Syllabus

UNDERSTANDING ISRAELI-LEBANESE RELATIONS - 56535

Last update 13-01-2014

HU Credits: 4

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: Political Science

Academic year: 3

Semester: Yearly

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Prof. Oren Barak

Coordinator Email: oren.barak1@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: Tuesday 12-1

Teaching Staff:
Prof Oren Barak
Course/Module description:
Since the establishment of the State of Israel and the First Arab-Israeli War in 1948, Israeli-Lebanese relations have known periods of stability and conflict. The course will explain the changing relationship between the two states focusing on their particular characteristics. More specifically, we will examine the process of state formation, pattern of inter-sectoral relations, and civil-security relationship in Lebanon and Israel; compare the two states according to these three criteria; and explore the impact of these factors on the two states’ relationship. The course will include four parts. First, we will discuss the process of state formation, inter-sectoral relations, and civil-security relationship in the Middle East. Second, we will focus on each of the two states—Lebanon and Israel. Third, we will compare Israel and Lebanon according to these criteria, but also attempt to situate the two cases in a broad, theoretical and comparative perspective. Fourth, we will examine the major developments in Israeli-Lebanese relations. In addition to promoting a better understanding of Lebanon, Israel, and their relations, the course will provide tools for studying other patterns of Israeli-Arab (and non-Arab) relations.

Course/Module aims:
On successful completion of this module students should be able to:
Construct a timeline for important events in the history of Lebanon, Israel, and their relations.
Describe the process of state formation, civil-security relations and inter-sectoral relations in each of Lebanon and Israel/Palestine, as well as the interplay between these factors.
Compare the two cases according to these three criteria.
Assess the impact of these factors and their interplay on Israeli-Lebanese relations.
Reflect critically on the theories discussed and employed throughout the course, as well as on popular and scholarly depictions of the two cases.

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:
On successful completion of this seminar, students will have an understanding of the theories of state formation, civil-security relations and inter-sectoral relations and of their interplay, of these particular aspects of the two cases of Lebanon and Israel/Palestine, including from a comparative perspective, and of Israeli-Lebanese relations since the two states’ independence. The seminar will also provide students with a framework for understanding past and contemporary events in the two states and their relations.

Attendance requirements(%):
100
Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Weeks 1-17: Discussion in class
Weeks 18 & Onwards: Presentation of drafts of seminar papers in class

Course/Module Content:
  Week 1: Introduction: How to explore Lebanon, Israel, and their relations
  Week 2: The process of state formation in the Middle East
  Week 3: Civil-security relations in the Middle East
  Week 4: Inter-sectoral relations in the Middle East
  Week 5: The regional and international context
  Week 6: The process of state formation in Lebanon
  Week 7: The process of state formation in Israel
  Week 8: Civil-security relations in Lebanon
  Week 9: Civil-security relations in Israel
  Week 10: Inter-sectoral relations in Lebanon
  Week 11: Inter-sectoral relations in Israel /Palestine
  Week 12: Lebanon and Israel in a comparative perspective
  Week 13: Approaches and issues in the study of Israeli-Lebanese relations
  Week 14: Israeli-Lebanese relations, 1948-1982
  Week 15: Israeli-Lebanese relations, 1982-2006
  Week 17: Cultural dimensions of Israeli-Lebanese relations
  Weeks 18 & Onwards: Presentation of drafts of seminar papers in class

Required Reading:
End of year written/oral examination 0 %
Presentation 10 %
Participation in Tutorials 20 %
Project work 50 %
Assignments 20 %
Reports 0 %
Research project 0 %
Quizzes 0 %
Other 0 %

Additional information:
A score of at least 70/100 in a proficiency test on the book: Meir Zamir, The Formation of Modern Lebanon (London: Croom Helm, 1985) to be held in class. Students who will not pass the test or will not be able to take it due to reserve service or illness (subject to the teacher's approval) will be required to submit a book review of 4-5 pages in length and receive a grade of at least 70/100.