Special Topics in Political Science  
Political Science 385R  
Spring, 2020  
Syllabus

This course is dedicated to Faraaz Hossain

Read all the information in this document carefully, so you are not surprised by requirements you may find onerous.

January 21, 2020 – Schedule Changes End.  
March 6, 2020 – Partial Withdrawal without academic penalty Deadline.  
April 3, 2020 – One-Time First Year Student Withdrawal Deadline.

The Honor Code is in force and will be followed completely in this course.
The Course

This course attempts to make sense of the Palestinian/Israeli situation, one that has eluded all who have tried to alleviate it for the past 70 years. Certain aspects of political science will be brought to bear on the situation, including whether a regime's virtue or the first occupant has more legitimacy, and what can be done about the situation now, in 2020, abstracting from the history that has made the problem what it is.

Course Requirements and Policies

All the readings are difficult, though some are more “readable” than others. Also, they are of varying lengths, so that it will be important for you to begin reading some of the longer ones earlier in order for you to be able to comply with the main priority of the course. **Do not be surprised by lengthy readings; take this into account before you decide to remain enrolled in this class. Each reading should be completed by the first day we begin to discuss it; this is the main priority of this class.** In addition, you should refresh your memory of what you have read and what we have discussed in our previous class before you come to class on any given day. That is the best method to prepare for this course and to achieve the grade you desire.

This is a three-credit class, and we will generally meet from 12:30pm to 2:00pm, Mondays and Wednesdays. **A 15 to 25 page paper will be due on April 22.**

My e-mail address is bshapir@emory.edu, which is the preferred mode of communication, and my phone number is 4-8334. My office is Seney 303. **My office hours are by appointment.**
Schedule of Classes

Students will have read *A History if the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict* by Mark Tessler before the course starts.

February 3, 5:  
*The Arab-Israeli Dilemma* by Fred Kouri

February 10, 17:  
*A History of Israel* by Anita Shapira

February 24, 26:  
*Orientalism* by Edward Said

March 2, 4:  
*Righteous Victims* by Benny Morris

March 16, 18, 23, 25:  
*Palestinian Identity* by Rashid Kalidi

March 31; April 1, 6:  
*Palestinians: The Making of a People* by Kimmerling and Migdal

April 13, 22, 27:  
Conclusion

**April 22:**  
*Paper due, electronically.*

**There will be no classes on April 8 and 15 because I will be celebrating Passover.**