MODERN ISRAEL

Janice M. Boville, Facilitator
Class Meets: Thursday Nights 6:30 - 9:30 in Science Building Room 201 (Upstairs)
Spring Semester 2017  Arizona Christian University  2625 E. Cactus Rd.  Phoenix
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COURSE DESCRIPTION
This seminar explores the historical background for the Modern State of Israel. We survey diverse 19th century Zionist expression, the British Mandate decades, and Israel’s declaration of statehood. We use this context to examine Israel’s internal challenges and the complex ‘Middle East Conflict.’

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND METHODS
By actively participating in this seminar, the students should:
1. Become familiar with the vocabulary, concepts, leaders and movements involved.
   [A Special Glossary will be provided, and Biographical Sketches will be created by the class.]
2. Learn the basic geography of the Middle East.
   [Sets of Maps will be gathered and kept organized in a Course Manual.]
3. Delineate and describe the main events in re-establishing and defending Israel.
   [A Chronology will be provided and student will memorize the highlighted dates and events.]
4. Gain discernment about the conflicting claims involved.
   Be able to detect media bias. Be prepared to refute misinformation.
   [Several Documentaries will be viewed and discussed. Study Guides accompany the films.]
5. Become familiar with a variety of trustworthy organizations and online resources.
   [Reliable Websites are recommended for class preparation and further research.]

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS
Soon to be Out-of-Print. Find it on Amazon, or, e-Book is available at: www.penguinrandom.com   ($13.99)

ISBN: 0-9712945-4-2
This can be purchased inexpensively, OR pdf downloaded from: JewishVirtualLibrary.org
**COURSE REQUIREMENTS and GRADE**

1. **Participation:** [This score is based on Attendance, Preparedness, and Participation in Discussions.]

   Derive **DQs** (Discussion Questions) from the Readings. Bring at least one to each class.

2. **Midterm Exam:** [100 of 300 points from March 3rd *IN-CLASS Chronology Memorization*] **Due March 2nd.**

3. **Final Exam:** [Will cover only the sessions after Midterm Exam.] **Due on May 4th.**

   Exams are “Take-Home” (Multiple Choice, *MAP Fill-in*, Matching, Short Answer) and cover **All** required readings.

4. **Research Project/Class Presentation** [A LIST of Suggested Topics with Format Guide will be given.]

   **Grade:** Midterm = 300 Points. Final = 300 Points. Participation = 200 Points. Project = 200 Points. **1000 TOTAL**

**COURSE STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

Geo-politically, Israel is the epicenter of world events today. Biblically, Israel is also the centerpiece of overall Redemptive History. As this is not a coincidence, it behooves all believers to become keenly aware of the dynamics involved, and stay critically informed about events past, present, and imminent! Ultimately it is hoped that students will incorporate this knowledge in a way that deepens their Biblical worldview thus being equipped to stand for truth in the face of increasing threats to Israel’s very existence.

**SESSION STRUCTURE**

1. **INFO-INTRO:**

   Most sessions open with a Lecture, a Video-clip, or a Document Reading. Some class sessions will be spent viewing a documentary film in its entirety. Complete Study Guides are provided so that ‘note-taking’ is not necessary during the film. The Guides contain blanks to be filled in afterwards.

2. **D.Q. TIME:**

   Students will engage in discussion, having identified specific Discussion Questions gleaned from all of the required readings (including all extra Manual Materials.) There will be plenty of DQs!

   Flexibility will be allowed, to include ‘Headline News’ and continual Media Exploration.

   Please show courtesy to the instructor and to fellow students by not bringing food to class.

   Any electronic devices are for class use only, when assigned. Otherwise, please just bring your Course Manual and your own pertinent DQs for each session.

**COURSE SCHEDULE** with **Reading Assignments** follows on the next two pages:
## COURSE SCHEDULE for READINGS and YOUR D.Q. TOPICS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>SESSION TOPIC:</th>
<th>PLEASE ATTEND HAVING ALREADY READ:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan 12</td>
<td>Lecture Intro: “Am Yisrael – Eretz Yisrael”</td>
<td><strong>START YOUR OWN MANUALS!</strong></td>
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<td>We START with a TEST!</td>
<td>Find Textbooks – Websites and Resources</td>
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<td>Jan 19</td>
<td>TEST ANSWERS – The Importance of MAPS!</td>
<td><strong>PUT MAPS IN YOUR MANUALS</strong></td>
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<td>View Middle East Landscape</td>
<td><strong>PUT GLOSSARY IN MANUAL – STUDY IT!</strong></td>
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<td>Know Israel’s Contours</td>
<td><strong>Myths &amp; Facts</strong> – Maps, and Introduction</td>
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<td>Jan 26</td>
<td>“Antisemitism: A Hatred Like No Other”</td>
<td>Sachar Textbook – Ch. 11 and 12</td>
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<td></td>
<td>DQ: Anti-Zionism = Antisemitism?</td>
<td><strong>Review Outline + Propaganda Illustrations</strong></td>
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<td>“Crossing the Line” – Antisemitism on College Campuses (Anti-Israel Demonstrations)</td>
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<td>Feb 2</td>
<td>Early Waves of Aliyah</td>
<td>Sachar – Ch. 13</td>
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<td>Theodor Herzl - W.Z.O. ♠</td>
<td><strong>Myths &amp; Facts</strong> – “Israel’s Roots”</td>
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<td>Chalutzim – Pioneers ‘Made the Desert Bloom’!</td>
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<td>DQ: What is “Zionism”? (Did Zionists invade “Palestine” and commit ethnic cleansing?)</td>
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<td>“The Hope” (on Herzl)</td>
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<td>Feb 9</td>
<td>British ‘Palestine’ Mandate</td>
<td>Sachar – Ch. 18</td>
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<td>“Promise and Betrayal”</td>
<td><strong>Myths &amp; Facts</strong> – “Mandatory Period”</td>
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<td><strong>PUT CHRONOLOGY IN MANUAL</strong></td>
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<td>DQ: Know significant events of these “Dastardly Decades” – Impact on future problems.....?</td>
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<td>Feb 16</td>
<td>“Shoah and Rebirth: Out of the Ashes”?</td>
<td>Sachar – Ch. 20 and 21</td>
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<td>DQ: Does Israel ‘OWE’ its existence to...?</td>
<td><strong>Holocaust Overview</strong></td>
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Feb 23 ~ “A Painful Birth”  
Sachar – Ch. 22  
📍 “The Long Way Home”  
Myths & Facts – “Partition” “1948 War”  
Film Study Guide – Fill-in Blanks or ‘Take the Quiz’ (As you will in all Film Study Guides)  
DQ: What should the 1948 War be called?

Mar 2 ~ “A Nation in a Hostile Neighborhood”  
Sachar – Ch. 27 and 28  
📍 “In Search of Peace”  
Myths & Facts – “1956, ’67 Six Day War”  
Film Study Guide – Fill-in Blanks  
DQ: Does Israel ‘illegally occupy’ captured territory?

Mar 9 ~ War and Peace  
Complex Social Challenges  
“Lebanon” “Gulf Wars”

Mar 23 ~ Understanding the Conflict  
📍 “Middle East Conflict” “Crash Course”  
“Refugees” “Human Rights” “Jerusalem”

Mar 30 ~ Our Involvement  
📍 “The Case for Israel”  
Myths & Facts – “U.S. Middle East Policy”  
“Peace Process” “Settlements”  
Articles from F.I.A.M.E.

Apr 6 ~ Existential Threat  
📍 “Hijacking the Holy Land”  
Myths & Facts – “The Media” “Arms Balance”  
“Delegitimizing Israel”  
Film Study Guide – DQs are abundant, and more crucial than ever!!

Apr 13 ~ “EPICENTER”  
Articles (EXAM covers ALL extra readings given to you)

Apr 20 through May 4 ~ Student Presentations - Be able to defend Israel against B.D.S. and other Anti-Zionist attacks.
SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY


Brog, David.  *Standing with Israel.*  FrontLine – Strang Co., 2006  (Of interest to Christians)


Dershowitz, Alan.  *The Case for Israel.*  John Wiley & Sons, 2004  (We will watch the documentary.)


Harkabi, Y.  *Arab Attitudes to Israel.*  Keter Publishing, 1972

Hertz, Eli.  *This Land is My Land.*


Tuchman, Barbara.  *Bible and Sword: England and Palestine from the Bronze Age to Balfour.*  Funk & Wagnalls, 1956


Trepp, Leo.  *Judaism: Development and Life.*  Wadsworth Publishing, 2000  (Chapters 1, 8 & 9)


, editor.  *Anti-Zionism and Antisemitism in the Contemporary World.*

, & David Ohana, editors.  *The Shaping of Israeli Identity: Myth, Memory, & Trauma.*  Routledge, 1995
MEDIA RESEARCH — PARTIAL LIST

www.mfa.gov.il  The Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs
www.memri.org  Media Research Institute  (Monitoring the Region’s News)
www.pmw.org.il  Palestinian Media Watch  (Monitoring the Region’s News)
www.theisraelproject.org  “T.I.P.”  (Information outlet for News Correspondents & Policy-Makers)
www.camera.org  Committee for Accuracy in Middle East Reporting
www.factsandlogic.org  F.L.A.M.E. works to combat the unfair media bias against Israel.
www.mideasttruth.com  (An amazing multi-media collection.)
www.pro-israel.org  (Provides Links to other resources. Watch their intro video!)
www.standwithus.com  International educational organization providing outreach to campuses.

DOCUMENTARIES — Shown in class. Study Guides will be filled out.

“The Long Way Home”  Moriah Films  (2 hours)  “Exodus 1947”  PBS  (56 minutes)
“In Search of Peace, Part I: 1948 – 1967”  Moriah Films  (2 hours)
“The Case for Israel: Democracy’s Outpost”  Doc Emet Productions  (78 mins.)
“Hijacking the Holy Land: Palestine, Propaganda and Peace”  J. Israel Productions  (87 mins.)
“Exposing Christian Palestinianism”  (Berean Call Conference Address by Paul Wilkinson)  (66 mins.)
“Epicenter”  (Documentary of Joel C. Rosenberg’s book)  (1 hour)

As Time Allows:

“The Hope: The Rebirth of Israel”  CBN, 2015
Biographies of: Theodor Herzl; Chaim Weizmann, David Ben Gurion, and Golda Meir.

“In Search of a Miracle: Against All Odds”  American Trademark Pictures, LLC