Spring 2012
JS 364 (40085) (Meets with HEB 372, MES 325, HIS 364G)
T Th 8:00-9:30AM Building: Mezes Room: MEZ 1.120
Dr. Gideon Greif (Professor)
Sean Williams (Research/Teaching Assistant)
Office Hours: Mezes 3.306 Tuesday and Thursday, 10:00 – 12:00
Email: dr.gideon.greif@gmail.com, seanwilliams@utexas.edu

Palestine During British Mandate

The British Mandate period which followed the Ottoman defeat after the First World War was a pivotal period in the history of the Middle East, and the events of this period shape the social and political reality of the modern Middle East. Anyone seeking to understand the modern state of Israel, its relations with its Arab neighbors, the Palestinian *Naqba*, and the on-going regional conflict which has arisen from these events will be well served by studying the events of this important part of history. The history of Palestine during the British Mandate will be illustrated in this class through the use of original source documents from the period as well as modern analysis of the events. Instruction will focus on the three key sociopolitical players in the region: British colonialists, Jewish immigrants, and the Arab majority. Each of these groups had varying perceptions, objectives, and philosophies, and it is the goal of this class to help students understand these factions, and how their actions shaped the region.

Course Readings:

All students will be required to read selections posted on Blackboard and drawn from the following books. **Assignments for the *entire* course will total the average reading for a history course, about 4 books.**

1. *The Origins of Israel, 1882-1948: a Documentary History* edited by Eran Kaplan, Derek Penslar, and David Sorkin (**ISBN-10:** 0299284948 **ISBN-13:** 978-0299284947)
2. *One Palestine, Complete: Jews and Arabs under the British Mandate* by Tom Segev, and Haim Watzman (**ISBN-10:** 0805065873 **ISBN-13:** 978-0805065879)
3. **The Great Powers and the End of the Ottoman Empire* by Kent, Marian (**eISBN**: 9780203988367)*
4. **The Ottoman Empire, 1700-1922* by Quataert, Donald; Beik, William; Blanning, T. C. W. (**eISBN**: 9780511127403)*
5. **Nationalism, Zionism and ethnic mobilization of the Jews in 1900 and beyond* by Berkowitz, M. (**eISBN**: 9789047402435)
6. **Late Ottoman Palestine : The Period of Young Turk Rule* by Ben-Bassat, Yuval; Ginio, Eyal (**eISBN**: 9780857719942)*
7. **Army of Shadows : Palestinian Collaboration with Zionism, 1917–1948* by Cohen, Hillel (**eISBN**: 9780520933989)*
8. **+Palestinian People : A History* by Kimmerling, Baruch Migdal, Joel S. (**eISBN**: 9780674039599)+
9. **+Jewish History, Life, and Culture Series : Exiled in the Homeland : Zionism and the Return to Mandate Palestine* by Divine, Donna Robinson (**eISBN**: 9780292795174)+
10. Official Government Documents from the British Archives, posted on Blackboard
11. Assorted Scholarly Journals, posted on Blackboard
*: Indicates these texts can be found, checked out, and downloaded in the University of Texas EBL using your EID
+: Indicates these texts can be found, checked out, and downloaded in the University of Texas e-Brary after using your EID and creating an account with the e-Brary services

Determination of Course Grade:

Attendance - 15%
Class discussion participation – 20% (15% from submitted questions, 5% from leading one in-class discussion)
One written final exam – 45%
Two short written quizzes – 20%

Nature of Assignments:

Class Discussion credit is broken into two parts: submitted questions, and leading one class discussion.

Submitted Questions:

Each class period will cover some reading materials (either a chapter from one of the assigned books, a sampling of some original source documents, an analytical journal, or a combination of any of these). Students are expected to have read the assigned material prior to class. In an effort to ensure that class discussions are fruitful, each student must submit one pertinent question regarding the reading material to seanwilliams@utexas.edu the night before class by 11:59pm. Sean will do his best to make sure that each of your questions are answered in brief 2-3 sentence responses before the start of class (please do your best to read the material and email your question as early as possible, since Sean will already be giving up sleep to accomplish this task). Your questions will be used to help guide the class discussion the next day. Remember, the better your questions, the better you will learn the material as a class, and the more you'll get out of the discussion time allotted for class. Questions that betray a student as having not read the material will not be given credit.

Discussion Leading:

Each student will be required to sign up to lead discussion for one class day. Your duties as a discussion leader will entail a brief 3-5 minute summary of the assigned texts for the day. The discussion leader will also be the first person responsible for fielding questions for the class to discuss. These questions will be drawn from those questions raised by your fellow students the night before, as well as some which Dr. Greif and Sean come up with in the event of a dearth of quality questions from your classmates.

Short written quizzes will be essay format, and are based on the readings and lectures. Understanding the key events and their importance withing the context of the class will be necessary for a passing grade on these quizzes. Given that they are essays, quiz responses should contain each element of a college level essay, including an introduction, a thesis statement, supporting points, references to evidence, a conclusion, and good writing style. A-level quizzes will demonstrate thorough understanding of material, accurate analysis, well supported points, a clear thesis statement, paragraphs which lead easily into one another, and good use of grammar and punctuation.

The final written exam is based on the same principals as the quizzes, and will cover all the material presented in class from the beginning of the course.

Schedule Of Class Meetings:

WEEK I

Jan 17: Course Introduction - Syllabus, methodology, and introductory video
Jan 19: Course Overview – The Two Nations of Palestine Under The British Mandate

WEEK II
Jan 24: Ottoman Decline – External and Internal Causes
Jan 26: Arab Nationalism – Arab Political Identity in Palestine

WEEK III
Jan 31: The Rise of Zionism – From Dreaming and Praying to Emigration and Colonization
Feb 2: The British Mandate – The Founding Principals

WEEK IV
Feb 7: Early Mandate Politics – Transition of British Military Control
Feb 9: Early Mandate Politics – Civilian Control, The Jewish Agency, and Immigration

WEEK V
Feb 14: The Leaders of Palestine – Early Jewish and Arab Bureaucracy and Organizations
Feb 16: Early Mandate Demographics – Populations and Their Character

WEEK VI
Feb 21: Quiz 1
Feb 23: Jewish Immigration – Policies and Consequences

WEEK VII
Feb 28: Arab Collaborators – The Nuanced Issue of Supporting Zionism
Mar 1: **The Palestinian Economy** – Fellahin and Financiers

WEEK VIII
Mar 6: Socialism and Communism in Jewish Politics – For the Benefit of Yeshuv
Mar 8: The Fifth Aliyah – A Crisis of Immigration

WEEK IX
Mar 13: SPRING BREAK
Mar 15: SPRING BREAK

WEEK X
Mar 20: The Arab Nationalist Revival – Political elites, village gangs, and their ideals
Mar 22: The Arab Revolt of 1936 – Resistance to Immigration

WEEK XI
Mar 27: New Colonialist Controls – Immigration Reform and The White Papers
Mar 29: Hagana and Palmach – Eretz Israel's Militias

WEEK XII
Apr 3: Quiz 2
Apr 5: Churchill, Ben Gurion, and the Outbreak of War in Europe

WEEK XIII
Apr 10: The Holocaust – Jewish Immigration and Nazi Influence in Palestine
Apr 12: World War 2 – The End of The Age of Colonialism

WEEK XIV
Apr 17: A Brief Respite From War – The Legacy of World War 2 In Palestine
Apr 19: British Withdrawal – The End of The Mandate

WEEK XV
Apr 24: Al-Naqba – The Great Catastrophe of Miscalculation
Apr 26: Arab Israeli War – Defining Israel, Its Neighbors, and an Age of Conflict

WEEK XVI
May 1: The New State of Israel – Ben Gurion and Hertzel's Dream
May 3: Final Exam Review

FINAL EXAM: Tuesday, May 15, 2:00-5:00 pm. Location to be announced.
PLEASE DO NOT PLAN ANY POST-CLASS ACTIVITIES, INTERVIEWS, JOBS, FOR THIS TIME. IT WILL BE THE ONLY OCCASION TO TAKE THE FINAL.

Civility, University Services, Emergencies

You are expected to attend each class, be on time, and stay for the entire class. Late arrival, early departure, ringing cell phones, texting, tweeting, surfing, Facebooking (Google+, My Space, etc.) sleeping, etc. distract and disrupt the entire class. Your courtesy is necessary and appreciated.
Students with disabilities may request appropriate academic accommodations from the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, Services for Students with Disabilities, 471-6259 http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd/. Students seeking assistance with writing may wish to contact The Undergraduate Writing Center http://uwc.utexas.edu/handouts. Medical assistance/ counseling services are available at http://www.cmhc.utexas.edu/. If you have concerns about the behavior or well-being of another member of the campus community, call BCAL at 512-232-5050. www.utexas.edu/safety/bcal