The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

Palestinians in the Occupied Palestinian Territories and the Diaspora: History Society Politics - 56575

Last update 03-09-2017

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: political science

Academic year: 0

Semester: 1st Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Maya Rosenfeld

Coordinator Email: maya.rosenfeld@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: Wednesdays 13:00-14:00

Teaching Staff:
Dr. Maya Rosenfeld

Course/Module description:
This course traces the social and political history of the Palestinians since the 1948 war. The impact of four key factors is examined in detail: 1) Palestinian displacement, refugee existence and UN intervention on behalf of Palestine refugees 2) regime policies of the Arab "host" countries vis a vis the Palestinian refugees 3) Israel's prolonged military occupation over the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, and 4) the emergence and development of the Palestinian national movement.

Accordingly, the course is roughly divided into four parts: starting with the commencement of the Palestinian refugee problem in the aftermath of the 1948 War, the first part analyzes the seventy year old intervention of the international community, in particular that of the United Nations Works and Relief Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA), on behalf of Palestine refugees and underscores the major consequences of this intervention for four generations of refugees. The second part discusses the considerably divergent legal, social, economic and political statuses of Palestinian refugees in three Arab "host" countries, Lebanon, Jordan and Kuwait (up till the expulsion of Palestinians from this country in1991), each of which represents a different regime type. It then underscores the impact of variant regime policies on the social structure and social history of Palestinian refugee communities.

The third part of the course reviews the prolonged Israeli occupation over the West Bank and Gaza as a system of military, economic and political control. It examines the cumulative impact of the occupation regime on socio-economic conditions in the West Bank and Gaza in general, and on specific sectors and segments of Palestinian society in particular, over the course of more than four decades. The fourth part traces the stages of development of the Palestinian national movement in the Diaspora and Palestine since 1948, with a focus on the post 1967 emergence of the PLO and with special emphasis on the occupied territories-based branch of the national movement, the first Intifada, and its long-term consequences. The concluding discussion will provide a concise overview of the major trends of development within the Palestinian national movement since the Oslo Accords and establishment of the PNA in 1994, including a brief examination of the second Intifada, the rise of Hamas and the major divide that currently dominates Palestinian political life.

Course/Module aims:

The aim is to expose the students to central issues in the social and political history of the Palestinians since the 1948 war and to provide them with systematic knowledge and deep understanding of these topics.

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

a) To elaborate on the major factors that affected the social history of the Palestinians since the 1948 war.
b)To review the origins of the Palestinian refugee problem and to analyze the development of international intervention on behalf of Palestine refugees
c)To provide an overview on the situation of Palestinian refugees in the Arab "host countries".
d)To point at central stages in the development of the Palestinian national movement since 1948 and discuss the main features of each stage.
e)To describe the central systemic components of the Israel's military occupation over the West Bank and Gaza Strip.
d)To assess the long term impact of Israel's military occupation on Palestinian economy, society and politics

Attendance requirements(%):

Attendance is required.

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Lectures

Course/Module Content:

Introduction (most of the first meeting): Palestinians in the West Bank, Gaza Strip, Israel, and the Diaspora since 1948: Basic historical, demographic, social and political data.

Refugeeness, dispersal, life in exile: major aspects (approximately four meetings, including the first meeting):

a. Palestinians and Jews under the British Mandate
b. The UNSCOP Report and the UN Partition Plan
c. The 1948 War: the immediate implications for the Palestinians.
d. The international community, the UN, UNRWA and the Palestinian refugees from a perspective of six decades.
e. The acquisition of education and the transformation of the social profile of second and third generations of Palestinian refugees.
f. Palestinian "human resources" in the Middle Eastern economy: migration of the

professionally educated to the Gulf.
g. The legal-political-social status of Palestinian refugees in three Arab "host" countries: citizens in Jordan, foreigners in Lebanon, migrant laborers in Kuwait.
f. Trends in the politicization of Palestinian communities up to the 1967 War: Between Arab and Palestinian nationalism.

Palestinian Society in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip under Israel's Military Occupation (between three and four meetings)
a. The 67 War, Arab defeat and the occupation of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip buy Israel: some direct implications for the Palestinians.
b. The Israeli occupation as a system of military, political and economic control: a review of the mechanisms.
c. The Israeli land grab and settlement policy and the transformation of the West Bank topography.
d. The political economy of military occupation: selective opening of the Israeli labor market to Palestinian laborers and de- development in the Palestinian territories.
e. Palestinian day laborers in the Israeli labor market: a four decade perspective.
f. Theories of under-development and dependency: are they applicative to the case of the occupied Palestinian territories?
g. The acquisition of education under Israeli occupation: assessing the impact of military intervention, surveillance and control.
h. Higher education under occupation and the development of the Palestinian universities as national institutions.
i. Obstacles to social mobility of the highly educated under occupation.

The development of the Palestinian national movement in the Diaspora and in the occupied territories from the 1967 War to the Oslo Accords (approximately three meetings)

a. From the banner of Arab unity to particular Palestinian nationalism: the rise of Palestinian guerilla organizations in the wake of the Arab defeat in the 1967 War.
b. The institutional development of the Palestinian national movement: the reorganization of the PLO (1968-9) and its ascendance to the stance of unifying organization representative of Palestinian national aspirations.
c. The consolidation of the infrastructure of the Palestinian National movement in Lebanon (1969-1982) and its aftermath.
d. The shift in the PLO's political strategy and the implications: the acceptance of the "Ten Points Program" by the Palestinian National Council (PNC) in June 1974 and the embracement of the "Two State Solution" by the PNC in November 1988 as major milestones.
e. From clandestine cells to popular committees: the course of development of the Palestinian national movement in the occupied territories between 1967 and 1987.
f. The first Intifada: a popular, unarmed Palestinian uprising against the Israeli military occupation in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.
g. The international community and the first Intifada: the convening of the Madrid

Conference in the shadow of the disintegration of the Soviet Union and the Gulf War.

From Oslo to the Second Intifada and beyond (brief overview, between one and two meetings)

a)The signing of the Declaration of Principles (DoP), "Oslo I" and "Oslo II", the establishment of the Palestinian National Authority (PNA), and the persistence of Israeli military control over the Palestinian territory.
b) Major institutional and political developments under the PNA.
c) The second Intifada and beyond: the failure of the Camp David Summit (July 2000); Israeli policy since October 2000; assessing the patterns of intervention by the international community since October 2000 and their consequences. d) The Hamas Fatah Divide and recent attempts at reconciliation

Required Reading:
Bibliography
Please note that most of the items in the bibliography are not specified as required reading.

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אתרים חשובים באינטרנט (להורדת פרסומים מרכזיים):
לסטטיסטיקה הפלסטינית המרכזית הלשכה אתר – www.pcbs.gov.ps
אונר אתר – www.unrwa.org United Nations Relief and Work Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East
בשטחים האדם לזכויות הישראלי המידע מרכז :בצלם אתר - www.btselem.org
אתר OCHA Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in the Occupied Palestinian Territory www.ochaopt.org
עזה ורצועת המערבית לגדה העולמי הבנק אתר www.worldbank.org/ps

כתב עת מרכזי: Journal of Palestine Studies

Additional Reading Material:
The above bibliography includes many items which are not required reading.

The required readings will be specified each week on the course site (Moodle).

Course/Module evaluation:
End of year written/oral examination 0 %
Presentation 0 %
Participation in Tutorials 0 %
Project work 80 %
Assignments 20 %
Reports 0 %
Research project 0 %
Quizzes 0 %
Other 0 %

Additional information:

Students should access the course site (moodle) on a regular basis. The site is updated each week.