

**“History of Modern Israel” [HIST190-004/JS190-000/MESAS190-000]
Spring 2016, Mondays 2:00-4:30pm; Ignatius Few 129**

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Content: This undergraduate freshmen seminar will review the history of modern Israel from the biblical formation of Jewish identity to the present. Four periods of study will be addressed: historical and ideological foundations to 1917 (state-seeking); autonomous geo-political and institutional development to 1949 (state-making); the problems and successes of sovereignty to 1979 (state-keeping); and the quest for identity and normalization to the present (state-growth). Issues to be discussed will include the social and administrative structure of Ottoman Palestine that allowed Zionism to evolve, World War I diplomacy, the process of linking people to land, British rule in Palestine, Arab opposition to Zionism and Israel, Zionist and Israeli relationships with the Great Powers, developing a Jewish and democratic state, an economy, a political system, religion and state issues, Israeli-Arab wars, Arab-Israeli negotiations, Israel and international relations (Africa, Cold War, inter-Arab politics), and the U.S.-Israeli relationship.

Required and Suggested Texts:

- Dowty, Alan. *The Jewish State A Century Later*, University of California Press, 2001 (paperback), ISBN: 0520229118. (*required*)
- Hertzberg, Arthur. *The Zionist Idea*, Philadelphia, Jewish Publication Society, 1997.
- Mahler, Gregory. *Politics and Government in Israel The Maturation of a Modern State*, Rowman and Littlefield, 2004 (paperback), ISBN: 0742516113. (*required*)
- Rivlin, Paul. *The Israeli Economy from the Foundation of the State through the 21st Century*, Cambridge University Press, 2010 (paperback), ISBN: 0521150205. (*required*)
- Stein, Kenneth W. *Heroic Diplomacy: Sadat, Kissinger, Carter, Begin, and the Quest for Arab-Israeli Peace*, Routledge, 1999 (paperback), ISBN: 0415921554. (*required*)

All reading assignments are required, unless otherwise noted as “suggested.” Readings and primary source material may be found on a special reserve list to be provided as the semester progresses

Particulars: There will be a mid-term examination and a final examination. Students will write a 10-page paper to satisfy the writing requirement. Papers are due **February 29, 2016** in class. Each student will choose a Zionist/Israeli leader as the topic of their paper. Discussion of the paper topic, its contents, and final decision about the leader chosen will take place in class on January 25. Common criteria for all students in evaluating the leader and leadership of the paper’s focus will also take place in class that day.

The mid-term and paper will each count 25% of the grade, in-class participation 10%, and the final 40%. Several films and guest speakers will be part of the learning process in the course. The first examination will

cover the period up to Israel's establishment in 1948; the final examination will focus primarily on the period from 1948 to the present. The mid-term examination will be held in class on **March 21, 2016**. You will have the entire class period to write both your mid-term and final examinations.

The final examination will be May 3, 2016 at 2pm. **No makeup examinations will be given for the mid-term or final.** For the mid-term and final examinations, please bring two (2) large blue books to class; please do not write in or on the blue books before the examination. If you would like your final examination paper returned to you by mail, please provide me with a self-addressed envelope with sufficient postage. Otherwise, your final examinations will appear in a box outside my office door at 121 Bowden Hall until August 31, 2016, after which time they will be discarded.

Students are expected to do all the readings assigned. Most readings are required, there are others that are suggested for those who wish to read further or go deeper into a topic. If you wish more reading on a particular topic, please ask. Students should complete the readings for a particular week prior to meeting each Tuesday.

Each week, students are required to write and submit for collection, a two page summation of all the required readings for that week. In other words, for every assignment for the week coming, please write a paragraph or two about each article, with the total length for one week, never more than two type-written pages (12 font). Please extract the most important concepts from each reading. This exercise will allow you to organize your readings, keep you abreast of class topics, and provide you convenient study tools for both the mid-term and final examinations. Students are expected to attend every class. Missing class could generate a lower class grade.

CLASS ASSIGNMENTS:

January 18: No Class, MLK Day

January 25: Course orientation and syllabus distribution - Jewish history, peoplehood, and political culture "Origins of Zionism and its variations: Early Zionist philosophies; Why in the 18th and 19th century and not earlier and why in Ottoman Palestine to 1914." Questions to guide the first class session

What were the components of Jewish identity before the 19th century? What were the religious, historical, ideological, sociological, intellectual elements--?

What prompted the rise of Zionism, Jewish nationalism and what did it evolve in the 19th century and not earlier?

Who was Herzl and what transpired at the First Zionist Congress? Was he an innovator or merely a choreographer? What did he have to say in this pamphlet, The Jewish State?

Choose the Zionist leader for your short paper – see end of this syllabus.

Readings: Dowty, *The Jewish State*, pp. 1-60. (required); Mahler, pp. 117-183. (required)

Avineri, Shlomo. "Zionism as a National Liberation Movement," *Jerusalem Quarterly*, Winter 1979, pp. 133-144. (suggested)

Herztberg, *The Zionist Idea*, Introduction, pp.15-100. (required)

Katz, Jacob. "The Forerunners of Zionism," *Jerusalem Quarterly*, Vol. 7, Spring 1978, pp. 10-21. (suggested)

Landes, David S. "Palestine Before the Zionists," *Commentary*, February 1976, pp. 47-56. (suggested)

Jewish Encyclopedia, "Zionism" entry. (suggested) ismi.emory.edu/PrimarySource/Jewish%20Encyclopedia%20entry%20on%20Zionism,%201906.pdf

Cary Nelson, Rachel S. Harris, and Kenneth W. Stein, "The History of Israel," In Gary Nelson (ed.) *The Case Against Academic Boycotts of Israel*, Wayne State University Press, 2015, pp. 385-439. http://ismi.emory.edu/home/documents/A_Concise_History_of_Israel_2015.pdf (required)

February 1: 1914 -1939—I

"World War I Promises and the Making of the Mandate to 1939: the Unequal Dual Obligation"

Discussion and assignment of Zionism/Israeli leadership papers- no additional preparation is required.

Film: Herzl and Walls of Jerusalem

Readings:

Kedourie, Elie. "Sir Herbert Samuel and the Government of Palestine," *Middle East Studies*, 5, 1969, pp. 44-68. (suggested)

Kolatt, Israel. "The Organization of the Jewish Population of Palestine and the Development of its Political Consciousness before World War I," in Moshe Ma'oz (ed.) *Studies in Palestine During Pre-Ottoman Period*, Jerusalem: Magnes Press, 1975, pp. 211-245. (suggested)

Verete, Mayir. "The Balfour Declaration and Its Makers," *Middle Eastern Studies*, Vol. 4, 1970, pp. 48-76. (required)

Wasserstein, Bernard. "Clipping the Claws of the Colonizers," *Middle Eastern Studies*, Vol. 13, No. 2, May 1977, pp. 171-194. (suggested)

"The Zionist Movement." Israel Yearbook, 1950-51, Tel Aviv, 1952. (required) ismi.emory.edu/home/resources/primary-source-docs/Israelyearbook.pdf

February 8: 1914-1939—II

“The British Mandate, 1920-1939: Arab Society and the Zionist Community”

Readings: Rivlin, *The Israeli Economy*, pp. 1-33. (required)

Berkson, Isaac B. “Jewish Education in Palestine,” in Harry Vitteles and Khalil Totah (eds.) *The Annals of The American Academy of Political and Social Science*, 164, Philadelphia, November 1932, pp. 139-154. (suggested)

Divine, Donna Robinson. “Zionism and the Transformation of Jewish Society,” *Modern Judaism*, Vol. 20, 2000, pp. 257-276. (required)

Kolatt, Israel. “The Zionist Movement and the Arabs,” *Studies in Zionism*, No. 5, April 1982, pp. 129-157. (required)

Stein, Kenneth W. “Palestine's Rural Economy, 1917-1939,” *Studies in Zionism*, Vol. 8, No. 1, 1987, pp. 25-49. (required)

Document: HMG 1939 White Paper: Statement of Policy

<https://israeled.org/resources/documents/hmg-white-paper-statement-policy/>

Mufti Hajj Amin Al Husayni's Decision to Reject 1939 White Paper

<https://israeled.org/7534-2/>

February 15 - 1939-1949: The British, Arab and Zionist Triangle—I

Readings:

Cohen, Michael J. “Appeasement in the Middle East: The British White Paper on Palestine,” May 1939, *Historical Journal*, Vol. 16, September 1973, pp. 571-596. (suggested)

Cohen, Michael J. “The British White Paper on Palestine, May 1939, Part II: The Testing of a Policy, 1942-1945,” *The Historical Journal*, Vol. 19, No. 3, 1976, pp. 727-758. (suggested)

Cohen, Michael J. “Truman, the Holocaust and the Establishment of the State of Israel,” *The Jerusalem Quarterly*, No. 23, spring 1982, pp. 79-94. (required)

Khalaf, Issa. “The Effect of Socioeconomic Change on Arab Societal Collapse in Mandate Palestine,” *International Journal of Middle East Studies*, Vol. 29, No. 1, February 1997, pp. 93-112. (required)

Mintz, Matityahu. “Ben-Gurion and the Soviet Union's Involvement in the Effort to Establish Jewish State in Palestine,” *The Journal of Israeli History*, Vol. 26, No. 1, March 2000), pp. 67–78. (suggested)

Shapira, Anita. “Conclusion: The Birth of the State,” Land and Power: The Zionist Resort to Force 1881-1948, Oxford University Press, 1992, pp. 355-370. (required)

Document: Abdulrahman 'Azzam Pasha Rejects Any Compromise with Zionists, 1947, <https://israeled.org/abdulrahman-azzam-pasha-rejects-compromise-zionists/>

Document: UNGA (Partition) Resolution 181, <https://israeled.org/unga-resolution-181/>

Document: US Government's Future Position on Palestine, <https://israeled.org/resources/documents/us-governments-future-position-palestine/>

February 22: 1939-1949—I

"Reading and Writing History or Narratives - Israel's Independence War or the Arabs' "Nakbah;" How is 1948 remembered and used?"

Readings:

Karsh, Efraim. "Benny Morris' Reign of Error, Revisited," *The Middle East Quarterly*, Spring 2005, Vol. 12, No. 2, pp. 31-42.) <http://www.meforum.org/meq/issues/200503> (required)

Khalidi, Rashid. "The Palestinians and 1948: the Underlying Causes of Failure," in Eugene L. Rogan and Avi Shlaim (ed.) *The War for Palestine Rewriting the History of 1948*, Cambridge University Press, 2001, pp. 12-36. (required)

Morris, Benny. "Revisiting the Palestinian Exodus of 1948," in Eugene L. Rogan and Avi Shlaim (eds.) *The War for Palestine: Rewriting the History of 1948*, Cambridge University Press, 2001, pp. 37-59. (required)

Shapira, Anita. "History, Memory, and Identity," in Stuart A. Cohen and Milton Shain (eds.) *Israel Culture, Religion, and Society, 1948-1998*, Bar-Ilan University, 2000, pp. 6-22. (required)

Shlaim, Avi. "The Debate about 1948," *The International Journal of Middle East Studies*, Vol. 27, No. 3, 1995, pp. 287-304. (suggested)

Stein, Kenneth W. "One Hundred Years of Social Change: The Creation of the Palestinian Refugee Problem, in Laurence J. Silberstein (ed.) *New Perspectives on Israeli History*, New York, pp. 57-81. (required)

Teveth, Shabtai. "Charging Israel with Original Sin," *Commentary*, 88, September 1989, pp. 24-33. (required)

February 29: Israel and the Palestinian Issue in the Context of Israeli Foreign Policy to November 1967:

Readings: Mahler, pp. 237-267. (required)

Bar-Siman-Tov, Yaacov. "Ben-Gurion and Sharett: Conflict Management and Great Power Constraints in Israeli Foreign Policy," *Middle Eastern Studies*, 1988, Vol. 24, No. 3, pp. 330-356. (suggested)

Oren, Michael B. "Ambivalent Adversaries: David Ben-Gurion and Israel vs. the United Nations and Dag Hammarskjold, 1956-57," *Journal of Contemporary History*, Vol. 27, No. 1, 1992, pp. 89-127. (required)

March 7: No class, Spring break

March 14: The 1956 and 1967 Wars and the Associated Diplomacy with Each—How the June War and UNSC 242 Altered the Conflict

Film: Six Days in June <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y8jLKyHZTFM>

Readings: Stein, pp. 46-116 (required)

Israel Government Yearbook "The Six Day War," Prime Minister's Office, March 1968.
<http://ismi.emory.edu/home/resources/primary-source-docs/sixdaywar.pdf> (required)

March 21: Mid Term Examination

Bring two large unmarked blue books

March 28: Building the State: Political System, as Democracy, and Identity - I

Readings: Mahler, pp. 1-114 (required);

Dowty, *The Jewish State*, pp. 61-102 (required)

Herman, Tamar. The Israel Democracy Index 2015 Israel Democracy Institute, Jerusalem Israel, 2015 (How do Israelis view themselves in governance, social realm, status of Arab citizens, place internationally and in the Middle East) (required) http://en.idi.org.il/media/4256544/democracy_index_2015_eng.pdf

Rivlin, *The Israeli Economy*, pp. 34-68 and 118-142. (required)

Taub, Y.J. "Israel's Economy: The Challenge of Peace," *Jerusalem Quarterly*, Fall 1979, pp.18 - 32. (suggested)

April 4: Building the State: Economy, Society, Religion, and Ethnicity

Readings: Dowty, *The Jewish State*, pp. 61-215 (required);

Rivlin, *The Israeli Economy*, pp. 166-250. (required)

Avruch, Kevin. "The Emergence of Ethnicity in Israel," *American Ethnologist*, Vol. 14, No. 2, May 1987, pp. 327-339. (suggested)

Cohen, Asher and Bernard Susser. *Israel and the Politics of Jewish Identity: The Secular-Religion Impasse*, Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1998, Ch. 1. (suggested)

Don-Yehiya, Eliezer. "Religious Leaders in Political Arena: Case of Israel," *Middle Eastern Studies*, Vol. 20, No. 2, April 1984, pp. 154-171. (required)

Eisenstadt, S.N. "Change and Continuity in Israeli Society II. Dynamic Conservatism vs. Innovation," *The Jerusalem Quarterly*, No. 2, Winter 1977, pp. 3-11. (suggested)

Eisenstadt, S.N. "Israeli Society -- Major Features and Problems," *The Jerusalem Quarterly*, No. 1, Fall 1976, pp. 28-35. (required)

Peres, Yochanan. "Ethnic Relations in Israel," *American Journal of Sociology*, Vol. 76, No. 6, May 1971, pp. 1021-1047. (required)

Raday, Frances. "Women's Human Rights: Dichotomy between Religion and Secularism in Israel," *Israel Affairs*, 2005, Vol. 11, No. 1, pp. 78-94. (required)

Wurmser, Meyrav. "Post Zionism and the Sephardi Question," *The Middle East Quarterly*, Spring 2005, Vol. 12, No. 2, pp. 21-30. (required) <http://www.meforum.org/meg/issues/200503>

April 11: Foreign Policy, Defense, and the U.S-Israeli Relationship (Kennan, U.S. Bureaucrats and Israel)

Media: Address of Secretary of State Hilary Clinton at Saban Center for Middle Eastern Affairs, November 30, 2012. (required) <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rD5adBcsAEk>

Readings: Mahler, *Politics and Government in Israel*, pp. 207-236 (required);
Stein, *Heroic Diplomacy*, pp. 74-116 (required)

Brecher, Michael. "Jerusalem: Israel's Political Decisions, 1947-1977," *The Middle East Journal*, Vol. 32, No.1, Winter 1978, pp. 13-34. (suggested)

Little, Douglass. "Making of Special Relations: The United States and Israel, 1957-1968," *International Journal of Middle East Studies*, Vol. 25, No. 4, November 1993, pp. 563-585. (suggested)

Safran, Nadav. "America's Israel Connection," *Jerusalem Quarterly*, Summer 1977, pp. 3-30. (required)

Spiegel, Steve. "The American-Israeli Relationship: Past and Future," *Israeli Journal of Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 2, No. 3, 2008, pp.15-28. (required) http://israelcfr.com/documents/issue6_usil.pdf

Spiegel, Steve. "US-Israel Relations After the Gulf War," *Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs*, July 15, 1991. (suggested) <http://jcpa.org/jl/vp117.htm>

Stein, Kenneth W. "U.S.-Israeli Relations 1947-2010: The View from Washington" in Alfred Wittstock (ed.) *The World Facing Israel – Israel Facing the World Images and Politics*, Berlin: Frank and Timme, 2011, pp. 159-175. (required) <http://ismi.emory.edu/home/assets/documents/stein-publications/steinusisrael.pdf>

April 18: Israeli-Arab negotiations: 1967 – Present

Readings: Mahler, *Politics and Government in Israel*, pp. 237-301 (required)
Stein, *Heroic Diplomacy*, pp. 187-268 (required).

Dowty, *The Jewish State*, pp. 216-248. (required)

Stein, Kenneth W. and Samuel W. Lewis. *Making Peace Among Arab and Israelis: Lessons From Fifty Years of Negotiating Experience*, United States Institute of Peace: Washington, D.C., 1991. (suggested) http://www.usip.org/files/file/lewis_stein_monograph.pdf

Rivlin, *The Israeli Economy*, pp. 118-165. (required)

Susser, Asher. "The Two State Solution: Getting from Here to There," Foreign Policy Research Institute, October 2012, <http://www.fpri.org/articles/2012/10/two-state-solution-getting-here-there> (required)

April 25: Israel in the Middle East- Egypt, Iran and the Arab 'Spring'

Readings: Dowty, *The Jewish State*, pp. 249-255 (required)

Podeh, Elie. "Israel in the Middle East or Israel and the Middle East- a Reappraisal," Elie Podeh and Asher Kaufman (ed.) *Arab – Jewish Relations- From Conflict to Resolution*, Brighton: Sussex University Press, 2006, pp. 93- 113. (required)

Stein, Kenneth W. "Continuity and Change In Egyptian Israeli Relations, 1973-1997," *Israel Affairs*, Vol. 3, Nos. 3 & 4, Spring/Summer 1997, pp. 296-320. <http://ismi.emory.edu/home/documents/stein-publications/iasum97.pdf> (suggested)

Final Exam

129 Ignatius Few

Please bring two large unmarked blue books.

If you wish to receive your final examination mailed to you, please provide a large manila envelope, with five first class stamps affixed, and self-addressed.

Otherwise, final examinations will be in a box outside of my office until May 15, after which time they will be discarded.

Zionist/Israeli leaders:

Ahad Ha'am, Yigal Allon, Aharon Barak, Menachem Begin, David Ben-Gurion, Moshe Dayan, Abba Eban, Levi Eshkol, Theodor Herzl, Moses Hess, Vladamir Jabotinsky, Berl Katznelson, Abraham Issac Kook, Golda Meir, Benjamin Netanyahu, Max Nordau, Shimon Peres, Yitzhak Rabin, Moshe Sharett, Ariel Sharon, Abba Hillel Silver, Menachem Ussischkin, Chaim Weizmann, and Ezer Weizman