

MODERN ISRAEL
JUS, NES, HIST, POL 377
Fall 2015

Tuesdays, Thursdays

11:00 am-12:15 pm

Chavez 104

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Office: Marshall Building, Suite 420
Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:00-11:00 am.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course discusses the history and politics of Israel, starting from the origins of Jewish nationalism as expressed in the Zionist movement in the late 19th century until the present. It charts the evolution of the Jewish community in Palestine under the British Mandate and the beginnings of the conflict with the Arabs of Palestine, the outbreak of the first Arab-Israeli war in 1948 and its consequences. It then moves on to discuss the building of the independent state of Israel and the process of nation and state building in Israel, including the wars of 1967 and 1973 and their respective impacts on Israeli politics and society. The course will also discuss the evolution of Hebrew culture in Israel, the development of the Israeli economy and the place of the Arab minority in the Israeli state. The course will conclude with discussions on Israeli foreign policy, on Israel's relations with its Arab neighbors, on Israel's relations with the great powers, and on Israel's status among the nations as these have evolved since the establishment of the State in 1948 and until the present time.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:

Howard Sachar, *A History of Israel, From the Rise of Zionism to Our Time*, Third Edition, Revised and Updated (New York: Alfred Knopf, 2007).

Anita Shapira, *Israel: A History* (Waltham, MA: Brandeis University Press, 2012).

Benny Morris, *Righteous Victims: A History of the Zionist-Arab Conflict, 1881-2001* (New York: Vintage Books, 2001).

CLASS FORMAT

This course uses a lecture and discussion format. Learning as a dynamic process in which the student and teacher interact over the material under discussion. You will learn best by asking questions; all questions are welcome and, if they are of interest to the class as a whole, we will stop and discuss them together.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- 1. Required readings, attendance and class participation: 15%**
 You are expected to complete the assigned readings before each class. Those readings outside of the required textbooks will be placed on our class’s D2L site. In addition to completing the required readings prior to class, you are expected to come to class fully prepared to participate actively in class discussions.
- 2. Exams: 60%**
 - a. Mid-Term Exam (30%).** The mid-term exam will cover the readings, the lectures and class discussions covered until then.
 - b. Final Exam (30%).** The final exam will cover the readings, the lectures and class discussions covered from the mid-term to the end of the semester.
- 3. Term Paper (10-12 pages): 25%**
 A separate handout will provide guidelines for the paper.

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

Grades will be determined based on the following:

Readings, attendance and participation	15 pts.
Mid-term exam	30 pts.
Final exam.....	30 pts.
Term paper	25 pts.

These components combine for a course total of 100 points. All grades will be assigned as follows:

90% and above	A
80-89.99%	B
70-79.99%	C
60-69.99%	D
below 60%	E

The UA’s policy concerning Class Attendance and Administrative Drops is available at:
<http://catalog.arizona.edu/2015-16/policies/classatten.htm>.

The UA policy regarding absences on and accommodation of religious holidays is available at <http://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/policies-and-codes/accommodation-religious-observance-and-practice>.

Absences pre-approved by the UA Dean of Students (or Dean designee) will be honored. See:
http://uhap.web.arizona.edu/chapter_7#7.04.02

UA Non-discrimination and Anti-harassment policy:
<http://policy.arizona.edu/human-resources/nondiscrimination-and-anti-harassment-policy>

UA Academic policies and procedures are available at:
<http://catalog.arizona.edu/2015-16/policies/aaindex.html>

Student Assistance and Advocacy information is available at:
<http://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/student-assistance/students/student-assistance>

Requests for incompletes (I) and withdrawal (W) must be made in accordance with university policies which are available at <http://catalog.arizona.edu/2015-16/policies/grade.htm#I> and <http://catalog.arizona.edu/2015-16/policies/grade.htm#W> respectively.

Copyright for Course Materials

This professor and The University of Arizona take copyright laws seriously. The professor retains the copyright for all lectures and course materials. The professor’s copyright includes student notes or summaries that substantially reflect the professor’s lectures or materials. These materials are made available only for personal use by students, and may not be distributed or reproduced for commercial purposes without the professor’s express written consent. This does not restrict students from sharing notes on an individual basis for personal use. Violation of copyright laws is strictly forbidden by the Student Code of Academic Integrity and may result in course and/or legal sanctions.

Standards of Student Conduct

The professor encourages the use of computers in class for note-taking and class-related activities. The use of computers for email, web browsing, etc., and the use of cell phones and pagers are strictly forbidden. Students violating this rule will be asked to leave the class for the day.

Plagiarism and other forms academic misconduct are strictly forbidden according to the Student Code of Academic Integrity

(see studpubs.web.arizona.edu/policies/cacaint.htm).

Behavior that could be considered threatening is also strictly forbidden according to UofA policy (see policy.web.arizona.edu/~policy/threaten.shtml).

Special Needs and Accommodations

It is the University's goal that learning experiences be as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience physical or academic barriers based on disability or pregnancy, please let me know immediately so that we can discuss options. You are also welcome to contact Disability Resources (520-621-3268) to establish reasonable accommodations. For additional information on Disability Resources and reasonable accommodations, please visit <http://drc.arizona.edu/>.

Please be aware that the accessible table and chairs in this room should remain available for students who find that standard classroom seating is not usable.

If you have reasonable accommodations, please plan to meet with me by appointment or during office hours to discuss accommodations and how my course requirements and activities may impact your ability to fully participate. In keeping with University policy I will provide reasonable accommodation of any student's religious beliefs with regard to the scheduling of examinations and other academic requirements for this course. Please consult with me at least two weeks in advance of any such scheduling issues.

The information contained in the course syllabus, other than the grading policy, may be subject to change with reasonable advance notice as deemed appropriate by the professor.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week One

Introduction: On Contexts and Discourse

The Origins of Zionism

David Vital, *The Origins of Zionism* (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1990), pp. 233-245.

Anita Shapira, *Israel: A History* (Waltham, MA: Brandeis University Press, 2012), pp. 3-26.

Week Two

World War I, the Balfour Declaration and the British Mandate

Benny Morris, *Righteous Victims; A History of the Zionist-Arab Conflict, 1881-2001* (New York: Alfred Knopf, 2001), pp. 67-120.

Week Three

The Jewish State in the Making; the Arab Rebellion of 1936

Howard Sachar, *A History of Israel, From the Rise of Zionism to Our Time*, Third Edition, Revised and Updated (New York: Alfred Knopf, 2007), pp. 163-226.

Benny Morris, *Righteous Victims*, pp. 121-160.

Week Four

World War II, the Holocaust and the Partition of Palestine

Neil Caplan, *The Israel-Palestine Conflict; Contested Histories* (Wiley-Blackwell, 2010), pp. 101-130.

Howard Sachar, *A History of Israel*, pp. 227-314.

Week Five

1948 and its Meaning

Benny Morris, *Righteous Victims*, pp. 184-258.

Benny Morris, *1948; A History of the First Arab-Israeli War* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2008), pp. 392-420.

Week Six

The "Ingathering of the Exiles," State and Nation-Building

Howard Sachar, *A History of Israel*, pp. 354-428.

Colin Shindler, *A History of Modern Israel* (Cambridge University Press, 2008), pp. 54-77.

Week Seven

Economic Development and Political Transformations

(The Late 1950s and Early 1960s)

Howard Sachar, *A History of Israel*, pp. 515-579.

Weeks Eight and Nine (Mid-Term Exam; October 13, 2015)

1967-73: the Wars and their Domestic Impact; the Messianic Right

Howard Sachar, *A History of Israel*, pp. 788-842.

Anita Shapira, *Israel: A History*, pp. 307-325.

Ehud Sprinzak, *The Ascendance of Israel's Radical Right* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1991), pp. 289-313.

Week Ten

The Right Wing in Power; the Historical Shift of 1977

Colin Shindler, *A History of Modern Israel*, pp. 123-146.

Anita Shapira, *Israel: A History*, pp. 357-390.

Week Eleven

The Cultural Evolution of a Hebrew Speaking Nation

Howard Sachar, *A History of Israel*, pp. 580-614.

Anita Shapira, *Israel: A History*, pp. 248-270.

David Grossman, *Writing in the Dark: Essays on Literature and Politics* (New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2008), pp. 69-85.

David Grossman, "Speech at the Rabin Memorial Ceremony, Tel Aviv, November 4, 2006," in Itamar Rabinovich and Jehuda Reinharz (Eds.) *Israel in the Middle East; Documents and Readings on Society, Politics, and Foreign Relations, pre-1948 to the Present* (Waltham, MA: Brandeis University Press, 2008), pp. 560-564.

Amos Oz, *In the Land of Israel* (New York: Harcourt Brace, 1983), pp. 1-23.

Week Twelve

Israel's Economy and the Hi-Tech Revolution

Howard Sachar, *A History of Israel*, pp. 1080-1097.

Dan Senor and Saul Singer, *Start-Up Nation; the Story of Israel's Economic Miracle* (New York: Twelve, 2009), pp. 159-173.

Week Thirteen

The Arab Minority; Israeli Arabs or Palestinians?

As'ad Ghanem, *The Palestinian-Arab Minority in Israel, 1948-2000; A Political Study* (Albany, NY: SUNY Press, 2001), pp. 175-200.

Itamar Rabinovich, "From 'Israeli Arabs' to 'Israel's Palestinian Citizens,' 1948-1996: Analysis," in Itamar Rabinovich and Jehuda Reinharz (Eds.), *Israel in the Middle East*, pp. 183-187.

Asher Susser "Partition and the Arab Palestinian Minority in Israel," in *Israel Studies*, Vol. 14, No. 2 (Summer 2009), pp. 105-119.

Week Fourteen

Israel's Place in the Middle East

Colin Shindler, *A History of Modern Israel*, pp. 98-122.

Itamar Rabinovich, *Waging Peace; Israel and the Arabs, 1948-2003* (Princeton University Press, 2004), pp. 1-37.

Asher Susser, *Israel, Jordan and Palestine; The Two-State Imperative* (Waltham, MA: Brandeis University Press, 2012), pp. 213-227.

Week Fifteen

Foreign Policy: Israel's Place between East and West

Howard Sachar, *A History of Israel*, pp. 543-579.

Uri Bialer, *Between East and West: Israel's Foreign Policy Orientation 1948-1956* (Cambridge University Press, 1990), pp. 235-255.

Michael Oren, *Power, Faith, and Fantasy: America in the Middle East: 1776 to the Present* (New York: Norton, 2007), pp. 505-549.

Week Sixteen

Israel Among the Nations—A Contemporary Analysis

Anthony Julius, *Trials of the Diaspora; A History of anti-Semitism in England* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2010), pp. 532-588.

Robin Shepherd, *A State Beyond the Pale; Europe's Problem with Israel* (London: Weidenfeld and Nicolson, 2009), pp. 51-92.

Summary, Recap and Discussion