

# **CPO 4401 Arab-Israeli Conflict**

**Fall 2013**

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## **Course Description**

The Arab-Israeli Conflict is often seen as one of the 20<sup>th</sup> century's most pressing international conflicts. As a conflict, it continues into the 21<sup>st</sup> 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:**

Tom Segev, *1949: The First Israelis*. Owl Books by Henry Holt and Co., 1998.

Rashid Khalidi, *The Origins of Arab Nationalism*. Columbia University Press, 1993.

Charles Smith, *Palestine and the Arab-Israeli Conflict*. Bedford/St. Martin's, 2009.

Sagi and Nachtomy, *The Multicultural Challenge in Israel*. Academic Studies Press, 2009.

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 26<sup>th</sup>)

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 2<sup>nd</sup>)

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 9<sup>th</sup>)

Monday: Tom Segev, "The Green Line"

Wednesday: Tom Segev, "Face to Face"

Friday: Tom Segev, "Dividing the Spoils"

V. (Week beginning September 16<sup>th</sup>)

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 23<sup>rd</sup>)

Monday: Tom Segev, "The First Million"

Wednesday: Tom Segev, "Working and Fighting Hands"

Friday: Tom Segev, "Nameless People"



VII. (Week beginning September 30<sup>th</sup>)

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 4<sup>TH</sup>, 2013*

VIII. (Week beginning October 7<sup>th</sup>)

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 14<sup>th</sup>)

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 21<sup>st</sup>)

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 28<sup>th</sup>)

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 4<sup>th</sup>)

Monday: Charles Smith, "Image vs. Reality"

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

Friday: NO CLASS – HOMECOMING!

XIII. (Week beginning November 11<sup>th</sup>)

Monday: NO CLASS – VETERAN'S DAY

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

Friday: Yoav Peled, "Ethnic Democracy and the Legal Construction of Citizenship: Arab Citizens in the Jewish State" on e-reserves

XIV. (Week beginning November 18<sup>th</sup>)

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 25<sup>th</sup>)

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)

Monday: Rashid Khalidi, "Ottomanism and Arabism in Syria before 1914" (in Khalidi, et. al, eds.)

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.***

