



Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

Ben-Gurion Research Institute for the Study of Israel and Zionism

The Israel Studies International MA Program

West Bank Settlers: Research Perspectives

Dr. Michael Feige

The Jewish settlement project in the territories occupied by Israel in the 1967 Six Day War has been the focal point of the public debate regarding the direction Israel is heading to. This seminar will examine the ideological, social, cultural and political aspects of this phenomenon, concentrating on the more ideologically minded religious settlers.

As the seminar takes place within one short semester, attendance and active participation is of great importance. The students will be required to do a short research project and presentation in class, and to submit a seminar paper at the end of the semester. The classes will include a multiplicity of learning methods, including encountering texts of various kinds, discussing film and a field trip.

Syllabus and primary bibliography

Week 1: The issues, the debate and doing research on the settlers

Week 2: History

Gideon Aran, 1991. "Jewish Zionist fundamentalism: The bloc of the faithful in Israel." In *Fundamentalism observed*, ed. Martin E. Marty and R. Scott Appleby, 265-344. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Week 3: Ideology and theology

Aviezer Ravitzki, *Messianism, Zionism and Jewish Religious Radicalism*, University of Chicago Press 1996.

Gadi Taub, *The Settlers*, Yale University Press, 2010. Ch. 2.

Week 4: Memory and return

David Ohana 2002. "Kfar Etzion: The community of memory and the myth of return." *Israel Studies* 7:145-74.

Michael Feige, *Settling in the Hearts*, Wayne State University Press, ch 7.

Week 5: Geography and Settlement

Week 6: Interlude: Movie and discussion.

Week 7: Jewish settlers and local Palestinians

Grossman, David. 1988. *The yellow wind*. Translated from the Hebrew by Haim Watzman. New York: Delta.

Michael Feige, *Settling in the Hearts*, ch. 5

Week 8: Theories and methodologies

Ian Lustick, 1993. *Unsettled states, disputed lands*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press.

Benvenisti, Meron. 1995. *Intimate enemies: Jews and Arabs in a shared land*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Oren Yiftachel. 2006. *Ethnocracy: Land and identity politics in Israel/Palestine*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press

Week 9: A special case – the Golan Heights

Special lecturer: Moriel Ram

Week 10: A trip to the West Bank

Week 11: Student presentations

Week 12: Student presentations

Week 13: Evacuation, disengagement and reversal

Michael Feige, *Settling in the Hearts*, ch. 13.

Motti Inbari, 2009. *Jewish Fundamentalism and the Temple Mount: Who Will Build the Third Temple?* SUNY Press.

Week 13: A special case – Shiloah/Silwan

Rafi Greenberg and Adi Keinan, 2010. *Israeli Archaeological Activity in the West Bank 1967-2007: A Sourcebook*. Find in: <http://www.alt-arch.org/publications.php>