CPO 4401 Arab-Israeli Conflict

Fall 2013

Patricia J. Woods  
Office: 222 Anderson  
Office tel: 352-273-2370

Course Description

The Arab-Israeli Conflict is often seen as one of the 20th century’s most pressing international conflicts. As a conflict, it continues into the 21st century with no immediate indication of abating.

This course treats the Arab-Israeli Conflict as a conflict between peoples over political autonomy and sovereignty relating to a single, discrete geographical location.

This is a very hot topic, one on which many students have impassioned opinions. The course has to be a safe space for all students to learn. As such, the course will be focused entirely on textual analysis. We will analyze varying readings on the topic of the Arab-Israeli Conflict for argument, evidence, and the fit between argument and evidence. We will not debate personal opinions, or normative positions on current events. The readings will provide varying positions themselves, and students are not required to agree with the readings. They are, however, required to be able to explain the arguments and evidence in the readings on their own terms, analytically. In this way, students will build their analytical skills and at the same time maintain a positive classroom environment for everyone.

Grade Distribution  
10% Participation: presentations, debates, in-class assignments  
30% Abstracts (seven); possible pop quizzes  
30% Exam I  
30% Exam II

Explanation of Assignments  
Participation  
Your participation grade is based upon your active participation in class discussions; demonstration of having read the readings assigned for each day; and presentations to the class, which may be as individuals or study groups. Because you cannot participate if you are not in class, attendance is important. Each class missed over three absences will take 0.5 points off your final grade.

Abstracts  
Each student will submit seven typed, double-spaced abstracts of 5-7 sentences for seven readings of his or her choice. Abstracts are due on the day for which the reading is assigned and must be turned in at the beginning of class. Abstracts should explain, in the space allotted, the central
argument of the reading through three major pieces of evidence offered by the author. You can turn in one abstract per class session.

As the syllabus indicates, I reserve the possibility of giving you pop quizzes. If it is clear from discussions that the class is reading the assigned readings for each class, there will be no pop quizzes. If it is apparent to me that people are not reading, you will have up to ten pop quizzes. Quizzes may be in the form of identification, multiple-choice, short essays, or abstracts.

If the class is reading and participating well, there will be no pop quizzes.

Exams
There will be two exams in the course. Exams will have some combination of multiple-choice, true/false, identification, and take-home essays.

Policy on Late Assignments, Missed Pop Quizzes, Absences
General Policy: No late assignments will be accepted. Pop quizzes cannot be made up. Exams cannot be made up.

If you must miss class for a truly extraordinary reason, you must let me know in advance and I will let you know if it will be possible to arrange to make up for any lost work. In all cases, you should email me to let me know if you have to miss class for a truly extraordinary reason before you miss class. With approval, such absences will not count against your three allowed absences. However, I caution you to make sure not to abuse this policy; a flood of unwarranted absence excuses will hurt the class as a whole, as I may be forced to apply the general policy.

Texts:
A few articles will be available on e-reserves.

Reading Schedule.

I. (Week starting August 21, 2013)

Monday: Introductions

Friday: Charles Smith, “World War I, Great Britain, and the Peace Settlements”

II. (Week starting August 26th)

Monday: James Jankowski (in Khalidi, et. al, eds.), “Egypt and Early Arab Nationalism”

Wednesday: Sukru Hanioglu, “The Young Turks and the Arabs Before the Revolution of 1908” (in Khalidi, et. al, eds.)
Friday: Charles Smith, "Palestine Between the Wars: Zionism, the Palestinian Arabs, and the British Mandate"

III. (Week starting September 2nd)
Monday: NO CLASS, LABOR DAY

Wednesday: Mahmoud Haddad, "Iraq Before World War One: A Case of Anti-European Arab Ottomanism," and Charles Smith, "World War II and the Creation of the State of Israel"

Friday: Charles Smith, "The Beginning of the Arab-Israeli Conflict"

IV. (Week beginning September 9th)
Monday: Tom Segev, "The Green Line"

Wednesday: Tom Segev, "Face to Face"

Friday: Tom Segev, "Dividing the Spoils"

V. (Week beginning September 16th)
Monday: Reeva S. Simon, "The Education of an Iraqi Ottoman Officer" (in Khalidi, et. al, eds.)

Wednesday: Muhammad Muslih, "The Rise of Local Nationalism in the Arab East" (in Khalidi, et. al, eds.)

Friday: Mary C. Wilson, "The Hashemites, The Arab Revolt, and Arab Nationalism" (in Khalidi, et. al, eds.)

VI. (Week beginning September 23rd)
Monday: Tom Segev, "The First Million"

Wednesday: Tom Segev, "Working and Fighting Hands"

Friday: Tom Segev, "Nameless People"
VII. (Week beginning September 30th)

Monday: Charles Smith, “From Suez to the Six-Day War”

Wednesday: Tom Segev, “Each in the Name of His God”

Friday: EXAM I – FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4TH, 2013

VIII. (Week beginning October 7th)

Monday: Charles Smith, “War and the Search for Peace in the Middle East”

Wednesday: Tom Segev, “The Battle for the Sabbath”

Friday: Lisa Anderson, “The Development of Nationalist Sentiment in Lybia, 1908-1922” (in Khalidi, et. al, eds.)

IX. (Week beginning October 14th)

Monday: Charles Smith, “Lebanon, the West Bank, and the Camp David Accords”

Wednesday: Tom Segev, “The Quest for National Identity”

Friday: Beth Baron, “Mothers, Morality, and Natioanlism in pre-1919 Egypt”

X. (Week beginning October 21st)

Monday: Charles Smith, “From Pariah to Partner”

Wednesday: Sagi and Nachtomy, “Introduction” (in Sagi and Nachtomy, eds.)

Friday: Meirav Aharon, “We Pay Our Taxes and Serve in the Army” (in Sagi and Nachtomy, eds.)

XI. (Week beginning October 28th)

Monday: Charles Smith, “Israeli-Palestinian/Arab Negotiations and Agreements”

Wednesday: “Cultural and Normative Duality in Israel” (in Sagi and Nachtomy, eds.)
Friday: Avi Sagi, “Society and Law in Israel: Between a Rights Discourse and an Identity Discourse” (in Sagi and Nachtomy, eds.)

XII. (Week beginning November 4th)

Monday: Charles Smith, “Image vs. Reality”

Wednesday: Yaacov Yadgar, “Transcending the Secularization vs. Traditionalization Discourse: Jewish-Israeli Traditionists, the Post-Secular, and the Possibilities of Multiculturalism” (in Sagi and Nachtomy, eds.)

Friday: NO CLASS – HOMECOMING!

XIII. (Week beginning November 11th)

Monday: NO CLASS – VETERAN’S DAY

Wednesday: Rebecca Kook, “Dilemmas of Ethnic Minorities in Democracies” on e-reserves


XIV. (Week beginning November 18th)

Monday: Sarab Abu-Rabia Queder, “Permission to Rebel: Arab Bedouin Women’s Changing Negotiation of Social Roles” on e-reserves

Wednesday: Meital Pinto, “Who’s Afraid of Language Rights in Israel?”

Friday: Tamar Hostovsky Brandes, “The Voice of the People: Language and State in Israel”

XV. (Week beginning November 25th)

Monday: (1) Nabila Espanioly, “Palestinian Women in Israel: Identity in Light of the Occupation” on e-reserves; and (2) Shalva Weil, “Ethiopian Jewish Women: Trends and Transformations in the Context of Transnational Change” on e-reserves

Wednesday and Friday: NO CLASS – THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY
XVI. (Week beginning December 2nd)


Wednesday: Muhammad Amara, “The Hand in Hand Bilingual Educational Model” (in Sagi and Nachtomy, eds.)

EXAM II (FINAL EXAM) WILL BE IN OUR CLASSROOM DURING SCHEDULED EXAM TIME -- December 12th, 2013, 10 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.