Course Description:

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict is more than a persistent struggle for control over land or a religious clash. It also serves different functions for outside actors who inject the conflict with their own meanings and pursue their own interests. Conversely, the conflict is projected outwards, with ideas, identities and technologies emanating from the region travelling and impacting well outside of it. This course examines the Israel/Palestine conflict both on its own as well as through its intersections with wider actors and issues in global politics, drawing on a variety of scholarship to interrogate the different ways in which the conflict is globalised.

Instructor: Dr. Yoav Galai
Email Address: galaiy@ceu.edu
Office Hours: By Appointment

Course Seminars:
Tuesday and Thursday afternoon, 17:20-19:00
Learning Outcomes:

The main teaching outcome is for students to gain the ability to approach cross-disciplinary and cross-contextual analysis in international politics. Students will also gain an understanding of the Israeli Palestinian conflict and the debates surrounding it and work to develop their critical assessment skills.

Teaching Method:

The course is built around academic texts and the interrogation of additional texts and source materials. Each week will start with student presentations that draw together the strands of the different readings as well as additional external readings and texts.

Assessment:

Students are expected to attend classes and actively participate in discussions. Students must read the required readings and give presentations on the recommended readings. Class presentations should critically analyse and contextualize the assigned readings, drawing on literature not listed in the syllabus.

Class participation: 15%
- Students should be actively involved in class discussions and to read ALL required reading.
- One paragraph length “Blurb” framing the seminar subject, to be sent on the Monday (see seminar 16 for example)

One short position Paper / editorial (600 - 800 words): 15%
- Students will choose an event or series of ongoing events related to the Israel/Palestine conflict, and analyse it using the frameworks and contexts that we cover in the course. They will distribute the paper amongst the class in advance for discussion.
- The position paper should be written as an editorial, advancing a clear argument and using conceptual tools in a clear, jargon free language.

One Class presentation: 20%
- Students will prepare a 15-minute class presentation that will analyse the course material from the given week. A good presentation should draw material from elsewhere in the syllabus as well as outside the syllabus and offer questions for further discussion.

Final paper (4000 words): 50%
- Research paper, the topic will be decided in consultation with the instructor.
Course plan:

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Blurb</th>
<th>Presenter</th>
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Week 1: Introduction

Seminar 1 (9/1/2018): (required readings are marked by *)


Seminar 2 (11/2/2018): Global Meanings of the conflict, a first take: IR and beyond


Week 2: Jewish Nationalism

Seminar 3 (16/1/2018): Zionism


Seminar 4 (18/1/2018): Colonialism?


Week 3: Palestinian Nationalism

Seminar 5 (23/1/2018): Palestinian Identity

* Khalidi, R. Palestinian Identity: The Construction of Modern National Consciousness (available as e-book on CEU library), chapters 2, 7


Seminar 6 (25/1/2018): Palestinian / Arab Nationalism


Week 4: 1948

Seminar 7 (30/1/2018): Al Nakba / War of Independence


Seminar 8 (1/2/2018): Historiography and Nationalism


Week 5: 1967


Seminar 10 (8/2/2018): Israel and 1967


Week 6: Political Violence

Seminar 11 (13/2/2018): Palestinians and Terrorism


Seminar 12 (15/2/2018): Conflict Technologies

Film Screening: Yotam Feldman, “The Lab” 2013


Nadera Shalhoub-Kevorkian (2017); The Occupation of the Senses: The Prosthetic and Aesthetic of State Terror, The British Journal of Criminology, azw066

Week 7: Diasporas

Seminar 13 (20/2/2018): Palestinians and the Diaspora


Seminar 14 (22/2/2018): Jews, Israelis and Diaspora


IMI working paper ‘Israel and the Diaspora’
http://www.migration.ox.ac.uk/odp/pdfs/WP53%20Israel%20and%20the%20diaspora.pdf

Week 8: Ethnic Dimensions of the Conflict

Seminar 15 (27/2/2018): Mizrahi Jews


Seminar 16 (1/3/2018): Ethnocracy

The concept of ‘Ethnocracy’ pertains to the allocation of rights to the population of a state according to ethnicity. Many scholars have found the framework useful and applied it to other places. This is an example of the travel of critical thinking and we will explore the ‘journey’ of the approach beyond Israel Palestine and see what the implicit comparison in the operationalisations of the theory say about the relationship between the conflict and other cases.


Week 9: Forms of Resistance and International Action

Seminar 17 (20/3/2018): Resistance, Alliance


Seminar 18 (10/3/2018): (Guest speaker Professor Rosemary Hollis) The Europeans and the Conflict


Hollis, R. (2016) 17 Europe in the Middle East. *International Relations of the Middle East, 380.*
Week 10: Indigeneity, belonging and Landscape

Seminar 19 (15/3/2018): Indigeneity


Seminar 20 (20/3/2018): Landscapes and Conflict


Week 11: Narratives, Memory, Transculturalism

Seminar 21 (22/3/2018): Beyond Conflicting Narratives


Seminar 22 (27/3/2017): Food


Sardar, Z. *Balti Britain: A journey through the British Asian experience*, (Granta UK, 2008).


The Kitchen Sisters Podcast: ‘Operation Hummus’
https://soundcloud.com/fugitivewaves/operation-hummus