MIGRATION IN ISRAELI CONTEXTS

Fall Semester, 2023-24
Thursdays, 14:30-18:00
Sede Boqer Campus

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Office hours: Thursday, 18:00-19:00
(please email me in advance if you intend to show up)

Course Description
Migration has been a key force shaping modern Israel before its founding as a state in 1948 and it still shapes Israeli society, culture, economy and politics well into the 21st century. This course will focus on the historical, ideological, social, cultural, economic, and political factors that have structured different Israeli migration experiences. Among other topics we will discuss the role of Zionism, the Arab-Israeli conflict, Jewish religion, the ethnic divide, non-Jewish immigration to Israel and the development of a new Israeli diaspora. We will explore both the unique and more "universal" aspects of migration to and from Israel through a variety of studies and through interactive class discussions.

Course Assignments and Evaluation
This seminar is designed to facilitate class discussions. Course assignments and final grades are all based on that requirement.

Class Participation (20%): Although class attendance is not mandatory, participation in class will constitute a quarter of your final grade, and you will be expected to address issues discussed in class in your final essay.
**Presentation** (30%): Each student is expected to choose a non-Israeli case study of particular interest to him/her, which s/he will compare to one of the topics discussed in class. The comparison can be thematic or offer a complementary historical perspective on Israeli issues. Students are encouraged to use office hours to discuss their choices with me.

**By November 1,** each student is expected to schedule a day to present his/her topic in class. Students are also expected to discuss with me the reading material they will pre-circulate prior to their presentation in class. Class presentations should run about 15 minutes. PowerPoints are welcomed.

**Final essay (50%):** Based on his/her class presentation and class discussions, each student will write a 15-page essay elaborating on the chosen topic and demonstrating how it relates to our class discussions. The essays may highlight a theoretical concept or focus on a specific historical event or phenomenon discussed in class. Students are required to base their essays on additional up-to-date literature.

**Course Layout, Schedule and Assigned Readings**

1. **Introduction: Israeli Migration in a Global Context (19/10)**


2. **Aliyah and Yerida: the Zionist Perspective(s) (26/10)**


3. **Is Israel unique? (2/11)**


4. **The Arab-Israeli Conflict: a Migratory Perspective (9/11)**

*class presentations start here [choose a comparable "unique" case]**


5. **Social Stratification and Ethnic Divides (16/11)**


6. **Gender Aspects (23/11)**


7. **Migration and (Jewish) Religion (30/11)**


8. **Israel from a Transnational Perspective: East and West (7/12+14/12)**


Ouaknine-Yekutieli, Orit, and Yigal Shalom Nizri. ""My Heart is in the Maghrib": Aspects of Cultural Revival of the Moroccan Diaspora." *Hespéríis-Tamuda* 51.3 (2016): 165-192

9. Labor Immigration and the Global Economy (21/12)


10. Migrations of Israelis (28/12)


Film screening + discussion and class presentations (4/11)

11. course summary (11/1)