Prof. H. Lavsky

**History of the Yishuv and Israel, 1917-1948**

191L (section 2) Undergraduate seminar
Spring 2008, Monday 2:00-4:50 p.m.

**Office hours:**
Monday: 11.00a.m-1.00 p.m.
Wednesday: 12.00-1.00 p.m.

The seminar deals with the developing and shaping the Jewish national Home until the foundation of the State of Israel. We will delve into major issues of immigration and settlement from political, social, economic, and cultural perspectives, considering external factors, such as the British Mandate, the Arab-Jewish conflict, and the Yishuv-Diaspora relations. The seminar will be based on intensive individual readings of the students, and each session will be opened by students’ presentations. Each student will have to submit by the end of the quarter a seminar paper of about 10-15 pages, which will be worked out under the guidance of the teacher.

**Syllabus**

1. **March 31, 08**
   **The changing status of Palestine post World War One**
   **Readings:**
   - Sachar, Howard Morley. *History of Israel: from the rise of Zionism to our time*.

2. **April 7, 08**
   **Immigration and settlement – major trends during the 1920s**
   **Readings:**
   - Helman, Anat. “East or West? Tel Aviv in the 1920s and 1930s.

3. **April 14, 08**
   **Political structuring – Left and Right**
   **Readings:**
   - Sachar, History of Israel, pp. 69-88
   - Shimoni, Gideon. *The Zionist Ideology*, Chap. 5, 166-205; Chap. 6, 236-266.
   - Tzahor Ze’ev. "The Histadrut: from marginal organization to 'stat-in-the-making'.
April 21, 08 Passover holiday

4. April 28, 08 Library instruction
Immigration and settlement during the 1930s: changing trends
Readings:
- Gelber, Yoav. "The historical role of the Central European immigration to Israel".
- Reichman. "The absorptive Capacity of Palestine, 1882-1948".
- Sachar, Howard Morley. *History of Israel: from the rise of Zionism to our time*, pp. 144-162 + 188-194

5. May 5, 08
The Arab-Jewish conflict and its implications, 1921-1936
Readings:
- Sela, Avraham. "The 'Wailing Wall' riots (1929) as a watershed in the Palestine Conflict”.
- Sachar, Howard Morley. History of Israel, pp. 163-187 (chap. 8)
- Shavit, Yaakov. "Revisionism’s view of the Arab National Movement”.

6. May 12, 08
The Arab revolt and the partition plan – a turning point
Readings:
- Sachar, History of Israel, pp. 195-226 (chap. 9)

7. May 19, 08
The Yishuv as a "state in the making": Political, Social, cultural, and economic aspects.
Readings:
- Bartal, Israel. "Yishuv and Diaspora in changing perspectives".
- Gelber, Yoav. "The Shaping of the New Jew in Eretz Israel
May 26, 08 Memorial Day

8. June 2, 08
The End of the British Mandate and the Foundation of Israel
Readings

- Cohen, Michael J. "Truman, the Holocaust and the Establishment of the State of Israel.
- Cohen, M. J. "The Zionist Perspective".
- Heller, The Birth of Israel, pp. 113-148 (chap. 4) + 280-293 (conclusion)
- Ilan, Amitzur, "Withdrawal without recommendations: Britain’s decision to relinquish Palestine Mandate, 1947".
- Weitz, Yechiam. "Jewish refugees and Zionist policy during the Holocaust".