The 1948 war created a unique situation: A Palestinian-Arab minority amidst the Jewish state of Israel. Thus, Israel was established as a Jewish state but not exclusively so. The Palestinian Arabs who became Israeli citizens remained nationally and religiously bound to the outside Arab world. This necessarily resulted in a sharp crisis of loyalties, the Arab community being torn between its Israeli citizenship and its Arab national identity.

Today the Arab minority constitutes nearly 20 percent of Israel’s population. It has undergone intensive processes of change, generally referred to as: Israelization, Palestinization and Islamization.

The seminar will focus on minority-majority relations in Israel, with special emphasis on three areas: first, the effect of modernization on the more traditional Arab society; second, the dilemma of national identity (the interrelation between the Israeli, Arab, Palestinian and Muslim/Christian components, the impact of the PLO and Hamas), political participation (Knesset) and the struggle of the Arab minority for equality, and third, the developments following the Oslo Accords, the establishment of the Palestinian Authority and the Intifada (the October 2000 Uprising; the discourse over the “Jewish and Democratic” nature of Israel; the search for alternative models – “State of its Citizens”, separatism, autonomy).

A. Method

The course is organized as a seminar and requires students’ participation in class, discussions on the topic of the lesson and the assigned reading. Meetings will consist of introduction by lecturer; analysis of a text relevant to the issue discussed; and presentations by students.

C. Course objectives

- To encourage critical, synthesized and analytical thinking;
- To expose students to the historiographical notion of “multiple narratives”;
- To explore the complexity underlying ethnic relations in multicultural societies;
- To study the particular features of majority-minority, Jewish-Arab relations in Israel: historical background; the national identity problem; socio-economic discrepancies; government policies;
- To examine the integration of the Arab minority into the Israeli political system;
- To survey the ascendance of national and religious forces such as the Islamic Movement;
- To discuss the sustainability of the present-day paradigm of majority – minority relations in Israel and potential models for the future.
D. Requirements

1. Required Readings

There are no required textbooks; however, selected readings are collected in a two-volume course pack. The articles marked for each class are the readings that should be completed before attending the class.

This course has a considerable reading load. Many of the readings, however, are very detailed, and you do not need to know all the facts and figures, but should focus on key themes, events, and concepts (S.A. Kirchner).

Please note that there are optional additional readings listed in the reading for several of the lessons.

For a list of suggested additional readings, see “General Bibliography” on page 12.

2. Attendance

Class attendance is mandatory. A sign-in attendance sheet will be passed around regularly. You should provide appropriate documentation if you unexpectedly must miss class (e.g. a doctor’s note). More than three unexcused absences will lower your grade by one letter grade. More than 7 unjustified absences will result in failure.

3. Assignments

a. 392 Students

- 10-15 minute class presentations. Topics will be assigned during the first two lessons.

- Midterm Take Home Exam – 2-4 pages, essay questions.
  Distributed: 23 October 2012
  Due: 30 October 2012

- Final Paper - An 8 page historiographical essay, topics will be distributed.
  Distributed: 29 November 2012
  Due: 11 December 2012

b. 395 Students

- 10-15 minute class presentations. Topics will be assigned during the first two lessons
• Seminar Paper – A 15-20 page original, independently-researched paper, relating to the topic of the course. Students are expected to begin working on the paper as of lesson 3, when a list of topics and detailed instructions will be distributed.

Due: **11 December 2012**

c. Prof. Rekhess will be available for on-going consultations.

**E. Evaluation and Grading**

The final grade will be calculated as follows:

**392 Students**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance and participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oral presentation</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Paper</td>
<td>45%</td>
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**395 Students**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance and participation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oral presentation</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seminar paper</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
F. Syllabus

Lesson 1: Thursday, 27 September, 2012

Introduction and Methodological Outline

- Readings

Lesson 2: Tuesday, 2 October, 2012

Statistical and Demographic Background

Statistical and demographic data on the Arab minority in Israel; geographical distribution and religious structure.

- **NOTE: Please bring Course Pack, Vol. 1, to class.
- Readings

Lesson 3: Thursday, 4 October, 2012

National Minorities and Majority - Minority Modalities

Theoretical and comparative aspects of ethnicity; models of minority-majority relations: nation-state, consociational democracy, segregation.

- Readings
Lesson 4: Tuesday, 9 October 2012

1948 and the Formulation of Israeli Policy — Security Consideration

Historical background; the formulation of government policy: the integrationist approach vs. the security-oriented consideration; land expropriation; the installment of military government.

• Readings
  o State of Israel Proclamation of Independence.

Lesson 5: Thursday, 11 October, 2012


The legal status; socioeconomic integration; evolvement of an educational system; the process of “Israelization.”

• Readings

Lesson 6: Tuesday, 16 October, 2012


The interrelationship between four circles of national-religious belonging: Israeli, Arab, Palestinian, Muslim/Christian; Jewish nationality vs. Israeli citizenship; the Arab nationalist component in the 1950’s and the 1960’s.
• Readings

• Additional/Optional Readings (found in Course Pack)

**Lesson 7: Thursday, 18 October, 2012**

**The Impact of the Six-Day War – “Palestinization”**

The impact of the Six-Day War, the elimination of the Green Line, and the reunification of the West Bank/Gaza on the Israeli Arabs; the strengthening of the national Palestinian component.

• Readings

Additional/Optional Readings (found in the Course Pack)
Lesson 8: Tuesday, 23 October, 2012

Political Activism in the 1970s

Changing national agenda; identification with the PLO; the formation of a new political-national platform; shifting patterns of public protest; the events of the first Land Day, 1967.

- **Readings**
  - Reiter, pp. 34-68.


Political Parties

Pro-Zionist parties; the “Arab Satellite Lists”; Arab-Jewish parties (Rakah); the Arab nationalist parties; exclusion from government coalition.

- **Readings**

Lesson 10: Tuesday, 30 October, 2012

Voting Patterns and Knesset Participation

Turnout and participation; boycott of elections; election results; voting patterns.

- **Readings**
  - Reiter, pp. 175-198.
• Additional/Optional Readings (found in Course Pack)
  o Arab Politics in Israel and the 18th Knesset Elections, no. 1. Tel Aviv: Tel Aviv University, The Konrad Adenauer Program for Jewish-Arab Cooperation, 9 February 2009.

Lesson 11: Thursday, 1 November, 2012

Municipal Councils and Local Politics

Characteristics of municipal politics; differences between municipal elections and Knesset elections; the role of the clan and traditional/tribal frameworks; the modernizing process of local politics.

• Readings

Lesson 12: Tuesday, 6 November, 2012

Government Policy after 1967

The impact of the abolition of the military government; the role of the Advisor on Arab Affairs; attitudes of Jewish political parties towards required policy and government guidelines.

• Readings
  o Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs, “Arab Israelis”, pp.1-5. August 2001
Lesson 13: Thursday, 8 November, 2012

Socioeconomic Gaps

- **Readings**

Lesson 14: Tuesday, 13 November, 2012

The Islamic Movement in Israel

The roots of Islamic revival within the Muslim community in Israel; community-oriented activity; the religious foundations (Muslim brotherhood); political attitudes towards the State, Hamas, PLO.

- **Readings**

- **Additional/Optional Readings (found in Course Pack)**
Lesson 15: Thursday, 15 November, 2012

The Impact of the Oslo Accords (1993)

The effect of the Oslo Accords; the sharpening of the national identity crisis; reconceptualization of status as national minority; demand for collective rights; the “reopening of the 1948 files.”

- **Readings**

- **Additional/Optional Readings (found in Course Pack)**

Lesson 16: Tuesday, 20 November 2012

“Jewish and Democratic” – Inherently Incompatible?

Debating the nature of Israel as a Jewish and Democratic state; alternative models to Israel as “a state of all its citizens”; demand for autonomous status for the Arab minority in Israel.

- **Readings**

- **Additional/Optional Readings (found in Course Pack)**
Lesson 17: Tuesday, 27 November 2012

The October 2000 Events

Background to the eruption of riots; socioeconomic constraints; national upsurge; the role of leadership; the Or Inquiry Commission and its recommendations.

- **Readings**
  - Reiter, 199-228.

Lesson 18: Thursday, 29 November 2012

The Future Vision Documents

The four “Future Vision Documents” (the National Committee for the Heads of the Arab Local Authorities in Israel, Adalah, Mossawa, Mada al-Carmel); analysis of four position papers concerning the civic and national status of the Arabs in Israel were published between December 2006 and May 2007; contents and impact; response of Jewish public.

- **Readings**

- **Documents**
G. Additional Bibliography


