



The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

The Population of Israel - 13045

Last update 15-09-2022

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: History of Jewish People & Contemporary Jewry

Academic year: 0

Semester: 2nd Semester

Teaching Languages: English

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Prof. Uzi Rebhun

Coordinator Email: uzi.rebhun@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: Tuesday 17:30-18:00

Teaching Staff:

Prof Uzi Rebhun

Course/Module description:

Since the establishment of the state of Israel to present its population increased from some 800 thousand to eight and a half million today. This growth is attached to large waves of immigration and positive natural increase, but concurrently some moderation of this increase due to emigration to other countries. These patterns are not consistent; rather they fluctuated over time. Likewise, they differ between Jews and non-Jews and among the former by ethnicity and religiosity. The Israeli society has also experienced trends in social and economic stratification, family patterns, dispersion and concentration, and group identification. This course will review and analyze these characteristics and trends during the 70 years of statehood. We will mainly focus on the Jewish population with some comparisons to non-Jewish sub-groups.

Course/Module aims:

To provide insights and understanding of major demographic, sociological, geographical, cultural and identificational processes among the population of Israel.

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

To read, analyze, understand and interpret statistical data and qualitative materials on present-day Israeli society.

Attendance requirements(%):

100%

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Lectures

Course/Module Content:

Zionism and the history of the Jewish settlement in pre-statehood Palestine; immigration and population growth; internal migration and dispersion; ethnic inequality; the Israeli family; Israeli Arabs; Jewish and Israeli identity; Emigration from Israel; Haredim in Israel

Required Reading:

Pre-Statehood Era

Halpern, Ben and Jehuda Reinharz. 1998. *Zionism and the Creation of a New*

Society. Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 262-272.

“Law of Return” and “Who is A Jew”

Yakobson, Alexander and Amnon Rubinstein. 2008. Israel and the Family of Nations: Jewish Nation-State and Human Rights. London: Routledge, pp. 125-140; 156-158.

Immigration and Population Dynamics

Shapira, Anita. 2021. Israel: A History. Chapter 10: The Great Aliya (Mass Immigration). Waltham: Brandeis University Press, pp. 222-247.

Ethnic Stratification

Smootha, Sammy. 2019. “The Jewish Ethnic Divide and Ethnic Politics in Israel”. In: Reuven Y. Hazan, Alan Dowty, Menahem Hofnung and Gideon Rahat (eds.) The Oxford Handbook of Israeli Politics and Society. Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 195-210.

Family and Gender

Itzkovitch-Malka, Reut. 2019. “Gender in Israel”. In: Reuven Y. Hazan, Alan Dowty, Menahem Hofnung and Gideon Rahat (eds.) The Oxford Handbook of Israeli Politics and Society. Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 211-225.

The Arab Population

TBD

Jewish and Israeli Identity

Rosner, Shmuel and Camil Fuchs. 2019. Israelijudaism: Portrait of a Cultural Revolution. Jerusalem: Jewish People Policy Institute, pp. 11-31; 119-158.

Ultra-Orthodox and Religious Jews

Fischer, Shlomo. 2012. “Fundamentalist or Religious Nationalist: Israeli Modern Orthodoxy”. In: Harvey Goldberg, Steven M. Cohen and Ezra Kopelowitz (eds.), Dynamic Belonging: Contemporary Jewish Collective Identities. New York and Oxford: pp. 91-111.

Political System and Voting Patterns

Tenenboim-Weinblatt, Keren, Christian Baden, Tali Aharoni, and Maximilian Overbeck. 2023. “Ethnic Demons and Class Specters: Ethnic and Class Voting In Israel Revisited”. In: Michal Shamir and Gideon Rahat (eds.) The Elections in Israel 2019-2021. UK: Routledge (forthcoming).

Leaving the Promised Land

Rebhun, Uzi. 2022. “Holocaust, Memory, Migration: The Burden of Catastrophe among Israelis in Germany”. In: Robert A. Kenedy, Uzi Rebhun and Carl S. Ehrlich (eds.), Israel and the Diaspora: Jewish Connectivity in a Changing World. Cham,

Switzerland: Springer, pp. 135-153.

Israel in A Comparative Perspective

Sasson, Theodore, David Mittelberg, Shahar Hecht and Leonard Saxe. 2011. "Guest-Host Encounters in Diaspora-Heritage Tourism: The Taglit-Birthright Israel Mifgash (Encounter)", *Diaspora, Indigenous, and Minority Education*, 5(3): 178-197.

Two Movies:

The Land of Promise (1935)

Sallah Shabati (1964)

Additional Reading Material:

None

Course/Module evaluation:

End of year written/oral examination 100 %

Presentation 0 %

Participation in Tutorials 0 %

Project work 0 %

Assignments 0 %

Reports 0 %

Research project 0 %

Quizzes 0 %

Other 0 %

Additional information:

Mt. Scopus

Home exam of 72 hours.