

REL265/JST265
LATT 413
T&Th 12:30-13:45
Aaron W. Hughes
RRL 430
Office Hours: Thursday, 15:00-16:30
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This semester will be different. I wish—I am sure like all of you—that we were back in a physical classroom. I also imagine that you are experiencing many external stresses due to the pandemic and the many ways it has altered our world. Though this course will be conducted online, my goal is to create a genuine community, including active Zoom discussions. Since this course is a seminar, I expect everyone to be an active participant. To this end, we have to show our faces on the screen or the conversation will not work.

Description

This course will provide a non-partisan introduction to the conflict between these two national movements. Discussion will focus on an examination of historical documents, in addition to understanding of how it plays out in literature and film.

Textbooks

Neil Caplan, *The Israeli-Palestine Conflict: Contested Histories*, 2nd ed.

Walter Laqueur and Dan Schueftan (eds.), *The Israel-Arab Reader: A Documentary History of the Middle East Conflict*, 8th rev ed.

Raja Shehadeh, *Palestinian Walks*

Selections to be posted on Blackboard

Selection of relevant films

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is a fundamental university value. Through the honest completion of academic work, students sustain the integrity of the university while facilitating the university's imperative for the transmission of knowledge and culture based upon the generation of new and innovative ideas. For further information consult www.rochester.edu/college/honesty/ (the two quizzes there are highly informative, and I will assume you have taken them).

Grading

This is a discussion-based seminar that is geared towards conversation. To facilitate discussion, final grades will be divided as follows:

Attendance and Participation	20%
Class IQs (SUBMIT THROUGH BLACKBOARD)	20%
Reflection Papers (x2)	60%

IQ= idea and question. Each class you are required to bring in –typed, double spaced—a *detailed and informed* question and an idea about the reading. These will be the basis of our conversation. I will take them at the end of each class. Both the idea and the question should emerge from the particular text we are reading that day and should be able to be defended upon closer group examination.

Schedule of Meetings

Date	Topic	Readings
<i>PART ONE: HISTORY</i>		
<i>Week One</i>		
08/27	Intro	n/a
<i>Week Two</i>		
09/01	no class	
09/03	Thinking about the Conflict	Caplan, 245-276
<i>Week Three</i>		
09/08	Definitions	Caplan, 1-42
09/10	Origins and Balfour Declaration	Caplan, 43-60 Laqueur, 3-20 Drafts of Balfour Decl.
<i>Week Four</i>		
09/15	British Mandate and Peel Commission	Caplan, 61-82 Laqueur, 21-43
09/17	Collapse of the Mandate and U.N. Partition Resolution	Caplan, 83-103 Laqueur, 43-77
<i>Week Five</i>		

09/22	Independence/Naqba	Caplan, 105-132 Laqueur, 81-87
09/45	Israel and the Arab States, 1949-1973	Caplan, 133-161 Laqueur, 88-152
<i>Week Six</i>		
09/29	Re-emergence of Palestinian Nationalism	Caplan, 163-180 Laqueur, 152-182
10/01	Camp David	Caplan, 181-197 Laqueur, 203-237
<i>Week Seven</i>		
10/06	The Lebanon War	Laqueur, 253-313 Film: <i>Waltz with Bashir</i> (on youtube)
10/08	<i>Intifada</i>	Caplan, 199-217 Laqueur, 313-357
<i>Week Eight</i>		
10/13	Oslo	Caplan, 219-242 Laqueur, 365-437
10/15	Post-Oslo	Caplan, 277-303 Laqueur, 505-506, 516-519, 551-594

PART TWO: MEMOIR AND FICTION

Week Ten

10/20	The (Messy) Present
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10/22 Amos Oz, selections from *Tales of Love and Darkness*

Week Eleven

10/27 Ghassan Kanafani, "Men In the Sun"
Savyon Liebrecht, "A Room on the Roof"

10/29 Ghassan Kanafani, "Returning to Haifa"
David Grossman, "Swiss Mountain View: A Story"
Etgar Kerrett, "Cocked and Locked"

Week Twelve

11/03 Shehadeh
11/05 Shehadeh

PART THREE: FILM

Week Thirteen

11/10 Paradise Now (Amazon)
11/12 Bethlehem (Amazon)

Week Fourteen

11/17 Omar (Amazon)
11/19 A Borrowed Identity (Amazon)

Week Fifteen

11/24 no class
11/26 Thanksgiving

Week Sixteen

12/01 Five Broken Cameras
12/03 wrap up