

Department Sociology and Anthropology, BGU

Course: Political Sociology

BA elective course

Year 2009-2010

Lev Grinberg

Course description: The course aims to study basic theories of political sociology and discuss central debates in the field. The course discusses the concepts of authority, political parties and elites, and the role of the state. It analyzes class struggles, ethnic and national conflicts, violence and war. At the end it examines democracy and its capabilities to contain conflicts in a critical perspective. Assignments: minimum 4 reading reports.

Reading list:

1. Weber, M. (1946). "Politics as a Vocation". In In Gerth, H. H. and C. W. Mills (Eds.). (2005). From Max Weber: Essays in Sociology. Routledge, London.
2. Mills, C.W. (1958). "The Structure of Power in American Society". The British Journal of Sociology, Vol. 9 No. 1. pp. 29-41.
3. Arendt, H. (1969). On Violence, New York: Harcourt, Brace and World.
4. Rustow, D.A. (1970). "Transitions to Democracy: Toward a Dynamic Model". Comparative Politics, Vol. 2, No. 3. pp. 337-363.
5. Bourdieu, P. (1992). "Delegation and Political Fetishism". Ch. 8 in Language and Symbolic Power. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.
6. Anderson, B. (1991). Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism. Revised Edition ed. London and New York: Verso. pp. 9-46
7. Tilly, C. (1992). Coercion, Capital and European States, Ad 990-1992, Cambridge: Basil Blackwell, Ch. 3 "How War Made States and Vice Versa".
8. Mann, M. (2005). The Dark Side of Democracy: Explaining Ethnic Cleansing. Ch. 2, Cambridge, Cambridge University Press.
9. Fanon, F. (2004). The Wretched of the Earth. Grove Press, N.Y. Ch. 2, pp. 63-98.
10. Stepan, A. (1988). Rethinking Military Politics. Princeton, Princeton University Press. Ch. 1, pp. 3-12.

11. Collier, D. and Collier, R. (2002). Shaping the Political Arena. Ch. 7, Princeton, Princeton University Press.

12. Grinberg, L. (2007). Imagined Peace, Discourse of War, Ch. 2 "The Dynamic of Political Spaces", Tel Aviv, Resling ((Hebrew))