Syllabus

ISRAEL IN THE MIDDLE EAST: CONFLICT & RESOLUTION - 59418

Last update 04-09-2013

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 2nd degree (Master)

Responsible Department: Public Policy

Academic year: 0

Semester: 1st Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Nimrod Goren

Coordinator Email: ngoren@mitvim.org.il

Coordinator Office Hours: Monday, 12:00-13:00

Teaching Staff: Dr. Nimrod Goren
Course/Module description:
The course will deal with Israel’s place in the Middle East through an analysis of historical, political, diplomatic, societal and psychological processes that shape Israeli-Arab relations.

Course/Module aims:
To introduce the complexity of Israel’s relations with its neighboring countries, relations that fluctuate between conflict and attempts for resolution, between isolation and efforts for integration.

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:
1) Explain the shaping of the modern Middle East and Israel’s general policies and strategies regarding it;
2) Analyze the period of full-scaled Israel-Arab conflict;
3) Evaluate the attempts to resolve the Israeli-Arab conflict and the role of various actors throughout this process;
4) Analyze Israeli attempts to bypass the regional isolation it faces due to the conflict;
5) Present and understand the Israeli discourse (visions, scenarios, hopes and concerns) on the post-conflict era.

Attendance requirements(%):
80%

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Lectures (including power-point presentations and short video clips), class discussions, group presentations, scenario-building exercise,

Course/Module Content:
1. The making of the modern Middle East and of Israel’s policies towards it
2. Overview of Israeli-Arab relations, 1948-1992
3. The rise and fall of the “New Middle East” in the mid-1990s
4. Psychological aspects of Israeli-Arab relations
5. The role of the inter-Arab system and the international community
6. Israel and Turkey – between alliance and alienation
7. Private diplomacy – track-two negotiations in Israel-Arab relations
8. Public diplomacy – can peace NGOs bring peace closer
9. Israel’s quest for security guarantees
10. Israel’s quest for regional belonging and international recognition
11. Incentives in Israel-Arab Relations
12. Israel and the Arab Spring
13. The Israeli discourse on the post-conflict era
14. Scenarios for the future of Israel in the Middle East

**Required Reading:**

1. The making of the modern Middle East and of Israel’s policies towards it


2. Overview of Israeli-Arab relations, 1948-1992


3. The rise and fall of the “New Middle East” in the mid-1990s


4. Psychological aspects of Israeli-Arab relations


5. The role of the inter-Arab system and the international community


Sharon Pardo and Joel Peters, Uneasy Neighbors: Israel and the European Union, (Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, 2009), pp. 5-26

6. Israel and Turkey – between alliance and alienation

Nimrod Goren and Galia Lindenstrauss, From Oslo to the Arab Spring: The Impact of the Israeli-Arab Peace Process on Israel-Turkey Relations since the End of the Cold War, (forthcoming)


7. Private diplomacy – track-two negotiations in Israel-Arab relations

S Daniel Abraham, Peace is Possible: Conversations with Arab and Israeli Leaders from 1988 to the Present, (New York: Newmarket Press, 2006), pp. 1-6, 33-48

Uri Savir, The Process: 1,100 Days that Changed the Middle East, (New York: Random House, 1998), pp. 3-28


8. Public diplomacy – can peace NGOs bring peace closer


9. Israel’s quest for security guarantees


10. Israel’s quest for regional belonging and international recognition


11. Incentives in Israel-Arab Relations


12. Israel and the Arab Spring


13. The Israeli discourse on the post-conflict era
Meron Benvenisti (ed.), The Morning After — No Utopia (Jerusalem: Carmel, 2002), Introduction (translation to English provided)


14. Scenarios for the future of Israel in the Middle East


Additional Reading Material:
Nimrod Goren and Jenia Yudkevich (Eds.), Israel and the Arab Spring: Opportunities in Change (Ramat Gan: Mitvim - The Israeli Institute for Regional Foreign Policies and the Friedrich-Ebert Foundation, 2013)

Course/Module evaluation:
End of year written/oral examination 0 %
Presentation 0 %
Participation in Tutorials 30 %
Project work 70 %
Assignments 0 %
Reports 0 %
Research project 0 %
Quizzes 0 %
Other 0 %

Additional information: