



אוניברסיטת בן-גוריון בנגב
הפקולטה למדעי הרוח והחברה

המחלקה לפוליטיקה וממשל 2017-18

שם הקורס: הפוליטיקה של האמפיריות במזרח התיכון
The Politics of Empire in the Middle East

יום ד': 12:00-14:00

שם המרצה: דר' מנצור נסאסרה
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שעות קבלה: יום ג', 10.30-11.30, חדר 655 בבניין 72

יעדי ההוראה:

This course aims to contextualise contemporary debates in IR with a historical overview of colonialism in the Middle East and North Africa, as well as providing the conceptual tools to understand the workings of colonial power. It focuses on the changes introduced to Middle Eastern societies by colonialism, the implications of these changes for states in the region after their independence, and more recent socio-political developments often categorised in the region as “neo-colonial” forms of domination.

דרישות הקורס והרכב הציון*

משקל בציון הסופי **	
נוכחות	- 100 %
פרזנטציה בקבוצות -	20 %
עבודות	- 60 % (עבודה מסכמת)
מבחנים	- %
סיורים	- 20 %
סה"כ	- 100%
הקורס יועבר בעברית	

Module outline

I. Empire and the International: History and Theory

Seminar 1: Introduction to the module

Seminar 2: History of Empire in the 19th century

Required reading:

Jurgen Osterhammel, 2014. Imperial System and Nation-States, pp.392-430

Geoffrey Nash, 2011. From Empire to Orient. Travelers of the Middle East, 1930-1926.

Seminar 3: Colonialism and Imperialism

What is the difference between ‘colonialism’ and ‘imperialism’?

Required Reading:

Robert Young, Postcolonialism: a Historical Introduction (Oxford: Blackwell Publishing, 2001), pp.13-45 (Ch.2 “Colonialism” and Ch. 3 “Imperialism”).

Seminar 4: Classical Theories of Imperialism

Required reading:

Patrick Wolfe, “History and Imperialism: A Century of Theory, from Marx to Postcolonialism” in The American Historical Review 102,2 (1997), pp.388-420

Seminar 5: Colonial Discourse and Post-Colonial Theory: Is Knowledge Power?

To what extent were colonial authorities able to develop accurate and objective knowledge about the societies they ruled?

Required Reading:

Robert Young, Postcolonialism: an Historical Introduction (Oxford: Blackwell Publishing, 2001), pp.383-395 (Ch. 26 “Edward Said and Colonial Discourse”).

Abdelmajid Hannoum, “Colonialism and Knowledge in Algeria: the Archives of the Arab Bureau” in History & Anthropology 12,4 (2001), pp.343-379.

Seminar 6. East vs. West: a Clash of Civilizations?

How useful is it to think of the encounter between Europe and the Middle East in terms of a 'clash of civilizations'?

Required reading:

Samuel Huntington, "The Clash of Civilizations?" in *Foreign Affairs* 72 (1993), pp.22-49

Roy P. Mottahedeh, "The Clash of Civilizations: an Islamicist's Critique" in *Harvard Middle Eastern and Islamic Review* 2,2 (1995), pp.1-26

Seminar 7: Does Economics Drive Empire? Egypt in the 19th Century

How did economics facilitate European domination of Egypt during the 19th century?

Required Reading:

Roger Owen, "Europe and Egypt: From French Expedition to British Occupation," in Roger Owen and Bob Sutcliffe, eds. *Studies in the Theory of Imperialism* (London: Longman, 1972).

II. Empire and the Local: Forming States, Transforming Societies

Seminar 8. Dividing Territory: Colonial States in the Middle East

Given the wide differences in colonial practices across the region, to what extent is it possible to make generalizations about colonial states in the Middle East?

Required Reading:

Roger Owen, *State, Power and Politics in the Making of the Modern Middle East* (London: Routledge 2004), pp.3-22 (Ch.1 "The End of Empires: The Emergence of the Modern Middle Eastern State").

Seminar 9. Policing Skies: Coercion, Airpower and the Colonial State in Iraq

The British Mandate in Iraq was primarily enforced by means of air policing. What effect did this have on the power of the Iraqi state?

Required Reading:

Priya Satia, "In Defense of Inhumanity: Air Control and the British Idea of Arabia" in *American Historical Review* (2006), pp.16-51.

Seminar 10. Conquering Land: Mapping in Egypt and Mandatory Palestine

How was the colonial project in Egypt and Palestine sustained by technologies of cartography? On balance, how significant do you think maps are for the production of social power?

Required Reading:

Anne Godlewska, "Map, Text and Image. The Mentality of Enlightened Conquerors: A New Look at the Description de l'Egypte" in *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers* 20,1 (1995), pp.5-28.

Seminar 11: The Colonial Image: Divide and Rule, Bedouin Tribes and Empire

Required reading:

Deringil, Selim. "They Live in a State of Nomadism and Savagery: The Late Ottoman Empire and the Post-Colonial Debate", *Comparative Studies in Society and History*, (2003) 45, 2. Pp, 311-342.

Seminar 12

סיור לימודי- אתרי מלחמת העולם והמפגש בין האמפיריות בבאר שבע

III. Resistance is Futile (Or is it?): the Empire Strikes Back

Seminar 13. Arab Nationalism as Anti-Colonialism

How should we understand nationalism in the Arab world - is it the expression of a deep-rooted Arab identity, a political reaction to European encroachment, a consequence of Islam's failure to resist colonialism, or something else?

Required Reading:

James L. Gelvin, "Modernity and its Discontents: On the Durability of Nationalism in the Arab Middle East" in *Nations and Nationalism* 5,1 (1999), pp.71-89.

Seminar 14. Iran, 1979: Islam and the West.

How successful was the Iranian Revolution in creating a state which was founded on authentic, indigenous principles?

Required Reading:

Sami Zubaida, "Is Iran an Islamic State?" in Joel Beinin and Joe Stork, eds. *Political Islam* (London: I.B. Tauris, 1997).

IV. American Modern: Remaking the Middle East

Seminar 15. Capitalism and Petroimperialism in the Gulf

What effect has oil had on the domestic and international politics of the Middle East?

Required Reading:

Giacomo Luciani, "Oil and Political Economy in the International Relations of the Middle East" in Louise Fawcett, ed. *International Relations of the Middle East* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2004).

Seminar 16. Refugees Crisis in the Middle East and Rebuilding Iraq: Colonialism Redux?

To what extent do US state-building efforts in Iraq confirm or refute the argument that the US is involved in empire-building?

Required Reading:

Toby Dodge, "Iraq: the Contradictions of Exogenous State-Building in Historical Perspective" in *Third World Quarterly* 27,1 (2005), pp.187-200.

Roy Allison, 2013. "Russia and Syria, explaining alignment with a regime in crisis". *International Affairs* 89: 4, pp. 795-823.

Conclusion: The Arab Spring and Empire