

**Course Title: War and Peace in Israel and Palestine**

**Course Code: HIS 31**

**Instructor: Marwan D. Hanania, Ph.D.**

### **Course Summary**

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict is one of the world's most enduring political and human tragedies. As we are seeing today, it continues to flare up and capture media attention all over the world. To provide deeper understanding of the historical background and political realities of this conflict, this course examines the history of Arab-Jewish relations (and, later, Palestinian-Israeli tensions) from the late 19th century to the present.

### **Class Sessions and Recording**

Meeting days and times: Class will meet from 6:30-9:00pm on Tuesday 7/26, Thursday 7/28, Tuesday 8/2, Thursday 8/4, Tuesday 8/9, and Thursday 8/11

Meeting location: Zoom. The class sessions will not be recorded.

### **Course Features**

- Live online session
  - Lecture, discussions, and Q&A
  - An informal drop-in time for student Q&A
- Assignments & Coursework
  - Assignments and course materials posted in Canvas
- Individual meeting with instructor available by request

*\*Please see course page for full description and additional details.*

### **Grade Options and Requirements**

- No Grade Requested (NGR)
  - This is the default option. No work will be required; no credit shall be received; no proof of attendance can be provided.
- Credit/No Credit (CR/NC)
  - Students must attend at least five class sessions.
- Letter Grade (A, B, C, D, No Pass)
  - Students must attend at least five class sessions and complete a five to six page written paper that addresses a major theme pertaining to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

*\*Please Note: If you require proof that you completed a Continuing Studies course for any reason (for example, employer reimbursement), you must choose either the Letter Grade or Credit/No Credit option. Courses taken for NGR will not appear on official transcripts or grade reports.*

## **Textbooks/Required Materials**

Charles Smith, *Palestine and the Arab-Israeli Conflict: A History with Documents 10th Edition* (Macmillan, 2021)

## **First Assignment**

Please read chapter 1 of Charles Smith's book, *Palestine and the Arab-Israeli Conflict* (Macmillan 2021). Chapter 1 is entitled "Ottoman Society, Palestine, and the Origins of Zionism, 1516-1914".

## **Tentative Weekly Outline**

### **Day I:**

Why is the Israeli-Palestinian conflict important?

Different approaches to studying the Israeli-Palestinian conflict

Christians, Jews, and Muslims in the Middle East

Christianity, Judaism, and Islam's ties to Israel/Palestine

Jewish-Muslim co-existence and discord through the centuries

The Jewish Diaspora:

- Historical overview

- Integration, segregation, and persecution

- Geographical distribution

Palestine under the Ottoman Empire:

- Historical Background

- State Policy

- Reform

- Religion, Culture and Society

- Economy

Zionism and the Zionist Movement, 1870-1914

- Origin and Development of Zionism

- Major Ideas

Palestinian and Arab Nationalism, 1870-1914

- Organization

- Major Ideas

Early Reactions to Zionism/Palestinian and Arab Nationalism

**Day II:**

World War I, the Post-War Settlement, and the Mandate for Palestine:

- Palestinian and Arab nationalism

- Sykes-Picot Agreement

- Husayn-McMahon Correspondence

- Balfour Declaration

- Military outcomes of WWI

- The creation of the post-war mandatory system

The British Mandate

Palestinian Leadership and Politics

Zionist Leadership and Politics

Factors leading to the Arab Revolt

Impact of the Arab Revolt

British Policy after 1939

The Middle East during World War II

The Legacy of the Holocaust

The UN Partition Plan

The Arab-Jewish Civil War

The Establishment of the State of Israel

The 1947-1949 Wars (the Arab-Jewish Civil War and the Arab-Israeli War, both popularly known as the 1948 War)

The Palestinian Refugee Crisis

The Impact of 1948 on Israeli and Palestinian Collective Memory

Debate about Reasons for Palestinian Flight and Responsibility for the Refugee Crisis

**Day III:**

Israel and Palestinian-Israelis

The Rise of Nasser and Pan-Arab Nationalism

The Suez Conflict of 1956

Pan-Arabism: Successes and Failures

The Establishment of the PLO and Fatah

Israeli Politics to 1967

Superpower Rivalries and the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

Causes and Events Leading to the 1967 War

Major Military Events and Short-term Results

Outcomes: Territory, Refugees and a Changed Regional and International Political Landscape

The Khartoum Conference

UN Security Council Resolution 242

Long-Term Impact of the 1967 War

The Battle of Karameh and the Rise of Fatah  
 The Jordanian-Palestinian Civil Conflict of 1970-1971  
 Israel, the PLO and Lebanon

**Day IV:**

Cold War Diplomacy  
 The 1973 War  
 Israeli and Palestinian Tactics and Strategies, 1968-1987  
 The conflict in Lebanon and its relationship to the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict, 1975-2006  
 The Egyptian-Israeli Peace Treaty and its Impact on the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict  
 The West Bank under Israeli Occupation  
 Israel and the PLO after Lebanon  
 The Tail-End of the Cold War

**Day V:**

The First Intifada: Roots, Events, Consequences  
 The First Gulf War and its Impact on the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict  
 The Madrid Talks  
 The Oslo Accords  
 The Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement (Oslo 2)  
 Palestinian Opposition to Oslo  
 Israeli Opposition to Oslo  
 The Camp David Negotiations  
 The Taba Discussions  
 Reasons for Failure and Differing Interpretations

**Day VI:**

Causes of the Second Intifada  
 Major Events and Consequences of the Second Intifada  
 The Separation Barrier and the Consolidation of Settlements  
 Israeli Disengagement from Gaza  
 The Annapolis Conference  
 Israeli Invasions of Gaza  
 The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict Today:  
     Major issues and sources of disagreement  
     Internal Israeli Divisions  
     Internal Palestinian Divisions  
     The role of the US and other powers  
     The Impact of the Arab Spring and Regional Conflicts