present a new bill, to put on the table of the Representative house

Bibliography

Week 1: The Law as a basic stone in the democrat system and the importance of the Parliaments.

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1.b - The Israeli Politics System – The National Government Institutions

- Arian, Asher (1998). **The Second Republic Politics in Israel**, Chatham, New Jersey: Chatham House Publishers.
- Garfinkle, Adam (2000). **Politics and Society in Modern Israel**, Armonk, New York: Sharpe
- Nachmias, David (2009). [National Government Institutions](#), in: Mitchell G. Bard and David Nachmias, (Eds.). **Israel Studies: An Anthology , Jewish Virtual Library**.
- Nachmias, David and Arbel-Ganz Ori (2003). “The crisis of Governance: Government Service” in: Cohen-Almagor, R., **Israeli democracy at the Crossroad** ,London: Frank-Cass.
- Shultziner, Doron (2009). [Human Rights and the Supreme Court in Israel](#), in: Mitchell G. Bard and David Nachmias (Eds.), **Israel Studies: An Anthology**, Jewish Virtual Library.

Week 2: The Development of the Vision and the legal System in Israel: The Declaration of Independence; The Lack of Constitution.

- Barak, Aharon (2009). “[The Values of the State of Israel as a Jewish and Democratic State](#)”, in: Mitchell G. Bard and David Nachmias (Eds.), **Israel Studies: An Anthology**, Jewish Virtual Library.
- Fishkin, James S. (2009). **When the People Speak: Deliberative Democracy and Public Consultation**, New York: Oxford University Press.
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Week 3: The private Parliament member as a Legislative Initiator

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Week 4: The Basic laws in Israel

- Rubenstien, Amnon (2009). “Israel's Partial Constitution: The Basic Laws”, in: Mitchell G. Bard and David Nachmias (Eds.), **Israel Studies: An Anthology**, Jewish Virtual Library.

- Chazan Naomi (2005). “The Knesset”, **Israel Affairs**, Vol. 11, No. 2, April, pp. 392-416.

Week 5: Legislation in Israel: The Procedure

-Akirav O., Cox W. G., and McCubbins D.M. (2010). "Agenda Control in the Israeli Knesset during Ariel Sharon's Second Government", **UK Journal of Legislative Studies**, Vol.16 No.2.

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-Maor, Anat (2008). "The Dramatic Growth of Private Legislation in Israel 1992-2003", **Israel Study Forum**, 23, pp. 84-103.

Week 6: Negotiation and Strategy in Legislation

-Doron, Gideon and Sened, Itai (2001). **Political Bargaining: Theory, Practice and Process**, Sage Publications, London.

-Fenno, R. F. 1966, *The Power of the Purse: Appropriations Politics in Congress*, Boston: Little, Brown and Company.

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6.b. The Advocacy Coalitions and the interests groups

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Week 7. MPs winning Strategies with their colleges

- [Boissevain, Jeremy](#) (1974). **Friends of Friends : Networks, Manipulators and Coalitions**, Oxford : B. Blackwell.
- Brams Steven. J. and Alan Taylor. (1996). **Fair Division**, New York: Cambridge University Press.
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Week 8: Women in Israel and the legislation to advance and protect women

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Week 9: Legislation and Relations between Religious and Secular in Israel

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Methodology Recourses

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