

Department of Sociology & Anthropology, BGU

Course: Violence and Resistance

Fall/ Spring, 2010-2011

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Course description: The Twentieth century is known as the age of the Man made catastrophes. There is no surprise that many scholars were engaged in philosophical and political inquiry of the meaning as well as the critique of violence. In this seminar we will closely read some of the classical philosophical and social writings on violence and resistance, readings which have become already part of the Western canon and part of the basic archive of Western political thought. The course will focus on interpretive work that we will do together in the class.

Course Requirement

1. Attendance.
2. Reading for each class
3. Ten pages paper for each semester. The papers will require you to create a critical discussion/argument within and between the readings through a contemporary problem of your choice. Each paper will be 50% of the final grade. As part of the learning process, you will be able to submit a draft before each submission.

Reading List:

Fall, 2010

Arendt Hannah, *On Violence*, New York; Harcourt, Brace. pages 3-31

Arendt continued, pages 35-56

Arendt continued, pages 59-87

Benjamin Walter, 1999. *Critique of Violence*, In, Selected Writings, Vol. 1.

Belknap/Harward. pages 277- 289.

Benjamin Continued, pages 289-300.

Butler, Judith, 2006. "Critique, Coercion and Sacred Life in Benjamin's Critique of Violence", In, De Vries, Sullivan, Ed. Political Theologies. New York Fordhum.

Pages 201-109 (line 10)

Butler continued, pages 209-219.

Fanon Frantz, 2006. *Mekolalim Aley Adamot. (The Wretched of the Earth.)* Tel Aviv: Babel

Pages, 43-76

Fanon Continued, pages 76-106.

Schmitt, Carl, 1996. *The Concept of the Political*. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press. Pages, 19-53.
Schmitt continued, pages 53-79.

Agamben, Giorgio, 2005. *State of Exception*. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press.
Pages, 1-31.
Agamben continued, pages 32-88.

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Agamben, Giorgio, 2003. Homo Sacer. In, Lavi Shai, Ed. *Technologies of Justice: Law, Science and Society*. Tel Aviv: Ramot (Hebrew). Pages 395-420
Agamben continued, pages 420-434.

Ophir Adi, 2003. Bein Kidush Hahaim L'hafkaratam: Bemkom Mavo I' Homo Sacer. In, Lavi Shai, Ed. *Technologies of Justice: Law, Science and Society*. Tel Aviv: Ramot. Pages, 368-394.

Asad, Talal, 2007. On Suicide Bombing. New York: Columbia University Press.
Pages, 1-38
Asad continues, pages 39-64.
Asad continued, pages 65-96.

Zizek, Slavoj. 2008. Violence: Six Sidway Reflections. New York: Picador Press.
Pages, 9-24.
Zizek continued, pages 24-39.

