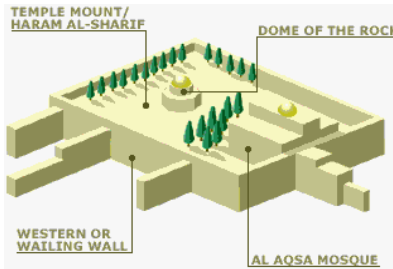


*Note: The syllabus is not a binding legal contract. It may be modified by the instructor when the student is given reasonable notice of the modification, particularly when the modification is done to rectify an error that would disadvantage the student.*

## **Arab-Israeli Conflict**

Second Session Summer 2007 ? POLS 3960-001 / (Mid E 4880-002)  
Dept: Political Science ? 3 Credits ? M &W 6:00 -9:00 PM ? OSH 237

Instructors: Mahmoud Hamad  
Office: Orson Spencer Hall (OSH), RM. 156A  
Phone: 585-2364  
Office Hours: M &W 12:00-2:00 PM or by appointment (send an e-mail to schedule)  
E-mail: mahmoud.hamad@poli-sci.utah.edu OR Web-CT e-mail



### **MATERIALS**

#### **Required Texts – Available in Bookstore:**

The required textbook for this course are:

1. Smith, Charles D. (2007). Palestine and the Arab-Israeli Conflict, (6<sup>th</sup> edition), Bedford/St. Martin's.
2. Rabinovich, Itamar. (2004). Waging Peace: Israel and the Arabs, 1948-2003, Princeton University Press.
3. Said, Edward W. (1992). The Question of Palestine, Vintage.
4. Course packet of other required readings will be available at the Marriott library Reserve.

#### **Supplementary Materials:**

- You will be directed to documentaries, articles, texts, weblinks, etc., as needed. The required texts and other material will be supplemented by documentaries whenever possible.

#### **Optional Books – Available in Bookstore:**

1. Shehadeh. Reja. (2003) When the Birds Stopped Singing: A Diary of Ramallah under Siege, Steerforth.
2. Grossman. David. (2003) Death as a Way of Life: Israel Ten Years After Oslo, Farrar Straus & Giroux.

## COURSE OVERVIEW

This course focuses on the causes, involvement, and future prospects of the Arab-Israeli conflict. It provides an in-depth understanding of the Arab-Israeli conflict, as it has unfolded over the past century. By examining the roots of this conflict, its key events and crises, and the peace process, students will gain a deeper appreciation for the complexities and dynamism of this subject.

The class will examine the politics of conflicting ideologies: Zionism and Arab nationalism; creation of the state of Israel; Palestinian nationalism; Arab-Israeli wars; domestic sources of foreign policy; the Middle East in world politics; the prospects of peace or conflict in the region; and the Middle East after September 11 and the War on Iraq.

## FACULTY and STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

The class will follow accepted University of Utah policies and procedures. Please refer to the University of Utah Faculty Handbook (<http://www.admin.utah.edu/fhb/>) and Student Code (<http://www.admin.utah.edu/ppmanual/8/8-10.html>). Specifically: All students are expected to maintain professional behavior in the classroom setting, according to the Student Code, spelled out in the Student Handbook. Students have specific rights in the classroom as detailed in the Code. The Code also specifies proscribed conduct that involves cheating on tests, plagiarism, and/or collusion, as well as fraud, theft, etc. Students should read the Code carefully and know they are responsible for the content. According to Faculty Rules and Regulations, it is the faculty's responsibility to enforce responsible classroom behaviors, beginning with verbal warnings and progressing to dismissal from class and a failing grade. Students have the right to appeal such action to the Student Behavior Committee. These rights and responsibilities apply to online class forums, as well.

Due dates: In order to incorporate fair grading, late work will only be accepted up to one week after the due date at an automatic 50% loss of credit. After one week, no late work will be accepted. Unless otherwise indicated, assignments should be posted on Web-CT in the assignment drop box.

ADA Statement: The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Union Building, 581-5020 (V/TDD). CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. See <http://www.hr.utah.edu/oeo/ada/guide/faculty/> for more details.

Online Guidelines: There are unique responsibilities that come with taking a course having an online component:

Electronic or equipment failure: It is your responsibility to maintain your computer and other equipment needed to participate in online forums in a manner that enhances your experience. Equipment failures will not be an acceptable excuse for late or absent assignments.

Classroom equivalency: Online communications, including e-mail, discussion threads, and chat rooms are equivalent to the classroom and are subject to the Student Code. Specifically:

- Posting photos or comments that would be off-topic in a classroom are still off-topic in a discussion thread.
- Off-color language is never appropriate.
- Using angry or abusive language is called "flaming", and is not acceptable.
- Do not use ALL CAPS, except for titles, since it is the equivalent of shouting online, as is overuse of certain punctuation marks such as exclamation points !!!! and question marks ?????.
- Online communications, including e-mail in Web-CT, are University property and subject to GRAMA regulations. Privacy regarding Web-CT communications must not be assumed unless mutually agreed upon in advance.
- As with assignments, instructors are required to respond to e-mails in a "reasonable" amount of time. Use the e-mail address posted in this syllabus as the preferred means of communication. Note that content may be shared with the class when there are valid teaching/learning reasons for doing so and mutual privacy agreements for the communications have not been previously made.

Accommodation: Please review the syllabus carefully to see if the course is one that you are committed to taking. If you have a concern, please discuss it with us at your earliest convenience. If you feel that you will need special accommodations based on the course content, please review the Accommodations Policy at [www.admin.utah.edu/facdev/accommodations-policy.pdf](http://www.admin.utah.edu/facdev/accommodations-policy.pdf).

### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

Grades are based upon TWO exams, a research paper, world-news and class participation. Class participation includes discussion, homework, in-class assignments, and pop quizzes. *There will be no "make up" examinations or quizzes for anyone missing the exam/quiz date without prior approval of the instructor except under conditions of extreme hardship.* "Extreme hardship" constitutes events outside of one's control; this does not include sleeping late, forgetfulness, missing the bus, etc. Determining cases of "extreme hardship" will be left to the discretion of the instructor and will require proof on the part of the student. If you anticipate a scheduling conflict, you must see the instructor at least one week prior to the exam to make alternative arrangements. In such cases, an alternative exam will be given prior to the scheduled date. The instructor reserves the right to determine whether an early alternative exam will be scheduled or not.

Assignment	Percentage
Class Participation	20
News Items	10
Mid Term	20
Final Exam	30
Paper	20

*Exams and quizzes* will be based on the course readings, lectures, news and discussions. You are expected to keep up with the weekly readings and come to class prepared to discuss them. You are also expected to complete homework assignments on time.

Please note that you cannot do well in this class without consistently attending class and participating. Participation includes interesting questions as well as comments, and engagement with class discussions. At some but not all class sessions, attendance will be taken. Announcements regarding changes to the syllabus or course schedule may be made in class. Study guides and other material will also be handed out in class. This information will not be posted on a web site; making it available only in class provides an incentive for attendance. You are responsible for getting this information.

All students must follow regional news during the length of the class. You will be responsible to submit a news item that you think is important about the conflict/peace in the region. Those news items will be part of your quizzes, mid term, and final exam. I will select the most relevant news submission each week and the responsible student will receive TWO extra credit points. Each student has to submit his or her news by the deadline below. You cannot submit the same item that another student already submitted. Each submission must be between 35 and 50 words in length. All submission must be written at your class Web CT under Course Discussions.

- News Item # 1: due Sunday July 1<sup>st</sup>.
- News Item # 2: due Sunday, July 8<sup>th</sup>.
- News Item # 3: due Sunday, July 15<sup>th</sup>.
- News Item # 4: due Sunday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- News Item # 5: due Sunday, July 29<sup>th</sup>.

*Research Paper* should reflect an original research topic of your choice. Preliminary paper topics must be turned into the instructor NO LATER THAN **July 5<sup>th</sup>** for approval. Please include a 1-page description of your topic, the kinds of arguments you are considering, and a bibliography. Sources should include a mix of books, articles, and primary sources. A list of possible topics is included. For each topic, a maximum of six papers can be written (three arguing for and three against). Selection will be “first come first serve.” If you are keen to write about a specific topic, chose it early. The instructor will keep a list of chosen topics.

### **GRADING PERCENTAGES**

94-100	A	80-82	B-	67-69	D+
90-93	A-	77-79	C+	63-66	D
87-89	B+	73-76	C	60-62	D-
83-86	B	70-72	C-	59-below	E

## SCHEDULE OF CLASS READINGS, TOPICS & ASSIGNMENTS

*25 June 2007*

Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Smith Ch. 1-3, (1-104).</li> <li>• Edward Said, Preface, Introduction and Ch. 1, (vii-55).</li> </ul>
Topics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction &amp; Overview.</li> <li>• Palestine and Zionism</li> </ul>
Watch	Promises.

*27 June 2007*

Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Smith Ch. 4-5, (105-216).</li> <li>• Edward Said, Ch. 2, (56-114).</li> </ul>
Topics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Creation of the State of Israel</li> <li>• <i>al-Nakhba</i>.</li> </ul>
Watch	Israel: a Nation is Born (part 1).

*2 July 2007*

Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Smith Ch. 6-7, (217-292).</li> <li>• Itamar Rabinovich, Ch. 1, (1-37).</li> <li>• Edward Said, Ch. 3, (115-181).</li> </ul>
Topics	• From Independence to Expansion (1949-1967).
Watch	Israel: a Nation is Born (part 2)

*4 July 2007: NO CLASS, INDEPENDENCE DAY*

*9 July 2007*

Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Smith Ch. 8 &amp; 9 (293-392)</li> <li>• Edward Said, Ch. 4, (182-244).</li> </ul>
Topics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The PLO.</li> <li>• 1973 War.</li> <li>• The Egyptian-Israeli Peace.</li> </ul>
Assignment	Preliminary Paper Topics due in Class.

*11 July 2007*

Reading	All of the above
Topics	<b><i>Mid-Term Exam</i></b>

*16 July 2007*

Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Smith Ch. 9 (361-392)</li> <li>• Muhammad Haykal, Secret Channels, Part II, Ch. 5-7, (334-361), (Available on Web CT).</li> </ul>
Topics	• The Lebanese Civil War and Israeli Invasion.

18 July 2007

Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Smith Ch. 10 (393-436).</li> <li>• Edward Said, “<i>Intifada and Independence</i>,” (Available on Web CT).</li> <li>• Muhammad Haykal, <i>Secret Channels</i>, Part II, Ch. 11-16, (400-482), (Available on Reserve).</li> <li>• Alfred Atherton, “<i>The Shifting Sands of Middle East Peace</i>,” (Available on Web CT).</li> </ul>
Topics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Intifada.</li> <li>• The Road to Oslo.</li> </ul>
Watch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Intifada: a Jewish Eyewitness.</li> </ul>

23 July 2007

Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Smith Ch. 11 (437-486).</li> <li>• Itamar Rabinovich, Ch 2-3, (38-122).</li> </ul>
Topics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Oslo Agreements.</li> <li>• The Creation of the PA.</li> <li>• The PA and Israel.</li> </ul>

25 July 2007

Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dennis Ross, <i>The Missing Peace</i>, Ch. 20-22 (509-590), (Available on Web CT).</li> <li>• Patrick Seale, <i>The Syria-Israel Negotiations: Who Is Telling the Truth?</i> (Available on Web CT).</li> <li>• Itamar Rabinovich, Ch 4, (123-180).</li> </ul>
Topics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Syrian-Israeli Track: From Hope to Failure.</li> </ul>

30 July 2007

Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Smith Ch. 12 (487-544)</li> <li>• William Quandt, “<i>Clinton and the Arab-Israeli Conflict: The Limits of Incrementalism</i>”.</li> <li>• Rashid Khalidi, “<i>The Centrality of Jerusalem to an End of Conflict Agreement</i>,” (Available on Web CT).</li> <li>• Robert Malley; Hussein Agha, “<i>The Palestinian-Israeli Camp David Negotiations and Beyond</i>,” (Available on Web CT).</li> <li>• Itamar Rabinovich, Ch 4, (123-180).</li> </ul>
Topics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Collapse of the Peace Process</li> <li>• Camp David II</li> </ul>

1 August 2007

Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Itamar Rabinovich, Ch 5-8, (181-313).</li> <li>• Arab Peace Initiative <a href="http://www.palestinehistory.com">http://www.palestinehistory.com</a></li> <li>• Disengagement Plan: <a href="http://www.pmo.gov.il">http://www.pmo.gov.il</a></li> </ul>
Topics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Future of the Region after 9/11 and the Iraqi War.</li> </ul>
Watch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Searching for the roots of 9/11.</li> </ul>
Assignment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research Paper due in Class.</li> </ul>

*3 August 2007*

Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Read the Assigned Papers.</li></ul>
Topics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Research Papers Debate.</li></ul>

*6 August 2007*

Reading	All of the above since Mid-Term
Topics	Final Exam