

Last update: September 15, 2019



Course 138-1-029601 & 138-1-029602 - Department of Politics and Government  
Year-long course (sh'nati)

**Can We Make a Difference? Citizens and Policy Change**  
4 credit points, seminar for B.A (M.A. and Ph.D. also welcome)

Course goal: The course will be in English in a supportive environment, and will examine the relationship between citizen participation and social/political change in democratic polities from a cross-national and historical perspective. Students will be expected to engage critically with classic texts on the topic, and to select one topic they will study in-depth as the focus of periodic exercises and a final seminar paper.

Hours of instruction: Mondays 14:00 – 16:00

Lecturer: Dr. Jennifer Oser, [oser@post.bgu.ac.il](mailto:oser@post.bgu.ac.il)

Office: Building 72, Room 669. Office phone: 08-642-8499

[http://in.bgu.ac.il/humsos/politics/Pages/staff/jennifer\\_oser\\_updated.aspx](http://in.bgu.ac.il/humsos/politics/Pages/staff/jennifer_oser_updated.aspx)

Eligibility: Seminar for BA students (MA and PhD students also welcome). Course size will be limited to 25 students overall.

**\*\*NOTE\*\*:** Students must attend the first two classes **before** the registration deadline and complete a short exercise to evaluate English skills to be eligible to register for this course.

Language of instruction: English; recognized English course. All reading and course discussions will be held in English, and students will be strongly encouraged to complete assignments in English (submission in Hebrew is possible, but not preferable).

Assignments: There are 3 main required assignments:

- (1) An in-class presentation in which students present a summary and critique of an academic article
- (2) A literature review of a topic chosen by the student, due end of semester alef (6 pages in length).
- (3) A seminar paper on this same topic, due end of semester bet

Attendance: Attendance and active participation are **required** in order to receive course credit.

A detailed syllabus, course readings, and assignment descriptions will be reviewed in the first class. Reading and assignments are posted to the course Moodle, and students will be partners in developing the syllabus content throughout the course.