

Amideast Education Abroad Programs

ANTH/MENA/HIST/POLS 316: Palestine and Palestinians in the 21st Century

Syllabus

Credit Hours: 3 credit hours

Program Location:

Term and Year:

Name of Instructor:

Course Hours:

Office Hours:

Contact Information:

Course Description

This course takes an interdisciplinary approach to the study of Palestine in the twenty-first century. The course begins with a historical context and theoretical perspective, including an analysis of settler colonialism, apartheid, and ethnocracy. Three units of concentration will focus on culture and society, political economy, and the Palestinian diaspora and refugees, with each unit running for three to four weeks. The final class reflects on challenges facing a political solution in the territory between the Mediterranean Sea and Jordan River.

Each week will have a particular focus within the area of concentration. The interdisciplinary approach means that readings come from the fields of anthropology, political economy, refugee studies, and political science. Palestinians live under several different legal/political regimes within historic Palestine (West Bank, Gaza Strip, East Jerusalem, green-line Israel) and with different legal statuses internationally (as citizens of many countries and/or as refugees with UNRWA recognition). The course provides a wide array of perspectives from personal everyday life reflections and analysis to societal communal questions related to identity, politics, and economy.

By the end of the eighth week of the semester students must choose a final project and have it approved by the course instructor. Students should choose the project based on their own interests and specific topics from the weekly assignments.

Course Expectations

The course will be a discussion-based seminar. Most important to the course is to critically engage the reading each week and be able to discuss and show further analysis with the weekly response writing assignment.

Attendance and Engagement:

Students are expected to attend all regularly scheduled classes and come prepared to participate fully in class activities. Students are further expected to be on time for all classes. Arriving late for class is disrespectful of both the instructor and fellow students.

Please refer to the official Amideast Attendance Policy posted in the online course and on the Absence request site on the Student Portal.

Reading:

Each week students will be assigned approximately 75 pages of reading from 2-4 academic articles and/or chapters from books. Students will need to read the text closely, highlight, and annotate the readings. This is particularly important in order to be able to engage with classmates and to be able to fulfill the required writing for the course.

Writing:

Each week students will write a response essay of approximately 750 words that interacts with, challenges, questions, and makes connections to the readings. The essays are not summaries of the reading. The focus should be on personal synthesis and ideas, but the paper should remain closely tied to the assigned texts. Most importantly, students should explore ideas, inspirations, criticisms, and questions that arise from interactions with the texts.

Class Discussion:

To ensure that students are prepared for discussion in class, close reading and analytical writing will be done prior to the class. Students should come to class prepared with questions and perspectives on the reading. Active participation is a crucial part of the course. Students must attend class regularly and provide positive contributions to class discussion.

Final Project:

- 10-minute oral presentation
- Annotated bibliography with a minimum of 10 sources
- Research paper of 3500-4000 words

Late submissions of any assignment will not be accepted, except under documented emergency circumstances.

Assessment Overview

Description	Weight	Due Date
Class Participation	20%	Continuous
Weekly Written Reflections	60%	Continuous
Final Presentation, Paper, and Annotated Bibliography	20%	

Course Schedule

Week 1: Introduction

Beinin, Joel and Lisa Hajjar. Palestine, Israel and the Arab-Israeli Conflict, A Primer. *MERIP*.

Thrall, Nathan. A Day in the Life of Abed Salama. *The New York Review*. March 19, 2021.

Beshara Doumani, "Palestine versus the Palestinians? The Iron Laws & Ironies of a People Denied," *Journal of Palestine Studies* 36(4), 2007. pp.49-64

Week 2: Apartheid, Settler Colonialism, and Ethnocracy

Sayegh, Fayez. "Zionist Colonialism in Palestine (1965)," *Settler Colonial Studies*, vol 2(1) 2012, 206-225.

Salamanca, Omar Jabary and Mezna Qato, Kareem Rabie, and Sobhi Samour. "Past is Present: Settler Colonialism in Palestine," *Settler Colonial Studies*, vol 2(1) 2012, pp. 1-8.

Amoruso, Francesco, Ilan Pappé, and Sophie Richter-Devrow. "Introduction: Knowledge, Power, and the "Settler Colonial Turn" in Palestine Studies," *International Journal of Postcolonial Studies*, vol 21(4) 2019, pp.451-463.

Muhareb, Rania, Elizabeth Rghebi, Pearce Clancy, Joseph Schechla, Nada Awad, and Maha Abdallah. *Israeli Apartheid: Tool of Zionist Colonialism*. Al-Haq. 2022.

Jeenah, Na'eem. "Introduction". In *Pretending Democracy: Israel, an Ethnocratic State*. pp. 3-23. 2012

Week 3: Culture and Society: Identity and Nationalism

Richter-Devroe, Sophie, Ruba Salih, "Cultures of Resistance in Palestine and Beyond: On the Politics of Art, Aesthetics, and Affect," *The Arab Studies Journal*, 22:1, pp.8-27.

Tawil-Souri. Helga, "The Necessary Politics of Palestinian Cultural Studies. In Arab Cultural Studies: Mapping the Field," in T. Sabry (ed.) *Conceptualising Cultural Studies and Media Studies in the Arab World: Mapping the Field*. I.B. Tauris. pp.150-176.

Belkind, Nili. "The everyday practice and performance of nation-making and resistance in Palestine," In *Music in Conflict: Palestine, Israel and the Politics of Aesthetic Production*. Routledge, 2020. Pages 42-81.

Week 4: Culture and Society: oPt

Toukan, Hanan. "Ramallah: The Paintbrush is Mightier than the M16," In *The Politics of Art: Dissent and Cultural Diplomacy in Lebanon, Palestine, and Jordan*. Stanford University Press, 2021. Pages 193-217

Allen, Lori. "Getting By the Occupation: How Violence Became Normal during the Second Palestinian Intifada," *Cultural Anthropology*, vol. 23(3), pp.453-487.

Abourahme, Nasser. The Bantustan sublime: reframing the colonial in Ramallah. *City*, 13(4), Dec. 2009. pp.499-509.

Bishara, Amahl. "Driving while Palestinian in Israel and the West Bank: The politics of disorientation and the routes of a subaltern knowledge," *American Ethnologist*, vol. 42(1), 2015. pp.33-54.

Week 5: Culture and Society: "Greenline" Israel

Karkabi, Nadeem. "How and Why Haifa Has Become the "Palestinian Cultural Capital" in Israel," *City and Community*, vol. 17(4), 2018. pp. 1168-1188.

Lana Tatour, "Citizenship as Domination: Settler Colonialism & the Making of Palestinian Citizenship in Israel," *Arab Studies Journal*, vol 27(2), 2019. pp. 8-39

Hackl, Andreas. "Using the Settler City: Immersive Invisibility and the Palestinian Struggle for urban Access in Tel Aviv" and "A Journey without Arrival? Palestinian Mobility into the Jewish city". In *The Invisible Palestinians: The Hidden Struggle for Inclusion in Jewish Tel Aviv*. Indiana University Press. 2022. pp.1-46.

Week 6: Culture and Society: Gender, Violence and Resistance

Atshan, Sa'ed. "LGBTQ Palestinians and Politics of the Ordinary". In *Queer Palestine and the Empire of Critique*. Stanford University Press. 2020. pp. 27-70.

Ihmoud, Sarah. Murabata: The Politics of Staying in Place. *Feminist Studies*. 45, 2/3. 2019

Shalhoub-Kevorkian, Nadera and Suhad Daher-Nashif, "Femicide and Racism: Between the Politics of Exclusion and the Culture of Control," in *Sexual Politics in Muslim Societies: Studies from Palestine, Turkey, Malaysia and Indonesia*, ed. Pinar Ilkharacan and Rima Athar. Surabaya, Indonesia: Gaya Nusantara, 2017. pp. 19-61.

Meari, "Resignifying 'Sexual' Colonial Power Techniques: The Experiences of Palestinian Women Political Prisoners," in *Rethinking Gender in Revolutions and Resistance: Lessons from the Arab World*. ed. Maha El Said, Lena Meari, and Nicola Pratt. London: Zed Books, 2015. pp. 59–85.

Week 7: Political Economy - Neoliberalism

Clarno, Andy. "Neoliberal Colonization in the West Bank," *Social Problems*, vol.65(3), 2018. pp.323-341.

Khalidi, Raja and Sobhi Samour. "Neoliberalism and the Contradictions of the Palestine Authority's State-Building Programme". In *Decolonizing Palestinian Political Economy: De-development and Beyond*. Palgrave Macmillan, 2014. pp. 179-199.

Dana, Tariq; Seidal, Timothy and Alaa Tartir. "Palestinian Political Economy: Enduring Struggle Against Settler Colonialism, Racial Capitalism, and Neoliberalism." In *Political Economy of Palestine*. Palgrave Macmillan. pp. 1-22.

Week 8: Political Economy - Economic Development

Ajl, Max. "Why does the Occupation Continue?," *Middle East Report*, 262, 2012.

Tabar, Linda. "Disrupting Development, Reclaiming Solidarity: The Anti-Politics of Humanitarianism," *Journal of Palestine Studies*, 45(4), 2016. pp.16-31.

Calis, Irene. Aid and Occupation: Maintaining the Status Quo in Palestine. *Journal of Palestine Studies*. Vol.42(3) 2013. pp.10-28.

Turner, Mandy. The Political Economy of Western Aid in the Occupied Palestinian Territory Since 1993. In *Decolonizing Palestinian Political Economy: De-development and Beyond*. Palgrave Macmillan, 2014. pp. 32-52.

Roy, Sara. "De-development Revisted: Palestinian Economy and Society Since Oslo," *Journal of Palestine Studies*, vol.28(3), 1999. pp.64-82.

Week 9: Political Economy - Labor

Morton-Jerome. Ethan. "The Struggle for Palestinian Workers' Rights in Israeli Settlements: The Case of Maan v. Zarfati Garage," *Jerusalem Quarterly*, 86(summer), 2021. pp.79-96.

Farsakh, Leila. "Palestinian Labor Flows to the Israeli Economy: A Finished Story?," *Journal of Palestine Studies*, vol.32(1), 2002. pp. 13-27.

Hever. Shir. "Exploitation of Palestinian Labor in Contemporary Zionist Colonialism," *Settler Colonial Studies*, vol.2(1), 2012. pp.124-132.

Hackl, Andreas. "Occupied labour: dispossession through incorporation among Palestinian workers in Israel," *Settler Colonial Studies*, 2022. pp.1-18.

Week 10: Diaspora- Refugees and Refugee Camps

Peteet, Julie. "Aid and the Construction of the Refugee,". In *Landscape of Hope and Despair: Palestinian Refugee Camps*. University of Pennsylvania Press. Pages 47-92.

Richter-Devroe, Sophie. "Palestinian Refugees of the Oslo Generation: Thinking beyond the Nation?," *Journal of Palestine Studies*, 50:3, 2021. pp.18-36

Allan, Diana. "'This is Not a Politics': Solidarity and Subterfuge in Palestinian Refugee Communities in Lebanon," *South Atlantic Quarterly*, 117(1), 2018. pp.91-110.

Nell Gabiam. "Sumud and Sustainability: Reinterpreting Development in Palestinian Refugee Camps." *The Politics of Suffering: Syria's Palestinian Refugee Camps*. Indiana University Press. 2016. pp. 66-85.

Week 11: Diaspora- Arab World

Perez, Michael Vicente. "Materializing the nation in everyday life: on symbols and objects in the Palestinian refugee diaspora." *Dialectical Anthropology*, vol.42(4), 2018. pp.409-427.

Allan, Diana. "From nationalist to Economic Subject: Emergent Economic Networks among Shatila's Women," *Journal of Palestine Studies*, vol.38(4), 2009. pp.75-90.

Zbeidy, D. "Marriage Practices in Wihdat: matchmaking, Mutual Understanding and National Belonging". In *Marriage and displacement among Palestinian and Syria refugees in Jordan*. Dissertation, University of Amsterdam, 2020. pp.33-70.

Suleiman, Yasir. Selections from *Being Palestinian: personal reflections on Palestinian identity in the Diaspora*.

Week 12: Diaspora- Americas

Serhan, Randa. *Palestinian Weddings: Inventing Palestine in new Jersey*.

Hammer, Julie. *Home and the Future of Palestinian Identities*.

Baeza, Cecilia. "Palestinians in Latin America: Between Assimilation and Long-Distance nationalism," *Journal of Palestine Studies*, vol.43(2), 2014. pp.59-72

Aljamal, Youesf, Philipp Amour. "Palestinian Diaspora Communities in Latin America and Palestinian Statehood," *Journal of Holy Land Studies and Palestine Studies*, vol.19(1), 2020. pp.101-120.

Week 13: The Future

Zreik, Raef. "Palestine as a Question: Decolonisation," *Misr Review* 4, 2020, pp. 158-194.

Hussein, Cherine. The Single-state solution: vision, obstacles, and dilemmas of a re-emergent alternative in flux. in *From the River to the Sea: Palestine and Israel in the Shadow of "Peace"*. pp.303-332

Azoulay, Ariella and Adi Ophir. "Introduction" and "Conclusion: Toward a New Regime". In *The One-State Condition: Occupation and Democracy in Israel/Palestine*. pp.11-24 and 249-274.

Week 14: Presentations

Final project presentations