Course program and reading list
Semester 2 Year 2020

School: Lauder School of Government, Diplomacy & Strategy M.A

Research Seminar: Regional Palestinian Politics

Lecturer:
Prof. Shaul Mishal smishal@runi.ac.il

Teaching Assistant:
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Course No.: 24292  Course Type: Lecture  Weekly Hours: 4  Credit: 4

Course Requirements: Group Code: 202429201  Language: English

Prerequisites

Students who took one of the courses listed below will not be allowed to register to the course Research Seminar: Regional Palestinian Politics (24292):

24146 - Research Seminar: Negotiating Core Issues in the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict
24151 - Research Seminar in Contemporary Topics in International Terrorism
24225 - Research Seminar: dynamics of power and Technology
24272 - Research Seminar: Governance and Political Violence
24291 - Russia and Russian Foreign Policy
Course Description

The research seminar will deal with topics related to the regional aspects of the Palestinian politics and to the negotiation-process of the Israeli Arab conflict, with emphasis on the Israeli-Palestinian aspects.

Course Goals

Sessions are held once a week on Wednesday 13:45- 17:00 Attendance is mandatory as classes overlap only in part with material from the assigned readings. One cannot expect the readings to provide an adequate substitute for class participation and discussion. The first six meetings will cover key issues and concepts to improve our modes of thinking and understanding Palestinian politics with regard to International and Middle East politics. Towards the mid semester the seminar will divide into five discussion groups. Each group will lead a discussion including presentation, in relation to: a) the attitudes, positions and conduct of the Palestinian Authority (PA) and Hamas towards a political dialogue or (b) Peace negotiation initiatives (Camp David, 2000, The Arab Peace Initiative).

Grading

Towards the mid semester the seminar will divide into five discussion groups. Each group will lead a discussion including presentation, in relation to: a) the attitudes, positions and conduct of the Palestinian Authority (PA) and Hamas towards a political dialogue or (b) Peace negotiation initiatives (Camp David, 2000, The Arab Peace Initiative). Every student's performance and contribution to the discussion will represents 20% of the final grade. Students are excepted to submit a 1-2-page paper, at the beginning of each class, from week 7 onwards (20.5), related to the subject to be raised in the discussion. The papers represent 20% of the final grade.

Final Paper: Each student is expected to submit a final seminar paper of 10-15page paper, 1.5 spaced, font 12 Times New Roman, with standard margins and academic sources and citations from the syllabus and beyond. The paper should be based on the conceptual frameworks developed and relevant material discussed during the course. The final paper represents 60% of the final grade.

Lecturer Office Hours

By appointment
Reading List

The readings for each week are listed on the attached course schedule. Since the sessions are intended partially to provide a forum for discussion of assigned readings, one should make a point of completing mandatory requirements and reflecting about the week's reading before each session. It is highly recommended to follow the current events in the Middle East relating to the Palestinian community and organizations as published in international and regional sites and newspapers.

Electronic sources for continuous updating throughout the course:


Weeks 1 & 2: Palestine and the Palestinians – 25.3-1.4.2020


Weeks 3 & 4: The Road Map of Palestinian Politics- 22.4.-29.4.2020


Week 5: Concepts and Perceptions – 6.5.2020

* Shaul Mishal & Eliran Bar-El, The Communal Dimensions of the Arab Spring: State and Non-State Logics in Current Middle East Politics (forthcoming)

Optional:

Week 6: Borders in Conflict- 13.5.2020

Guest lecturer: Dr. Shaul Arieli

• Shaul Arieli, A Border Between Us, Yedioth Aharonot, 2018, Chs. 2,3, pp.58-72.

Optional:


Groups Discussions

Week 7-8: Palestinian Nationalism: The PLO, the PA and the International Community

20.5-27.5.2020

• Shaul Mishal, The PLO under Arafat, Yale University Press, 1986, Chs.1,2.
• Nigel Parsons, The Politics of the Palestinian Authority, Routledge, 2005, Ch. 2, pp. 17-53.
• Palestine: Salvaging Fatah, ICG, Middle East Report No.91-12 November 2009.

Week 9-10: The Palestinian Islam: Hamas 10.6-1.7.2020

• Tristan Dunning, Islam and resistance: Hamas, ideology and Islamic values in Palestine,
  Critical Studies on Terrorism, Volume 8, 2015 - Issue 2

• Ruling Palestine, I: Gaza Under Hamas, ICG, Middle East Report N°73 – 19 March 2008
• Radical Islam in Gaza, ICG, Middle East Report N°104 – 29 March 2011

- Peter Mandaville and Shadi Hamid, “The Rise of Islamic Soft Power, Religion and Foreign Policy in the Muslim World” Foreign Affairs, December 7, 2018

Optional:


Optional:


**Week 12: The Arab Peace Initiative (2002)**

Guest lecturer: Prof. Ilai Alon

General Sources:


