

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

Historical introduction to Contemporary Politics - 56108

Last update 08-10-2019

HU Credits: 4

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: Political Science

Academic year: 0

Semester: Yearly

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Dr. Efraim Podoksik

Coordinator Email: podoksik@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: Monday, 17:30 - 18:30

Teaching Staff:

Dr. Efraim Podoksik

Course/Module description:

This is a survey course that will outline the social and political developments in the world from the early 20th century up to now.

Course/Module aims:

The main goal of the course is to provide a broad historical background regarding the political developments in various regions of the world and their significance for the today's politics

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

- 1. To gain knowledge on political events and phenomena.*
- 2. To analyze historical political processes and development.*
- 3. To compare political phenomena across time and space.*
- 4. To apply the understanding of historical developments on current events.*

Attendance requirements(%):

80%

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Frontal lectures

Course/Module Content:

- 1. The Origins of the Contemporary Political World*
- 2. The World Between the Two World Wars*
- 3. World War Two*
- 4. The Post-War World*
- 5. The World after the Fall of Communism*

Required Reading:

- 1. Christopher Clark, The Sleepwalkers: How Europe Went to War in 1914 (New York: HarperCollins, 2013), ch. 3, pp. 121-167.*
- 2. Matthew Stibbe, 'The War from Above: Aims, Strategy, and Diplomacy', in Gordon Martel (ed.), A Companion to Europe 1900-1945 (Oxford: Blackwell Publishing, 2006) pp. 228-242.*

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3. Sean McMeekin, *The Russian Revolution: A New History* (London: Profile Books, 2017), chs. 11-13.
 4. Alexander de Grand, *Italian Fascism: Its Origins & Development* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1982), pp. 22-37, 58-77.
 5. Richard J. Evans, *The Coming of the Third Reich* (New York: The Penguin Press, 2004), pp. 266-309.
 6. James Patterson, *America in the Twentieth Century: A History* (Fort Worth: Harcourt Brace College Publishers, 1994), pp. 211-247.
 7. Andrew Gordon, *A Modern History of Japan: From Tokugawa Times to the Present* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2003), pp. 61-114.
 8. Bernard Lewis, *The Emergence of Modern Turkey*, 2nd edition (London: Oxford University Press, 1968), pp. 239-293.
 9. John Fairbank and Merle Goldman, *China: A New History* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2006), pp. 279-330.
 10. Timothy Snyder, *Bloodlands: Europe between Hitler and Stalin* (New York: Basic Books, 2010), pp. 59-118.
 11. Michael Jabara Carley, 'Grand Strategy and Summit Diplomacy', in Gordon Martel (ed.), *A Companion to Europe 1900-1945* (Oxford: Blackwell Publishing, 2006), pp. 425-440.
 12. Anne Applebaum, *Iron Curtain: The Crushing of Eastern Europe 1944-1956* (New York: Doubleday, 2012), pp. 192-222.
 13. Tony Judt, *Postwar: A History of Europe since 1945* (New York: The Penguin Press, 2005), pp. 241-277.
 14. Thomas C. Reeves, *Twentieth-Century America: A Brief History* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2000), pp. 155-197.
 15. David Holloway, 'Nuclear Weapons and the Escalation of the Cold War, 1945-1962', in Melvyn P. Leffler and Odd Arne Westad (eds.), *The Cambridge History of the Cold War*, vol. 1: *Origins* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010), pp. 376-397.
 16. John Fairbank and Merle Goldman, *China: A New History* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2006), pp. 345-405.

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17. Barbara D. Metcalf and Thomas R. Metcalf, *A Concise History of Modern India* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2012), ch. 8, pp. 231-264.
 18. Donald L. Gordon, 'African Politics', in April A. Gordon and Donald L. Gordon (eds.), *Understanding Contemporary Africa* (London: Lynne Rienner, 2013), pp. 61-113.
 19. M.E. Yapp, *The Near East since the First World War: A History to 1995* (Essex: Pearson Education, 1996), pp. 167-187, 330-353.
 20. Douglas Little, 'The Cold War in the Middle East: Suez Crisis to Camp David Accords', in Melvyn P. Leffler and Odd Arne Westad (eds.), *The Cambridge History of the Cold War*, vol. 2: Crises and Détente (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010), pp. 305-326.
 21. Harry E. Vanden and Gary Prevost, *Politics of Latin America: Power Game*, 4th ed. (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2012), pp. 42-78.
 22. Samuel P. Huntington, *The Third Wave: Democratization in the Late Twentieth Century* (Norman, OK: University of Oklahoma Press, 1991), pp. 109-163.
 23. G. John Ikenberry, 'The Restructuring of the International System After the Cold War', in Melvyn P. Leffler and Odd Arne Westad (eds.), *The Cambridge History of the Cold War*, vol. 3: Endings (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010), pp. 535-556.
 24. Ronald Grigor Suny, *The Soviet Experiment: Russia: The USSR and the Successor States* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1998), chs. 20-21
 25. Simon Reid-Henry, *Empire of Democracy: The Remaking of the West since the Cold War, 1971-2017* (New York: Simon & Schuster, 2019), ch. 8.
 26. Soner Çağaptay, *The New Sultan: Erdogan and the Crisis of Modern Turkey* (London: I.B. Tauris, 2017), chs. 7-8.
 27. Simon Reid-Henry, *Empire of Democracy: The Remaking of the West since the Cold War, 1971-2017* (New York: Simon & Schuster, 2019), ch. 17.

Additional Reading Material:

1. Max Hastings, *Catastrophe 1914: Europe Goes to War* (New York: Vintage Books, 2013), pp. 41-102.
2. Jeremy Black, *The Great War and the Making of the Modern World* (London: Continuum, 2011), pp. 266-277.

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3. Sean McMeekin, *The Russian Revolution: A New History* (London: Profile Books, 2017), chs. 18-20.
 4. Renzo de Felice, *Interpretations of Fascism* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1977), pp. 174-192.
 5. Eberhard Kolb, *The Weimar Republic* (London: Routledge, 2006), pp. 3-51.
 6. Thomas C. Reeves, *Twentieth-Century America: A Brief History* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2000), pp. 81-99.
 7. Marius B. Jansen, *The Making of Modern Japan* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2000), pp. 495-536.
 8. Bernard Lewis, *The Emergence of Modern Turkey*, 2nd edition (London: Oxford University Press, 1968), pp. 323-361.
 9. Frank Dikötter, *The Age of Openness: China Before Mao* (Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press, 2008), pp. 7-30.
 10. Antony Beevor, *The Battle for Spain: The Spanish Civil War* (London: Weidenfeld & Nicolson, 2006), pp. 147-207
 11. Richard Overy, *Dictators: Hitler's Germany and Stalin's Russia* (New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 2004), ch. 12.
 12. Anne Applebaum, *Iron Curtain: The Crushing of Eastern Europe 1944-1956* (New York: Doubleday, 2012), pp. 275-299.
 13. Konrad H. Jarausch, *A New History of Europe in the Twentieth Century* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2015), pp. 399-425.
 14. James Patterson, *America in the Twentieth Century: A History* (Fort Worth: Harcourt Brace College Publishers, 1994), pp.457-501.
 15. J.M. Roberts and Odd Arne Westad, *The History of the World*, 6th edition (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013), pp. 1090-1123.
 16. Jean-Louis Margolin, 'Vietnam and Laos: The Impasse of War Communism', in Stéphane Courtois et al. (eds.), *The Black Book of Communism: Crimes, Terror, Repression* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1999), pp. 565-576.
 17. Barbara D. Metcalf and Thomas R. Metcalf, *A Concise History of Modern India* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2012), ch. 7, pp. 203-230.

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18. Crawford Young, *The Postcolonial State in Africa: Fifty Years of Independence, 1960-2010* (Madison, WI: The University of Wisconsin Press, 2012), pp. 122-157.
19. Ervand Abrahamian, *A History of Modern Iran* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2008), pp. 155-195.
20. M.E. Yapp, *The Near East since the First World War: A History to 1995* (Essex: Pearson Education, 1996), p. 211-250.
21. Joel Horowitz, 'Populism and Its Legacies in Argentina', in Michael L. Conniff, *Populism in Latin America* (Tuscaloosa, AL: The University of Alabama Press, 1999), pp. 22-42.
22. Javier Tusell, *Spain: From Dictatorship to Democracy, 1939 to the Present* (Oxford: Blackwell Publishing, 2007), pp 270-326.
23. Doug Rossinow, *The Reagan Era: A History of the 1980s* (New York: Columbia University Press, 2015), pp. 31-46.
24. Gale Stokes, *The Walls Came Tumbling Down: Collapse and Rebirth in Eastern Europe* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2012), pp. 157-202.
25. G. John Ikenberry, 'The Restructuring of the International System After the Cold War', in Melvyn P. Leffler and Odd Arne Westad (eds.), *The Cambridge History of the Cold War*, vol. 3: Endings (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010), pp. 535-556.
26. Vladimir Gel'man, *Authoritarian Russia: Analyzing Post-Soviet Regime Changes* (Pittsburgh, PA: University of Pittsburgh Press), pp. 71-98.
27. John B. Judis, *The Nationalist Revival: Trade, Immigration, and the Revolt Against Globalization* (New York: Columbia Global Reports, 2018), ch. 2.

Course/Module evaluation:

End of year written/oral examination 70 %

Presentation 0 %

Participation in Tutorials 0 %

Project work 30 %

Assignments 0 %

Reports 0 %

Research project 0 %

Quizzes 0 %

Other 0 %

Additional information:

The course lecturer has the right to make changes to the course reading materials and other elements based on substantive as well as technical considerations.