This course explores asylum policy and practice in Israel, from historical and socio-political perspectives. The course will address contemporary issues in international refugee studies and assess implications and relevance for the Israeli context. Special attention will be devoted to the evolution of Israel's asylum procedures and practice and the specific challenges involved. The course will trace the asylum trends in Israel contextualizing various cases and emphasizing the more recent case of Sudanese and Eritrean nationals (2005-present, i.e. new asylum seekers in Israel). Students will be familiarized with the political and socio-economic implications of the African asylum phenomenon to Israel as well as the ongoing policy debates surrounding it. The Israeli case will be analyzed against the backdrop of the wider international context and drawing on literature from international migration theory.

Learning Outcomes:
On successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Outline the evolution of international refugee policy
2. Describe and assess the main terminology association with refugees and asylum
3. Summarize the main concepts of international refugee studies
4. Associate refugee theory with the Israeli context
5. Summarize and contextualize the main asylum trends in Israel's history
6. Describe and evaluate Israel's asylum practice
7. Discuss and evaluate the specific challenges Israel faces in its asylum regulations

Field of Education and Discipline(s): Political Science, Israeli Studies.

Course Structure:

Lectures: 13  Total # of Credits: 2  
ECTS (European Credit Transfer System—will be calculated by the OSP): 3
Teaching Method:
The course will be conducted through a combination of formal lectures, student presentations and class discussion. The lectures will be based on weekly reading assignments and students will take an active part in presenting and discussing the readings. The course will also include guest lectures and a field trip.

Course Requirements

Compulsory attendance YES

Pre-requisites: None

Structure of Final Course Grade

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Participation</td>
<td>10 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Reading report/presentation</td>
<td>30 % (2*15%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Final Paper</td>
<td>60%</td>
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<td>100%</td>
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Note:
- Work handed in late, will not be graded!
- Language of instruction is English.

Time required for individual work: in addition to attendance in class, the students are expected to do their assignment and individual work:

1-2 hours of reading each week
4 hours of work on the reading report
4 hours of work on the presentation
20 hours of work on the final paper

Those expectations are approximate and correlate with the module's ECTS.

Assignments
Throughout the course of the semester students will prepare two assignments related to the readings covered in class: one reading report based on an article, as well as one in class-presentation of a second article.

Subjects for the final paper can relate to any topic covered in class. Ideas and guidelines will be discussed in the first half of the course.

Course Schedule Layout:

Week 1
Introducing concepts and origins of the international refugee system (Part I)
What are the key concepts and terminologies in refugee studies?

Readings:
Week 2
Introducing concepts and origins of the international refugee system (Part II)
What are the roots and institutional foundations of the contemporary international system?

Readings:

Week 3
Global Refugee Trends and Policy Responses
What are the contemporary refugee trends and issues worldwide? What are some of the policy responses?

Readings:


Week 4
Asylum in Israel
Contextualizing the Israeli case, historical overview.

Readings:

Week 5
Cases of asylum in Israel- context and policy (1951-2005)
An outline of the trajectory of the asylum issue from Israel's establishment until 2005; overview of central cases.

Readings:


Week 6
Cases of asylum in Israel- context (2005-today)
The case of African asylum seekers, overview of context
Readings:


Week 7
Guest Lectures
Members of the Sudanese and Eritrean asylum seeker community will be invited to share their stories with the class

Week 8
Legislative and policy responses to the current asylum issue in Israel (Part I)
An overview and discussion of the various legislative responses to the current asylum issue.

Readings:


Week 9
Legislative and policy responses to the current asylum issue in Israel (Part II)

Readings:

Week 10
Trip: Holot Detention Center

Week 11
Asylum seekers and national-security: The Israeli Context
What are the connections between forced migration and national security? How do these apply to Israel?

Readings:

Week 12
Socio-economic challenges
What are the socio-economic implications of the arrival of African asylum seekers? What are some of the challenges for Israeli cities and neighborhoods?

Readings:


Week 13
Course conclusion and student presentations

Students will present the topics of their final papers.

Recommended Readings (optional)

Week 1


Week 2


Week 3


Week 4


**Week 5**

**Week 6**


**Week 8**

**Week 11**


**Week 12**
