



Coexistence in the Middle East (SPME209)

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June 30 – July 28, 2013*

Sun: 9:00 hrs - 15:30 hrs - Thu: 9:00hrs - 20:00hrs*

45 Academic Hours, 3 Academic Credits

*Two-day field trips are scheduled from Thursday 9:00hrs to Friday 17:00hrs.

* Registration, Dorm Check In & Opening Evening Session: Thursday June 27.

*Departure and return hours for course activities may vary according to meetings and visits scheduled for each field trip.

Course Description

The overall goal of this course is to grapple with the key issues of coexistence in Israel, enabling future leaders to interact with representatives of different religions and cultures.

The course will serve as an introduction to the challenges and complexities of coexistence in Israel - where civilizations, religions, national identities and ideologies converge. The seminar will focus on five major aspects of coexistence:

1. The confluence of Western and Middle-Eastern civilizations
2. Religious interactions among Christians, Muslims, and Jews
3. Israel's international relations with Arab countries
4. Palestinian-Israeli relations in Israel and in the region
5. Relations among individuals, based on "universal" values.

During the seminar, conflicts will be personalized through interactions with representatives from many diverse groups, and through study visits to key sites. The lectures and discussions in the course will include geopolitical, historical, religious, cultural and humanistic perspectives. Conflict-resolution programs will be evaluated and civil peace initiatives will be presented, in order to motivate participants' activism in their own countries.

This program is organized in cooperation with the International Institute of Leadership.

Language

The course will be held in English or Spanish according to group requirements.

Course Requirements

No previous experience or knowledge is necessary and the course is open to every student with interest in the modern Middle East.

Students' Assignments and Grades

- A. 30% - Final Exam, focusing on the field trips and an intensive reading of theoretical, historical, and “actuality” texts.
- B. 70% - Submission of a term paper. The essay will not exceed 3000 words. Students will present the outline of their paper in the last two weeks of classes.

Course and Study Visits Outline*

1. Introduction: Context and Perspectives
2. Jerusalem: Center of Three Monotheistic Faiths
3. Nationalism and the Creation of the State of Israel
4. Status Quo and Dimensions: The Security Barrier
5. Arab Population and Islam
6. Israel, the Middle East and the International Community
7. Hezbollah and Iran's Influence in Lebanon (Overnight at Kibbutz)
8. Syria, the Golan Heights and the Galilee
9. Peace Process: Proposals and Obstacles
10. Hamas and Gaza's Disengagement (Overnight at Bedouin Tent)
11. Peace with Jordan, Masada and the Dead Sea
12. Examples of Coexistence
13. Exam, conclusion, closure session

*This itinerary is tentative and subject to changes.

For a detailed description of the activities please refer to the following link:

<http://coexistencetrip.net/index.php?cs=13&cp=itinerary>.

Lecturers with diverse points of view and expertise in many different fields will offer a wide range of perspectives. Lecturers will include:

- Academics and Specialists
- Israeli and Palestinian NGO Members
- Arab & Jewish Government Officials
- Members of Left- and Right-Wing Political Parties
- Military Staff and Civilian Population
- Christian, Jewish and Muslim Religious Leaders
- Youth and Young Adults engaged in coexistence programs

For list of lecturers and speakers please refer to the following link:

<http://coexistencetrip.net/index.php?cs=13&cp=regularContent&contid=4>

Reading Materials

Jerusalem: Center of Three Monotheistic Faiths

The meaning of Jerusalem to Jews, Christians and Muslims / R. J. Zwi Werblowsky

Jerusalem : Israel Universities Study Group for Middle Eastern Affairs, 1983. DS 119.9 W47

Nationalism and the Creation of the State of Israel

Laqueur and Rubin, eds., *The Israel-Arab Reader* **E327.56(08) L317**, [Read the following documents]:

MacMahon Letter (1915), pp. 11-12; Sykes-Picot Agreement (1916), pp. 13-16; Balfour Declaration (1917), p. 16; Feisal-Weizmann Agreement (1919), pp. 17-18; United Nations Plan of Partition (1947), pp. 69-77; UN Security Council Resolution 242 (November 22, 1967), p. 116; State of Israel: Proclamation of Independence (May 14, 1948), pp 81-82; Palestinian National Charter (July 1968), pp. 117-121; UN Security Council Resolution 338 (October 22, 1973), p. 152.

Two Narratives—A Palestinian Narrative And A Jewish Narrative

-- Amos Oz, *A Tale of Love and Darkness*, Mariner Books (paperback), 2005. **H3 O99**

-- Sari Nusseibeh, *Once Upon a Country, a Palestinian Life*, Picador (paperback), 2008. **956.96(092) N975**

Arab-Israelis, Israeli-Arabs and the State

Israel's Palestinian Minority/Jonathan Mendilow

Israel Studies Review, vol. 27, Issue 1, Summer 2012, pp. 142-160

Israel's Palestinians: the conflict within / Ilan Peleg, Dov Waxman. Cambridge : Cambridge University Press, 2011, ch. 1, pp. 19-46

Eisenberg and Caplan, *Negotiating Arab-Israeli Peace*, Chapter 6, pp. 103-126. **E327.172 E36**

The Peace Process, from Camp David to Oslo

Waging peace : Israel and the Arabs, 1948-2003 / Itamar Rabinovich.

Princeton, N.J. : Princeton University Press, 2004. Ch. 3, pp. 41-82

James L. Gelvin, *The Israel-Palestine Conflict: One hundred Years of War*, Cambridge: CUP, New edition, 2007. pp.247-251 **E327.56 G321**

Laqueur and Rubin, *The Israel-Arab Reader* **E327.56(08) L317**, "Declaration of Principles, Israel and PLO" (September 13, 1993), pp. 413-422; "Israel and PLO: Cairo Agreement" (March 4, 1994), pp. 442-455; "Israel and Palestinian Authority: Interim Agreement on the West Bank and Gaza Strip" (September 28, 1995), pp. 502-521; "Israel and Palestinian Authority: Hebron Accords" (January 15, 1997), pp. 522-523; "Israel and Palestinian Authority: The Wye River Memorandum" (October 23, 1998), pp. 529-534, "the Camp David Summit of 2000 and the Clinton Plan" (December 23, 2000) , pp. 549-580

Maps of Jerusalem, Ir Amim: <http://www.ir-amim.org.il/eng/?CategoryID=162>

Hamas and Gaza's Disengagement

Covenant of the Islamic Resistance Movement (HAMAS) 1988:

http://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th_century/hamas.asp

Laqueur and Rubin, *The Israel-Arab Reader* **E327.56(08) L317**, "U.S President George W. Bush: Letter to Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon on Israel Withdrawal (April 14, 2004), pp. 589-591;

"Disengagement Plan" (May 28, 2004), pp. 591; "Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon: UN General Assembly (September 15, 2005), pp.594-596; "Fathi Hamad, Palestinian Legislative Council Member (Hamas): Speech" (August 10, 2007), pp. 625

Peace with Jordan, Masada and the Dead Sea

Eisenberg and Caplan, *Negotiating Arab-Israeli Peace* **E327.172 E36**, Chapters 3 and 5, pp. 60-74 and 90-102.

Examples of Dialogue and Coexistence Projects

Jessica Berns with Mari Fitzduff, *What is Coexistence and Why a Complementary Approach?* in *Coexistence International*, July 2007,

http://www.brandeis.edu/coexistence/linked%20documents/What%20is%20Coex%20and%20Why_FINAL%20template.pdf

Mohammad Dajani *Big Dreams/Small Hope: a Peace Vision* in *Crosscurrents*, summer 2008 Vol 58.

no. 2, http://books.google.com/books?id=_bIOMtJUR0kC&pg=PA39&lpg=PA39&dq=big+dream+small+hope