

# ZIONISM AND THE ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CONFLICT

INT 312-201

Summer 2017 Syllabus

Adj. Professor Daniel Kamin

TuTh 1:30-4:45

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**Course Objective:** Lasting peace between Israelis and Palestinians can only be constructed with a clear, open, and critical understanding of the conflict's historical grounding. After a brief review of the connection of Jews and Arabs to the land of Israel/Palestine prior to the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, the course will study the rise of modern Jewish nationalism (Zionism) and its conflict with Palestinian nationalism covering the end of the Ottoman Empire, World War I promises to Jews and Arabs, the British Mandate of Palestine, the 1947 UN Partition Vote and subsequent 1948 War and the development of a wider Arab-Israeli conflict that has increasingly played out on the world stage with the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict at its center. The interaction or lack thereof between Jews and Arabs in Israel/Palestine over the past century as well as wider issues involving the Arab and Islamic world and the Diaspora Jewish community will be explored for their impact on this conflict. The philosopher Santayana's teaching that those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it might be more precisely expressed as those who do not remember the past cannot learn from it in order to do better in the future. Efforts at conflict resolution will be examined through exposure to diverse points of view. The course seeks to synthesize an examination of religion, nationalism, and ethnic identity in order to gain some insight into the many dimensions of this conflict as well as the possibility of a peaceful resolution. The goal of this course is conflict understanding with an aim towards a conflict resolution that meets the requirements of justice and peace.

**Course Evaluation:** 40% of the Grade will be based on class participation and homework as well as one quiz during the last week of class. Students are expected to come to class having read the assigned reading and prepared to discuss the material presented therein. Students are also responsible to keep up with current events as they relate to our class subject. For some classes, the professor will give a prompt in the form of a discussion question or questions via D2L for which the student should bring in a typed response of 1-2 pages in length (12 font, double-spaced). This will be used to stimulate class discussion and will be collected at the end of that class. 30% of the Grade will be based on a mid-term examination, which will

include both short identification and multiple-choice sections to be taken in class as well as a take home essay given out the day of the in-class test and due at the beginning of the next class. Finally, 30% will be based on a substantial 3000-4500 word (so averaging 15 pages) final paper. This paper will be on the state of the conflict in July 2017, including a focus on one or more actors in the conflict and should address the possibility of resolution. This will require additional primary source research on current leaders, officials, and groups among both Israelis and Palestinians. In addition, each student will choose from parties, factions, and/or individuals from either the Israeli or Palestinian camps on which s/he would like to concentrate while synthesizing both course material and independent research to report on the contemporary situation in Israel/Palestine and what might be done to achieve conflict resolution. This concentration should make up anywhere from 1/5<sup>th</sup> to 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of your paper, though all papers must cover the primary Palestinian and Israeli actors. Your final paper will be used for our class symposium for our final class on July 13<sup>th</sup> when the class will meet as DePaul's Special Committee on Palestine and Israel (DSCOPI). At our DSCOPI conference, students will serve as an advisory council suggesting and discussing recommendations for a resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict using either your final papers or, as will be more effective in a 2-3 hour conference, a synopsis or outline of your paper's main points, especially with respect to the issue of conflict resolution. Your paper will be due at the end of our DSCOPI conference. There will be an additional rubric for the final paper posted on D2L. Your level of preparation and participation in the conference may augment your final grade, if warranted.

**Attendance:** Mandatory. ANY ABSENCE MAY CAUSE YOUR GRADE TO DROP BY A MINIMUM OF ONE LETTER. Even if a student has a special circumstance and I approve an absence, the student is responsible for all missed work.

**Student Disabilities:** Students seeking disability-related accommodations are required to register with DePaul's Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD) enabling you to access accommodations and support services to assist your success. There are two office locations:  
**Loop Campus** - Lewis Center #1420 - (312) 362-8002  
**Lincoln Park Campus** - Student Center #370 - (773) 325-1677  
Students are also invited to contact me privately to discuss your challenges and how I may assist in facilitating the accommodations you will use in this course. This is best done early in the term and our conversation will remain confidential.

Academic Integrity: Academic integrity means absolute honesty in one's intellectual efforts. The DePaul Student Handbook details the facets and ramifications of academic integrity violations, but you should be especially aware of the policies on cheating and plagiarism. Cheating is any action that violates University norms or an instructor's guidelines for the preparation and submission of assignments. Such actions may include using or providing unauthorized assistance or materials on course assignments, or possessing unauthorized materials during an examination. Plagiarism involves the representation of another's work as your own, for example: (a) submitting as one's own any material that is copied from published or unpublished sources such as the Internet, print, computer files, audio disks, video programs or musical scores without proper acknowledgement that it is someone else's; (b) paraphrasing another's views, opinions, or insights without proper acknowledgement *or* copying of any source in whole or in part with only minor changes in wording or syntax even with acknowledgement; (c) submitting as one's own work a report, examination, paper, computer file, lab report or other assignment which has been prepared by someone else. **If you are unsure about what constitutes unauthorized help on an exam or assignment, or what information requires citation and/or attribution, please ask your instructor.** Violations may result in the failure of the assignment, failure of the course, or additional disciplinary actions. Please refer to your Student Handbook or visit <http://studentaffairs.depaul.edu/handbook/code16.html> for further details.

Office Hours: 4:45-5:45 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays in my office in the International Studies Department (990 W. Fullerton, Suite 4100) or by appointment by e-mailing me at [dkamin@depaul.edu](mailto:dkamin@depaul.edu). If there is a problem connecting by email you can call me at 773-325-4754.

Reading: A Brief History of Israel by Bernard Reich  
The Routledge Atlas of the Arab-Israeli Conflict (Tenth Edition)  
by Martin Gilbert  
The Israel-Arab Reader (Eighth Edition)  
edited by Laqueur and Schueftan

Additional Readings will be placed on D2L during the term  
(Students may be asked to print pages as required by  
Professor for class discussion)

**NOTE: CONTEMPORARY ARTICLES MAY BE ADDED  
TO READING LIST DURING THE TERM AND  
LAPTOP AND OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICE USE  
IN CLASS IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED**

- JUNE 13: INTRODUCTION: BIBLICAL/HISTORICAL ROOTS OF ZIONISM; THE DIFFICULTY OF THIS CONFLICT  
Reading: History, Chapter 1  
Atlas, pp. 1-2  
Kamin
- JUNE 15: ANTI-SEMITISM, ISLAM AND OTTOMAN PALESTINE AND POLITICAL ZIONISM; THEODOR HERZL  
Reading: Lewis and Morris (pp.3-13)  
Reader, pp. 3-10  
Atlas, pp. 3-4  
History, pp.13-17  
Protocols of the Elders of Zion
- JUNE 20: FROM HERZL TO THE BALFOUR DECLARATION AND PALESTINIAN NATIONALISM: THE BRITISH MANDATE  
Reading: Reader, pp. 10-36  
Be'eri  
History, pp. 17-22  
Atlas, pp. 5-12
- JUNE 22: ZIONISM AND PALESTINIAN ARAB NATIONALISM IN BRITISH MANDATE PALESTINE  
Reading: Laqueur "The Unseen Question"  
Jabotinsky Readings  
Reader, pp. 36-51  
History, pp. 23-33  
Atlas, pp. 13-32
- JUNE 27: THE HOLOCAUST, UN PARTITION AND THE 1948 WAR  
Reading: PBS Documentary The 50 Years War  
Reader, pp. 51-87  
Bickerton, pp. 92-93  
Morris, pp. 252-258  
History, pp. 34-60  
Atlas, pp. 33-51
- JUNE 29: MIDTERM EXAM  
THE OCTOBER 1956 WAR; THE SIX DAY WAR OF 1967  
Reading: History, pp. 60-85  
Atlas, pp. 52-79  
Reader, pp. 88-116

- JULY 6: THE RISE OF THE PLO AND THE SETTLER MOVEMENT  
ISRAELI OCCUPATION AND PALESTINIAN TERRORISM  
THE OCTOBER 1973 YOM KIPPUR WAR  
Reading: Reader, pp. 116-121, 152, 162-163, 206-207  
History, pp. 84-113  
Atlas, pp. 80-105  
Bickerton, p.154, 176-177
- JULY 11: THE CAMP DAVID ACCORDS/ISRAELI-EGYPTIAN PEACE  
WAR IN LEBANON AND THE INTIFADA  
OSLO AND ITS AFTERMATH: THE PROMISE OF PEACE  
AND THE RISE OF HAMAS  
Reading: History, pp. 114-205  
Atlas, pp. 106-151  
Reader, pp. 313-318, 340-347
- JULY 13: QUIZ THROUGH CAMP DAVID II AND THE COLLAPSE OF  
THE PEACE PROCESS: THE AL-AQSA INTIFADA  
THE HOPE FOR PEACE VS THE REALITY OF CONFLICT:  
BUILDING BRIDGES FOR A BETTER FUTURE OVER  
CHASMS OF HATRED AND ALIENATION  
DEPAUL'S SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON PALESTINE AND  
ISRAEL (DSCOPI)  
FINAL PAPERS DUE  
Reading: Films: Relentless and The Gatekeepers  
History, pp. 206-301  
Atlas, pp. 152-227  
Reader, pp. 375-394, 403-427, 462-482, 505-519  
Morris, pp. 676-694, 2008 op-ed, Dec. 2010 article  
Kamin on e-reserve