GOVT 472-20; 472-25: NEGOTIATING MIDDLE EAST PEACE

Dr. Arie M. Kacowicz (Professor of International Relations.),
Summer II 2017, July 10-August 10, 2017
Lecture and Seminar (International Relations/ Middle East Politics and History),
Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, 1045-1245;
Magire 102
Office hours: TBA
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Goals and Contents of the Course

This course focuses upon the topic of negotiations and conflict resolution in the context of the Arab-Israeli conflict since 1977 to the present. The course is divided into four parts. First, we will present the general theoretical framework for explaining and understanding negotiations in international relations. Second, we will refer in general terms to the history of the Arab-Israeli conflict and the main issues and patterns of negotiations. Third, we will address several case-studies of successes and failures of negotiations between Israel and its several Arab neighbors – Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, and the Palestinians. In this context, we will attempt to understand the failure of the peace process between Israelis and Palestinians. Finally, in the last part of the course we will play a simulation and students will present their short papers.

Students Assignments and grades

Students’ assignments include the following:

A. Active participation in the course, which is based upon an interactive dynamics and intensive reading of theoretical, historical, and “actuality” texts. The attendance policy includes attendance in 80% of the classes (sixteen sessions). Missing classes beyond the number of permitted absences will negatively affect the grade assigned to participation in class (which is 30% of the final grade).

B. Submission of a paper of about 15 pages, from a list of topics that will be distributed the first week of class. Students will present the outline of their paper in the last week of classes. Papers are due on the last day of class, they should be submitted in a hard copy until 5 PM on August 10th at the Department of Government, ICC, 6th Floor.

C. Graduate students (participants of GOVT 448-25) will perform additional assignments, as part of their class participation. They will submit at least two “actuality reports” (1-2 pages each), regarding issues that will be discussed in the course of the seminar, agreed upon with the Instructor.
The grade will be distributed as follows:

A. Class participation 30%
B. Final paper 70%

Accommodation for students with disabilities
Students with disabilities are strongly encouraged to contact the Academic Resource Center (ARC, Leavy Center, Suite 335; 202-687-8354; arc@georgetown.edu) before the start of classes to allow that office time to review their documentation and to make recommendations for appropriate accommodations, including note takers, books on tape, extended time on the final exam, interpreting services, and enlarged texts among others. The procedure for requesting an accommodation can be found online at ldss.georgetown.edu/procedure.cfm, and a list of possible accommodations can be found at ldss.Georgetown.edu/services.cfm.

For further information, please consult the following website:
scs.Georgetown.edu/academic-affairs/students-with-disabilities

The Georgetown University Honor Code and Honor System

All students are required to abide by the Honor System regardless of whether or not they have been required to state or write it, or whether they are visiting students. The Honor System includes detailed provisions for investigating and adjudicating allegations of academic misconduct. The Honor Code and Honor System will be respected throughout the course, and especially with reference to the term paper, that should be an original piece of research immune of any attempt of copy or plagiarism.

For further information, please consult the following websites:

scs.georgetown.edu/academic-affairs/honor-code

http://gervaseprograms.georgetown.edu/honor/system/

Textbooks

The following books should be available for purchase:


**Topics and Schedule of Classes**

A. **Introduction and Theoretical Framework**

1. Mon July 10: Introduction
2. Tue July 11: International conflict and conflict management
3. Wed July 12: Negotiations and mediation
4. Thu July 13: Negotiations as a process of peaceful change

B. **The Arab-Israeli Conflict and Negotiations: A General View**

5. Mon July 17: Historical background for the negotiations
6. Tue July 18: Core issues I: Jerusalem
7. Wed July 19: Core issues II: Refugees
8. Thu July 20: General problems and patterns of negotiations

C. **Case-Studies**

10. Tue July 25: Israel and Lebanon, Israel and Syria

D. **Empirical Applications and Extrapolations**

16. Thu Aug 3: "Shattered Dreams" (movie)
17. Mon Aug 7: Students' Presentations
18. Tue Aug 8: Students' Presentations
19. Wed Aug 9: Students’ presentations
20. Thu Aug 10: Simulation of the Arab-Israeli conflict
Course Outline and Readings

A. Introduction and Theoretical Framework

1. Introduction (July 10)


Morris, Righteous Victims, pp. 676-694 (“Conclusions”).

Bercovitch and Jackson, Conflict Resolution in the Twenty-first Century, pp. 1-16; 184-190.

2. International Conflict and Conflict Management (July 11)


Bercovitch and Jackson, Conflict Resolution in the Twenty-First Century, pp. 1-16.

3. Defining Negotiations and its Components: Negotiations, Mediation, and Bargaining (July 12)

Bercovitch and Jackson, Conflict Resolution in the Twenty-First Century, pp. 19-46.


Saadia Touval, “Mediation in the Arab-Israeli Conflict During and After the Cold War,” Davis Occasional Papers, No. 74, October 1999, pp. 1-19

4. Negotiations as a Process of Cooperation, Reciprocity, and Peaceful Change (July 13)


5. **Historical Background of the Negotiations** (July 17)


Morris, *Righteous Victims*, browse Chapters 1-9, pp.3-443.

Alan Dowty, *Israel/Palestine*, pp. 1-104


6. **Core Issues I: Jerusalem** (July 18)


7. **Core Issues II: Refugees** (July 19)


Yaacov Bar-Siman-Tov (2014), *Justice and Peace in the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict* [browse the entire book]

8. General Problems and Patterns of Negotiations (July 20)


10. Israel and Lebanon, 1983; Israel and Syria (July 25)


Enderlin (2003), *Shattered Dreams*, pp. 24-30; 76-80; 125-135; 140-142.


Kurtzer et al. (2013), Chapter 2, pp. 59-104.

11. **Israel and Jordan, 1987 and 1993-1994** (July 26)


12. **Israel and the Palestinians, I: 1967-1993** (July 27)

Eisenberg and Caplan, *Negotiating Arab-Israeli Peace*, Chapter 4, pp. 75-89.


Kurtzer et al. (2013), Chapter 1, pp. 15-58.

13. **Israel and the Palestinians, II: 1993-2001** (July 31)


http://www.mfa.gov.il


Kurtzer et al. (2013), "Chapters 1 and 3, pp. 15-58; 105-153.


14. **Israel and the Palestinians, III: 2001-2015** (August 1)


[also in http://jewishvirtuallibrary.org]


Dowty, *Israel/Palestine*, pp. 150-203.


Kurtzner et al. (2013), Chapters 4-6, pp. 154-267.


**15. What Went Wrong in the Israeli-Palestinian Negotiations and the Future of the Conflict** (August 2)


Aluf Benn, “Grasping for Peace,” *Foreign Policy*, January/February 2002, pp. 82-84.


Dowty, Israel/Palestine, pp. 204-230.


Henry Fishman and Ephraim Lavie (2010), The Peace Process: Seventeen Plans in Ten Years: An Assessment of the Initiatives to Resolve the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict over the Past Decade [Tel-Aviv: The Peres Center for Peace]. [available online]


https://newrepublic.com/article/118751/how-israel-palestine-peace-deal-died