Origins of the State of Israel

JWST 481.01
HISM 698-02
Seminar: Spring 2009
(T 4-6:30)

Instructor: Dr. Moshe Naor
Office Hours: Thursday, 2-4, Alcee Fortier Hall 202
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Course Description
The seminar will examine the social, economic and political development of the Jewish community in Palestine (The Yishuv) from the beginnings of the Zionist movement in the early 1880s until the establishment of the state of Israel in 1948. The course will discuss the history of the Yishuv as a process of nation building. We will focus on political organization, immigration, urbanization, security and military affairs, the struggle for economic autonomy, education, culture, and leisure. We will also examine the relationship of the Yishuv with the Palestinian Arabs, the British mandatory government, and the Jewish World.

Grading
- Five-page book review, which has to complete by week seven (20%)
- Oral presentation on an article from the required bibliography (15%)
- Final Paper (50%)
- Attendance and participation (15%)
Course Topics and Readings

Week 1 (Jan.13)

Zionism and Historiography


Week 2 (Jan.20)

Immigrants and the Creation of the "New Yishuv"


Arieh Saposnik, "Will Issue Forth from Zion”? The Emergence of a Jewish National Culture in Palestine and the Dynamics of Yishuv-Diaspora Relations", *Jewish Social Studies*, 10/1 (2003), 151-184.

Week 3 (Jan.27)

Pioneers and the Conquest of land and Labor

Gur Alroey, "Journey to Early-Twentieth-Century Palestine as a Jewish Immigrant Experience", *Jewish Social Studies*, 9(2003), pp.28-64.


Week 4 (Feb.3)
Political Communities under British Mandate


Week 5 (Feb.10)
Jewish-Arab Relations in Mandatory Palestine


Week 6 (Feb.17)
Between the Iron Wall to the Binational State


Week 7 (March.3)

The Labor movement way for Hegemony


Week 8 (March.10)

The New Jew: Culture, Education and Nation Building


Week 9 (March, 17)

Books Review Presentations

Week 10 (March.31)

Zionism and the use of force


Week 11 (April 14)
Documentary Film: *Children of the Sun*, director: Ran Tal, Israel 2008

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Week 12 (April 21)

The Yishuv and the Holocaust


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Week 13 (April 28)
The End of the British Mandate and the transition from Community to State

