

Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

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

The Woodman-Scheller Israel Studies International Program (WSISIP)

Spring 2018

Multiculturalism in Israel: Dilemmas of Public Policy

Lecturer: Dr. Ofir Abu

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Office Hours: By appointment

I strongly encourage you to come and speak to me during the semester. I will also try to be very responsive to emails and I urge you to write to me.

Class Time: Thursday, 16:30-18:00

Class Location: TBA

Description and Goals

Multiculturalism in Israel is a solid fact, but the discourse around multiculturalism in Israel rarely scratches the surface of the challenges that multiculturalism poses to public policy. It does not engage with the ability of public institutions – such as welfare, immigration and education – to meet the needs and demands of ethno-cultural groups as part of their integration in society and state institutions. National and cultural diversity that characterizes contemporary Israeli society and the claims that derive from it require new thinking about the nature of public policy and its compatibility to this reality; it is required to create a balance between civil equality, collective rights and social cohesion. After exposing the students to the main theoretical discussions on multiculturalism, we will move forward to examine the ability of existing institutions and arrangements in Israel to respond to the challenges of public policy in a multicultural context. Class discussions will focus on the impact existing institutions and arrangements have on the status of individuals and groups within Israeli society. The main objective is to deepen the understanding of the relationship between multiculturalism and public policy in Israeli society as well as to weigh different alternatives to existing policies.

The course is organized into three parts. Part I establishes the theoretical background necessary to understand what multiculturalism is and how it shapes mechanisms of inclusion in contemporary developed democracies. Part II focuses on the relationship between cultural diversity and public policy. We will discuss how multiculturalism affects different social and political structures. Part III then analyzes different issues that stand at the heart of the discussion around multicultural public policies in Israeli society, including workplace diversity, education, land allocation, law, and immigration.

Requirements

Attendance and participation (10 percent of the grade): You must attend all classes and if for a valid reason (such as a medical problem or other emergency) you cannot do so, you must inform me ahead of time during by e-mail. Class attendance will be recorded and final grade points will be deducted for unexcused absences.

You are expected to come to class prepared to discuss the assigned readings as well as current events related to the course's theme (www.haaretz.com). You can also register for a free access to *The Jerusalem Post*, Israel's oldest English-language daily newspaper, www.jpost.com). It is highly recommended that students annotate personal copies of, or make notes from, the readings.

Questions, discussion and debate during class are strongly encouraged. Students enjoy complete academic freedom in the classroom, within the limits defined by the standards of mutual respect. All students must be respectful and considerate of each other's opinions, regardless of how controversial or provocative they may seem.

Response papers (30 percent of the grade): Each student will submit **three** response papers during the semester. These papers will review, discuss, and critically evaluate one of the readings for a specific week. Papers **must** be submitted by every student individually (no collaborative work). Papers should not exceed the length of **two** pages in *Times New Roman* font size 12. Papers should use formal and adequate rules for writing academic papers including appropriate citation of the sources used. Papers should be sent to my email address: abuofir@post.bgu.ac.il. Once your paper has been accepted, you will receive a confirmation email.

Research Proposal (5 percent of the grade): Each student will hand in a proposal for the final research paper (up to 500 words). Each proposal should include the topic of the paper, appropriate research question, how the question relates to class readings, and how you are going to go about answering your question. The proposals should include a list of at least five potential scholarly sources (i.e., books and journal articles). Students are expected to turn in their proposals by week 5.

Class presentation (15 percent of the grade): All students will present their research to the class on week 11. The purpose of the presentation is to allow the class's participants to give feedback on each other's work, so students would have enough time to revise their work before submission. Each presentation would be approximately 15 minutes plus 5 minutes for Q&A.

Research Paper (40 percent of the grade): The final paper is due on July 31, 2018 and should be no more than 20 double-spaced pages with appropriate citation.

Evaluation

Attendance and Participation: 10%

Response Papers: 10X3=30%

Research Proposal + Class Presentation: 20%

Research Paper: 40%

Topics & Readings

Part I: What is Multiculturalism?

Week 1+2 – The Politics of Recognition

Taylor, C. (1994) “The Politics of Recognition.” In C. Taylor and A. Gutmann (eds.), *Multiculturalism: Examining the Politics of Recognition*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, pp. 25-73.

Fraser, N. (2000) “Rethinking Recognition.” *New Left Review* 3, pp. 107-120.

Kymlicka, W. (2010) “The Rise and Fall of Multiculturalism.” *International Social Science Journal* 61 (199), pp. 97-112.

Recommended:

Kymlicka, W. (1995) *Multicultural Citizenship: A Liberal Theory of Minority Rights*. New York, NY: Clarendon Press.

Kymlicka, W. (2001) *Politics in the Vernacular: Nationalism, Multiculturalism, and Citizenship*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Triandafyllidou, A., Modood T. and Meer N. (eds.) (2011) *European Multiculturalism(s): Cultural, Religious and Ethnic Challenges*. Edinburgh, UK: Edinburgh University Press.

Week 3 – Mechanisms of Inclusion: Representation, Veto, and Quotas

Young, I. M. (2002) *Inclusion and Democracy*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 81-120.

Recommended:

Phillips, A. (1998) *The Politics of Presence*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 1-26.

Krook, L. M. and O’Brien, D. Z. (2010) “The Politics of Group Representation: Quotas for Women and Minorities Worldwide.” *Comparative Politics* 42 (3), pp. 253-272.

Part II: Cultural Diversity and Public Policy

Week 4 – Multiculturalism and Public Policy

Glazer, N. (1994) “Multiculturalism and Public Policy.” In H. J. Aaron, T. E. Mann, and T. Taylor (eds.) *Values and Public Policy*. Washington, DC: Brookings Institution, pp. 113-145.

Recommended:

Inglis, C. (1996) "Multiculturalism: New Policy Responses to Diversity." *MOST Policy Papers 4* <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0010/001055/105582e.pdf>

Citrin, J., Levy, M., and Wright, M. (2014) "Multicultural Policy and Political Support in European Democracies." *Comparative Political Studies* 47 (11), pp. 1531-1557.

Young, C. (ed.) (1998) *Ethnic Diversity and Public Policy: A Comparative Inquiry*. New York, NY: Palgrave.

Barry, B. (2001) *Culture and Equality: An Egalitarian Critique of Multiculturalism*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, chapter 8.

Week 5 – Multiculturalism and Social Cohesion

Modood, T. (2007) "Multiculturalism, Citizenship and National Identity." *Open Democracy*. http://www.opendemocracy.net/faith-europe_islam/multiculturalism_4627.jsp

Putnam, R. (2007) "E Pluribus Unum: Diversity and Community in the Twenty-first Century." *Scandinavian Political Studies* 30 (2), pp. 137–174.

Recommended:

Premadas, R. R. (2003) "Public Policy and Ethnic Conflict." *MOST discussion paper series – No. 12* <http://www.unesco.org/most/premdas.htm>

Kymlicka, W. (2014) "The Essentialist Critique of Multiculturalism: Theories, Policies, Ethos." Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies Research Paper No. RSCAS 2014/59. Available at SSRN: <http://ssrn.com/abstract=2441133> or <http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.2441133>

Modood, T. (2005) *Multicultural Politics: Racism, Ethnicity and Muslims in Britain*. Edinburgh, UK: Edinburgh University Press.

Schlesinger, A. D. (1992) *The Disuniting of America: Reflections on a Multicultural Society*. New York, NY: Norton.

Week 6 – Multiculturalism and the Welfare State: Can They Go Together?

Banting, K. and Kymlicka W. (eds.) (2006) *Multiculturalism and the Welfare State: Recognition and Redistribution in Contemporary Democracies*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 1-45.

Recommended:

Soroka, S., Banting, K. and Johnston, R., (2002) "Ethnicity, Trust, and the Welfare State." In Fiona Kay and Richard Johnston (eds.) *Diversity, Social Capital and the Welfare State*. Vancouver, BC: University of British Columbia Press, chapter 11.

Part III: Multicultural Dilemmas of Public Policy in Israel

Week 7 – Multiculturalism and National Identity in Israel

Yonah, Y. (2005) "Israel as a Multicultural Democracy: Challenges and Obstacles." *Israel Affairs* 11(1), pp. 95-116.

Kimmerling, B. (2001) *The Invention and Decline of Israeliness: State, Society, and Military*. Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press, pp. 112-129.

Recommended:

Ya'ar, Ephraim (2005) "Continuity and Change in Israeli Society: The Test of the Melting Pot." *Israel Studies* 10 (2), pp. 91-128.

Week 8 – Multiculturalism and Education in Israel

Al-Haj, M. (2002) "Multiculturalism in Deeply Divided Societies: The Israeli Case." *International Journal of Intercultural Relations* 26, pp. 169-183.

Dahan, Y. and Levy, G. (2000) "Multicultural Education in the Zionist State: The Mizrahi Challenge." *Studies in Philosophy and Education* 19 (5-6), pp. 423-444.

Recommended:

Gutmann, A. (1999) *Democratic Education*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, pp. 282-316.

Banks, J. A. (2008) "Diversity, Group Identity, and Citizenship Education in a Global Age." *Educational Researcher* 37(3), pp. 129-139.

Week 9 – Multiculturalism in Israel's Public and Civil Society Sectors

Israeli D. (2003) "Gender Politics in Israel: The Case of Affirmative Action for Women Directors." *Women's Studies International Forum* 26 (2), pp. 109-128.

Orr, Z. (2011) "Imposed Politics of Cultural Differences: Managed Multiculturalism in Israeli Civil Society." *Social Analysis* 55 (3), pp. 74-92.

Recommended:

Massey, G. (2004) "Thinking about Affirmative Action: Arguments Supporting Preferential Policies." *Review of Policy Research* 21 (6), pp. 783-797.

Week 10 – Multiculturalism and Law in Israel

Barzilai, G. (2003) *Communities and Law: Politics and Cultures of Legal Identities*. Ann Arbor, MI: University of Michigan Press, pp. 279-312.

Recommended:

Ben-Porat, G. (2008) "Policing Multicultural States." *Policing and Society* 18(4), pp. 411-425.

Week 11 – Student Presentations

Week 12 – Multiculturalism and Land Allocation in Israel

Tzfadia, E. (2008) "Abusing Multiculturalism: The Politics of Recognition and Land Allocation in Israel." *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space* 26, pp. 1115-1130.

Yonah, Y. and Saporta, I. (2002) "The Politics of Lands and Housing in Israel: A Wayward Republican Discourse." *Social Identities* 8(1), pp. 91-117.

Week 13 – Multiculturalism and Immigration in Israel

Shafir, G. and Peled, Y. (2002) *Being Israeli: The Dynamics of Multiple Citizenship*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 302-334.

Recommended:

Kymlicka, W. (2001) *Politics in the Vernacular: Nationalism, Multiculturalism and Citizenship*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 152-176.