



AIX CENTER OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

The Aix Center
Spring 2022

Professor **Anthony Triolo**
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POL 318: THE Palestinian-Israeli Conflict

This class meets Monday at 10:30-11:55 and Wednesday at 12:30 -13:55 in CF2.

I COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course addresses the causes and evolution of the Arab-Israeli conflict from The 19th century to the present. It provides an in-depth understanding of the conflict by exploring its history and the narratives of the parties. We will follow a timeline beginning with the inception of the conflict. We will study the 1948 War, the various armed confrontation which pitted Israel against its neighboring countries. We will address the various attempts at peace. We will do so by addressing the international, historical and political developments. A particular focus of the course will be the Israeli and Palestinian societies, their history and their culture.

II COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The main objective of the course is to acquire general knowledge of the Palestinian Israeli conflict and acquaint students with the competing narratives. Students will approach the issues from political, cultural, social, and economic angles. They will be able to identify the main actors and organizations of the conflict. They will study the defining events of the conflict and understand why they constitute turning points.

III INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS AND ACTIVITIES:

This class is a reading- and discussion-intensive course. Students are expected to participate actively and to prepare presentations on selected readings. An interdisciplinary approach will be favoured.

IV READINGS:

Primary books:

Gelvin J.L., *The Israel-Palestine Conflict: One Hundred Years of War*, Cambridge University

Press, Cambridge, New York, 2007.

Laqueur, Walter and Barry Rubin (eds.) *The Israel-Arab Reader* (New York: Penguin Books, 2008)

Chapters from various books and articles will be provided by the professor

VI EVALUATION AND GRADING:

Requirements and Grading:

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|---------------------------------------|-----|
| 1) Two Analytical Papers (20% each) | 40% |
| • First paper due (February 21) | |
| • Second paper due (May 4) | |
| 2) Mid-term and Final exam (20% each) | 40% |
| 3) Attendance and Class discussions | 20% |

VII ATTENDANCE:

One of the primary requirements this semester is that you attend class. Its success depends very much on your coming to class on time, prepared for the lesson, and ready to participate in discussion and activities. Attendance will be part of your final grade.

Unexcused absences have a negative impact on your final grade. Each unexcused absence above two will lower the final grade by a half-letter grade. IAU College excused absences: absences linked to IAU excursions; sickness (a medical certificate is required); emergencies.

VIII CALENDAR:

W1 (Jan. 26): Introduction

W2(Jan.31 + Feb. 2): History and Competing Narratives

1. Gelvin, *The Israel-Palestine Conflict*, ix-x, 1-45.
2. Eric Hobsbawm. "The nation as invented tradition: introduction" in *The Invention of Tradition*. Eds. Eric Hobsbawm and Terence Ranger. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press., 1-14
3. Isacoff, Jonathan B. March, 2005. "Writing the Arab-Israeli Conflict: Historical Bias and the Use of History in Political Science," *Perspectives on Politics* 3(1): 71-88.
4. Nusseibeh, Sari. March, 2005. "A formula for narrative selection: comments on "writing the Arab-Israeli conflict" *Perspectives on Politics* 3(1).

W3(Feb. 7 + Feb. 9): Zionism

1. Gelvin, *The Israel-Palestine Conflict*, 46-75, 144-155.
2. Laqueur, Walter and Barry Rubin, eds. 2001. *The Israel-Arab Reader*. New York: Penguin Books, 3-10.

W4(Feb. 7 + Feb. 9): Arab or Palestinian Nationalism

1. Gelvin, *The Israel-Palestine Conflict*, 92-115, 196-212
2. Laqueur, Walter and Barry Rubin, eds. 2001. *The Israel-Arab Reader*. New York: Penguin Books, 21-23, 51-55, 93-96, 117-139.

W5(Feb. 14 + Feb. 16): The dynamic of the mandate and the logic of partition

1. Gelvin, *The Israel-Palestine Conflict*, 76-91, 116-126.
2. Laqueur, Walter and Barry Rubin, eds. 2001. *The Israel-Arab Reader*. New York: Penguin Books (Sixth, updated edition), 41-51.

W6(Feb. 21 + Feb. 23): Triumph and Catastrophe: different understandings of the 1948 war

1. Gelvin, *The Israel-Palestine Conflict*, 126-143
2. Rogan and Shlaim, eds. *The War for Palestine: Rewriting the History of 1948*, 79-101

W7(Feb. 28 + Mar. 2): The post-1948 and its implications: The refugee issue

1. Gelvin, *The Israel-Palestine Conflict*, 155-164
2. Morris, Benny. 1986. "The Causes and Character of the Arab Exodus from Palestine: The Israel Defense Forces Intelligence Branch Analysis of June 1948." *Middle Eastern Studies*, 22: 5-19.
3. Khalidi, Rashid. 2001. "The Palestinians and 1948: the Underlying Causes of Failure," in Eugene L. Rogan and Avi Shlaim, eds. *The War for Palestine*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 12-36.
4. Pamela Ann Smith, "The Palestinian Diaspora, 1948-1985," *Journal of Palestine Studies* 59 (Spring 1986).

W8(Mar. 7 + Mar. 9): Arab-Israeli wars 1956-1982

1. Gelvin, *The Israel-Palestine Conflict*, 165-195.
2. Laqueur, Walter and Barry Rubin, eds. *The Israel-Arab Reader*. (New York: Penguin Books, 2001). (Sixth, updated edition). 89-93, 96-116, 143-166, 254-257, 269-276

W9(Mar.14 + Mar. 16): Arab-Israeli wars 1956-1982

1. S. Ilan Troen and Zaki Shalom, *Ben-Gurion's Diary For the 6 Day War: an introduction*.
2. **MARCH 16—Mid-Term**

W10(Mar. 23): Palestinians under Israeli Rule:

1. Kimmerling, Baruch and Joel Migdal. 2003. *Palestinians: The Making of a People*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, "steering a path under occupation," Ch. 9.

W11(Mar. 28 + Mar. 30): The Intifadas

1. Gelvin, *The Israel-Palestine Conflict*, 212-228.
2. *Hamas in 2017: The Document in Full*, Middle East Eye, May 2017.

W12(Apr. 4 + Apr. 6): Impact of the conflict on Palestinian society...

1. Marwan Barghouti, *Why We Are on Hunger Strike in Israelis Prisons*, The New York Times, April 16, 2017.
2. The Guardian, *Peace*, May 16, 2017.
3. Khalil Shikaki, *Willing to Compromise: Palestinian Public Opinion and the Peace Process*, United States Institute of Peace, January 2006.

W13(Apr. 18 + Apr. 20):

1. Watch Documentary on Own

W14(Apr. 25 + 27) ... and on Israeli society

1. Baruch Kimmerling, *The Invention and Decline of Israeliness*, 2005. (Ch. 7 The Code of Security).
2. Helga Tawil-Souri, *Surveillance Sublime: The Security State in Jerusalem*, Jerusalem Quarterly 68.
3. Kimmerling, Baruch. 1983. "Making Conflict a Routine: The Cumulative Effects of the Arab-Jewish Conflict Upon Israeli Society," *Journal of Strategic Studies*, 6(3): 13-45.
4. Bleich, Gelkopf, and Solomon, "Exposure to terrorism, stress-related mental health symptoms, and coping behaviours among a nationally representative sample in Israel",

W15(May 2 + May 4): The US and the Israeli Palestinian Conflict

1. Nathan Thrall, *How the Battle over Israel and Anti-Semitism Is Fracturing American Politics*, The New York Times Magazine, March, 2019.
2. Arkadi Mazin, *America's Unconditional Love for Israel Must End*, Haaretz.com, April 25, 2021.

W16(May 9): Review