



The Ben – Gurion Research Institute
for the Study of Israel & Zionism

The Israel Studies International Program – ISIP

"Israeli Citizenship Laws" (016-2-2012)

Spring Semester, 2012

Thursdays, 8:30 - 12:00

Dr. Ben Herzog

Email: herzogb@bgu.ac.il

Phone: (08) 659-6976 (office)

(053) 420-0273 (cell)

Office hours: SdeBoker Campus, Dondish Building – Tuesdays, 14:00-15:00

The common denominator of many recent studies on citizenship is that immigration and naturalization processes are articulated in relation to the conception of citizenship and nationhood in any particular country. That is, the regulations responsible for the entrance into and inclusion of new members in the national community are dependent on the understanding of who in the first place should belong to the national "we" and who should not. Therefore, by looking at the Israeli citizenship laws – the Nationality Law and the Law of Return – and at the different interpretations, amendments and implementations of these laws, we will be able to better understand modern Israel. This course provides an overview of modern Israeli democracy, society and politics.

Course evaluation:

This class is designed as a seminar. Therefore class time is devoted to discussion between and among students and the instructor, as well as lectures. It is essential that seminar participants come to class prepared to discuss the reading material for that day's class. Grades are based on daily participation, three book reviews, and a final paper. The composition of final grades and grading scale are as follows:

Class Participation(15%): Class attendance will not be taken. However, class participation is part of the final grade and you will be expected to include issues discussed during class in the final essay.

Response paper (15%): Each week the students prepare (in advance to class) a short response to the assigned reading (1-2 pages). The response paper should show that the student is able to critically analyze the work instead of just reading it and composing a restatement or summary.

Book Review (10%): Students will be required to write a critical review of literature. The literature review has to comment on one book which is NOT from the required reading list. The review should be 3-4 pages long. The review should take a form similar to that found in academic journals. For a good example, browse an issue of *Contemporary Sociology* or the *American Journal of Sociology* (review sections are at the end). Reviews include both a summary of a book's central argument and approach, and a discussion of the book's contributions and shortcomings. A list of suggested books for review is presented at end of this syllabus.

Midterm assignment – short presentation (10%): - Each student will be required to present his or her research project in class. The presentation should be 15 minutes long.

Final essay (50%): One 15-20 page long essay. The essay should focus on a subject discussed in the course and that is of particular interest to the student. The essay could be theoretical or practical; that is, it could highlight a theoretical debate or a specific historical event. The student should introduce new literature on the subject, and combine at least two sub-topics discussed during the course.

Course Schedule & Assigned Readings:

Listed below are the required texts and schedule for the course. Additional articles and topics may be added during the course. The course discuss different elements of the Israeli citizenship laws: The Law of Return and the Israel Citizenship Law; Jewish Refugees; Who is a Jew?; Section 7A; Loss of citizenship; Arab citizens and the Marriage Amendments; and Foreign Workers and Asylum seekers.

Suggested books:

Shafir, Gershon, and Yoav Peled, 2002. *Being Israeli: The Dynamics of Multiple Citizenship*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Arian, Asher. 2005. *Politics in Israel: The Second Republic*. Washington DC: CQ Press.

Week 1 (6/3/2014): Israel - Jewish and Democratic?

Smooha, Sami. 2002. "The Model of Ethnic Democracy: Israel as a Jewish and Democratic State." *Nations and Nationalism* 8(4): 475-503.

Gavison, Ruth. 1999. "Jewish and Democratic? A Rejoinder to the "Ethnic Democracy" Debate" *Israel Studies* 4(1): 44-72.

Dowty, Alan. 1999. "Is Israel Democratic? Substance and Semantics in the "Ethnic Democracy" Debate." *Israel Studies* 4(2): 1-15.

Research session: Social Science and empirical data

Week 2 (20/3/2014): The law of Return and the Israel Citizenship Law

Kasher, Asa. 1985. "Justice and Affirmative Action: Naturalization and the Law of Return" *Israel Yearbook of Human Rights* vol. 15: 101-112.

Gans, Chaim. 1998. "Nationalism and Immigration" *Ethical Theory and Moral Practice* 1(2): 159-180.

Rubinstein, Amnon, and Alexander Yakobson. 2009. *Democratic Norms, Diasporas and Israel's Law of Return*. American Jewish Committee (AJC). January 12

<http://www.bjpa.org/Publications/details.cfm?PublicationID=305>

Research session: Evaluation of laws

Week 3 (27/3/2014): The Formation of Jewish Society in Palestine and Israel

Shafir, Gershon. 1989. *Land, Labor and the Origins of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict 1882-1914*. New York: Cambridge University Press. pp. 45-90.

Horowitz, Dan, and Moshe Lissak. 1978. *Origins of the Israeli Polity: Palestine under the Mandate*. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press. pp. 37-68.

Shapiro, Yonathan. 1993. "The Historical Origins of Israeli Democracy," Pp. 65-80 in *Israeli Democracy under Stress*, edited by Ehud Sprinzak, and Larry Diamond. Boulder: Lynne Rienner.

Research session: History and Sociology

Week 4 (3/4/2014): The Jewish Ethnic Divide

Smooha, Sammy. 1993. "Class, Ethnic, and National Cleavages and Democracy in Israel," Pp. 309-342 in *Israeli Democracy under Stress*, edited by Ehud Sprinzak, and Larry Diamond. Boulder: Lynne Rienner.

Kimmerling, Baruch. 2001. *The Invention and Decline of Israeliness: State, Society, and the Military*. Berkeley: University of California Press. Pp. 89-111.

Khazoom, Aziza. 2003. "The Great Chain of Orientalism: Jewish Identity, Stigma Management, and Ethnic Exclusion in Israel." *American Sociological Review* 68: 481-501.

Movie: SallahShabati (1964)

Week 5 (24/4/2014): Nation Building and State Formation

Peleg, Ilan. 1998. "Israel Constitutional Order and Kulturkampf: The Role of Ben-Gurion." *Israel Studies* 3(1): 230-250.

Barzilai, Gad. 2003. "State legal Culture: Domination, Identities, and Politics of Rights." Pp. 59-96 in *Communities and Law*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press.

Barak, Aharon. 1998. "The Role of the Supreme Court in a Democracy." *Israel Studies* 3: 6-29.

Research session: Archival work

Week 6 (1/5/2014): Holocaust Survivors and the Next Generations

Liebman, Charles S., and Eliezer Don-Yehiya. 1983. *Civil Religion in Israel: Traditional Judaism and Political Culture in the Jewish State*. Berkeley: University of California Press. Pp. 81-122.

Gorny, Yosef. 2003. *Between Auschwitz and Jerusalem*. London; Portland: Vallentine Mitchell. Pp. 125-163.

Resnik, Julia. 2003. "'Sites of Memory' of the Holocaust: Shaping National Memory in the Education System in Israel." *Nation and Nationalism* 9(2): 297-317.

Research session: Students Presentations

Week 7 (8/5/2014): Who is a Jew?

Liebman, Charles S. 1993. "Religion and Democracy in Israel." Pp. 273-293 in *Israeli Democracy under Stress*, edited by Ehud Sprinzak, and Larry Diamond. Boulder: Lynne Rienner.

Barzilai, Gad. 2003. "Religious Fundamentalism and Law: The Jewish Ultra-Orthodox (Haredi) Community and Legal Culture." Pp. 209-278 in *Communities and Law*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press.

Deshen, Shlomo. 2005. "The emergence of the Israeli Sephardi ultra-Orthodox movement." *Jewish Social Studies* 11 (2): 77-101.

Research session: Students Presentations

Week 8 (15/5/2014): Israeli Arabs

Peled, Yoav 1992. "Ethnic Democracy and the Legal Construction of Citizenship: Arab Citizens of the Jewish State." *APSR* 86(2): 432-443.

Lustick, Ian S. 1980. *Arabs in the Jewish State: Israel's Control of a National Minority*. Austin: University of Texas Press. Pp. 1-27.

Kimmerling, Baruch, and Joel S. Migdal. 2003. *The Palestinian People: A History*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press. Pp. 169-213.

Research session: Students Presentations

Week 9 (22/5/2014): Immigration from the Soviet Union and its successor states

Herzog, Ben. 2010. "The Revocation of Citizenship in Israel." *Israel Studies Forum* 25(1): 57-72.

Lustick, Ian S. 1999. "Israel as a Non-Arab State: The Political Implication of Mass Immigration of Non-Jews." *Middle East Journal* 53(3): 417-433.

Research session: Writing a Paper

Week 10 (29/5/2014): Gender relations

Izraeli, Daphna. 1997. "Gendering Military Service in the Israel Defense Forces" *Israel Social Science Research* 12(1): 129-166.

Berkovitch, Niza. 1997. "Motherhood as a National Mission: the Construction of Womanhood in the Legal Discourse in Israel" *Women's Studies International Forum* 20(5): 605-619.

Research session: Ethics and Politics

Week 11 (5/6/2014): National Security and Democracy

Peri, Yoram. 1993. "The Arab-Israeli Conflict and Israeli Democracy," Pp. 343-357 in *Israeli Democracy under Stress*, edited by Ehud Sprinzak, and Larry Diamond. Boulder: Lynne Rienner.

Ben-Eliezer, Uri. 1998. *The Making of Israeli Militarism*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press. Pp. 193-229.

Movie: James' Journey to Jerusalem - Massa'ot James Be'erezt Hakodesh (2003)

Week 12 (12/6/2014): Migrant Workers and Refugees

Kritzman, Tally 2010. "Otherness' as the Underlying Principle in Israel's Asylum Regime." *Israel Law Review* 42(3): 603-627.

Kemp, Adriana, Rebeca Raijman, Julia Resnik, and Silvina Schammah-Gesser. 2000. "Contesting the Limits of Political Participation: Latinos and Black African Migrant Workers in Israel." *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 23(1): 94-119.

Yacobi, Haim. 2011. "Let Me Go to the City': African Asylum Seekers, Racialization and the Politics of Space in Israel." *Journal of refugee studies* 24(1): 47-68.

Tour: Holot Camp

Week 13 (18/6/2014): Israeli society since Oslo

Peri, Yoram. 2005. *The Assassination of Yitzhak Rabin*. Stanford: Stanford University Press. Introduction and chapter 1

Danny Ben-Moshe. 2004. "Post-Zionism in the Oslo Era and the Implications for the Diaspora." *Israel Affairs* 10 (1): 313-336:

Suggested books for review:

Arian, Asher, David Nachmias, and Ruth Amir. 2002. *Executive Governance in Israel*. Basingstoke: Palgrave.

Aronoff, Myron J. 1989. *Israeli Visions and Divisions*. New Brunswick: Transaction.

Avishai, Bernard. 1985. *The Tragedy of Zionism: Revolution and Democracy in the Land of Israel*. New York: Farrar, Straus, Giroux.

Barnett, Michael. 1992. *Confronting the Costs of War: Military Power, State, and Society in Egypt and Israel*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Benvenisti, Meron. 2000. *The Buried History of the Holy Land since 1948*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Dowty, Allan, Illan Peleg, Abraham Diskin, Ehud Sprinzak, Hillel Frisch, and Hans-Joachim Lauth. 1997. *The Role of Domestic Politics in Israeli Peacemaking*. Jerusalem: Leonard Davis Institute, Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

Dowty, Allan. 1998. *The Jewish State One Hundred Years Later*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Sprinzak, Ehud. 1999. *Brother Against Brother: Violence and Extremism in Israeli Politics from Altalena to the Rabin Assassination*. New York: Free Press

Eisenstadt, Shmuel N. 1986. *The Transformation of Israeli Society: An Essay in Interpretation*. Boulder: Westview.

Elizur, Judith N., and Elihu Katz. 1998. 2d edition. *The Theater of Redemption: Israel's Images and their Functions*. Jerusalem: S.N.

Elon, Amos. 1981. *The Israelis: Founders and Sons*. Jerusalem: Adam.

Evron, Boaz. 1995. *Jewish State of Israeli Nation?* Bloomington: Indiana University Press.

Ezrahi, Yaron. 1997. *Rubber Bullets: Power and Conscience in Modern Israel*. Berkeley and London: University of California Press.

Freedman, Robert O. (ed.). 2000. *Israel's First Fifty Years*. Gainesville: University Press of Florida.

Gilbert, Martin. 2008. *Israel, A History*. London: Black Swan.

Gorny, Yosef. 1994. *Israel in Jewish Public Thought: The Quest for Collective Identity*. New York: New York University Press.

- Hertzberg, Arthur. 1997. *The Zionist Idea: A Historical Analysis and Reader*. Philadelphia and Jerusalem: The Jewish Publication Society.
- Horowitz, David. 2000. *A Little Too Close to God: The Thrills and Panic of a Life in Israel*. New York: Knopf.
- Horowitz, Dan, and Moshe Lissak. 1978. *Origins of the Israeli Polity*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- Horowitz, Dan, and Moshe Lissak. 1989. *Trouble in Utopia: the Overburdened Polity of Israel*. Albany: SUNY Press.
- Karsh, Efraim (ed.). 2000. *Israel: The First Hundred Years. Vol. II From War to Peace?* London: Frank Cass.
- Karsh, Efraim. 1997. *Fabricating Israeli History: The "New Historians"* London: Frank Cass.
- Kyle, Keith, and Joel Peters (eds.). 1993. *Whither Israel? The Domestic Challenges*. London: I.B. Tauris.
- Laqueur, Walter. 1972. *A History of Zionism: From the French Revolution to the Establishment of the State of Israel*. New York: MJF.
- Liebman, Charles S., and Eliezer Don-Yehiya. 1983. *Civil Religion in Israel: Traditional Judaism and Political Culture in the Jewish State*. Berkeley: University of California Press.
- Lowsky-Feder, Edna, and Eyal Ben-Ari (eds.). 2000. *The Military and Militarism in Israeli Society*. Albany, New York: SUNY.
- Lustick, Ian. 1988. *From the Land of the Lord: Jewish Fundamentalism in Israel*. New York: Council on Foreign Relations.
- Medding Peter Y. 1990. *The Founding of Israeli Democracy 1948-1967*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Migdal, Joel. 2001. *Through the Lens of Israel: Explorations of State and Society*. Albany, New York: SUNY.
- Morris, Benny. 1987. *The Birth of the Palestinian Refugee Problem 1947-1949*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Oz, Amos. 1993. *In the Land of Israel*. San Diego: Harcourt Brace.
- Peretz, Don, and Gideon Doron. 1997. *The Government and Politics of Israel*. 3d ed. Boulder: Westview.

- Rejwan, Nissim. 1998. *Israel's Place in the Middle East: a Pluralist Perspective*. Gainesville, Florida: University of Florida Press.
- Sachar, Howard M. 1998. *Israel and Europe: an Appraisal in History*. New York: Vintage Books.
- Sachar, Howard M. 2000. *A History of Israel: From the Rise of Zionism to Our Time*. 2d. ed. New York: Knopf.
- Shimoni, Gideon. 1995. *The Zionist Ideology*. Hanover, NH: Brandeis University Press.
- Sicker, Martin. 1992. *Judaism, Nationalism and the Land of Israel*. Boulder: Westview.
- Tal, Alon. 2002. *Pollution in a Promised Land: An Environmental History of Israel*. Berkeley: University of California Press.
- Telhami, shibley, and Michael Barnett, (eds).2002. *Identity and Foreign Policy in the Middle East*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press.
- Tessler, Mark. 1994. *A History of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press.
- Torstrick, Rebecca. 2000. *The Limits of Coexistence: Identity Politics in Israel*. Ann Harbor: University of Michigan Press.
- Yishai, Yael. 1996. *Between the Flag and the Banner: Women and Politics in Israel*. Albany, New York: SUNY.
- Zerubavel, Yael. 1995. *Recovered Roots: Collective Memory and the Making of Israeli National Tradition*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.