

Syllabus

History 338/538, The Arab-Israeli Conflict (Fall 2020)
Tuesdays, Thursdays 12:30-1:45 PM, Zoom Virtual Classroom
Final Exam Period: 12/16/2020, Wednesday, 10:15AM - 12:15PM

Professor E. Francis

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Office Hours: Mondays 10:00-11:00, Wednesdays 10:00-11:00, Thursdays 3:00-4:00

And by appointment

Overview

The assignments, deadlines, and policies described in this syllabus are subject to change. It is your responsibility to regularly check Canvas and your UWSP email account for corrections or updates to the syllabus.

This course will be delivered entirely online. Make sure you are using a computer that meets the system requirements for all technological components for this class. **Mobile devices or tablets may not be acceptable replacements for desktop or laptop computers in online courses.**

This syllabus contains hyperlinks, some of which are only visible when the document is viewed electronically.

I assert my copyright over all lectures, recordings, and other materials I have produced for this class. See under "class policies" for more information.

INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students in this course will develop their skills as historians by studying the history of the dispute between Israelis and their forebears, on the one hand, and Palestinians and theirs, on the other, from the mid-nineteenth century through the present day. At the end of this class, students will be better able to:

- Identify important individuals, movements, and events in this history.
- Summarize major events in this history.
- Identify appropriate evidence to answer questions about this history.
- Locate appropriate evidence to answer questions about this history.
- Evaluate debates about this history among scholars, leaders, and members of the general public--whether Israeli, Palestinian, or of other nationalities.

Among the topics to be examined include: the origins and nature of Zionism and Palestinian nationalism, the construction of Zionist and Palestinian historical narratives, the role of the Arab-Israeli conflict in broader international affairs (and vice versa), and the different efforts to find a resolution to the conflict.

Required Texts and Other Materials

Gelvin, James. *The Israel-Palestine Conflict: One Hundred Years of War*. 3rd ed. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2014. \$34.99 (new paperback). Abbreviation: Gelvin (2014). **Required Purchase.**

Rampolla, Mary Lynn. *A Pocket Guide to Writing in History*. 9th ed. Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2018. \$33.99 (new paperback). Abbreviation: Rampolla (2018). **Recommended Purchase.**

Smith, Charles D. *Palestine and the Arab-Israeli Conflict*. 5th ed. Boston: Bedford/St. Martins, 2004. Abbreviation: Smith (2004). **Available through UWSP Textbook Rental.**

Additional readings will be available on Canvas.

GRADING AND ASSIGNMENTS

Your grade will be based on the points you earn on assignments, compared to the total number of possible points, expressed as a percentage.

		A	93.0%+	A-	90.0%+	Exceptional or exemplary work
B+	87.0%+	B	83.0%+	B-	80.0%+	Very good work; above average
C+	77.0%+	C	73.0%+	C-	70.0%+	Acceptable Work
D+	67.0%+	D	63.0%+			Does not meet minimum standards

The university does not recognize a grade of D-, so any grade of less than 63.0% will result in a grade of F for the course. Grades will be based on completion of assignments detailed on the following pages.

Assignment Type	Points Per Item	Item Percent Value	No. of Items	Points Per Category	Category Percent Value	Length (Words)	Deadline(s)
RESEARCH PAPER							
Prospectus	50	3%	1	50	3.4%	400-600	10/10/20
Annotated Bibliography	100	7%	1	100	6.8%	400-600	10/29/20
Final Paper	300	20%	1	300	20.4%	1200-1600	11/20/20
Peer Reviews	20	1%	3	60	4.1%	100-200	Ongoing
Research Paper Sub-Total				510	34.7%		
OTHER ASSIGNMENTS							
Reading Responses	20	1%	8	160	10.9%	200-400	Ongoing
Discussions	20	1%	10	200	13.6%	100-200	Ongoing
Take-Home Exams	300	20%	2	600	40.8%		10/23/20 12/16/20
TOTAL				1470	100.0%		

Research Paper

Over the course of this semester, you will write a research paper on some historical question related to the history of Israel, the Palestinians, and the region. In preparation for this work, you will be responsible for a number of shorter assignments:

Prospectus (500-750 words)

You will start work on your research paper with a prospectus, including:

- An explanation of your topic and its significance.
- A preliminary bibliography with five items.
- A research narrative describing how you wrote the topic explanation and found the items in your bibliography.

Annotated Bibliography (6 entries, plus annotations for all)

In the annotated bibliography, you will summarize your sources and explain their value for your research. This will be subject to peer review.

Final Paper (ca. 1500-2000 words)

The final paper will be the culmination of your efforts. This will be subject to peer review. You will be allowed to revise your final paper.

Peer Reviews (3 @ 100-200 words each)

Using the Peer Review tools in Canvas, you will contribute peer reviews to your classmates' assignments connected to the research paper.

Written Exams (2 @ 1000-1500 words)

You will be responsible for two "take-home" ("stay at home"?) exams, in which I will ask you a set of essay questions. I will provide prompts approximately one week in advance. The second exam will not be cumulative as such. However, your work in the first half of the semester will form the foundation of your learning in this class.

Reading Responses (8 @ 200-400 words)

You will be responsible for regular written responses to reading assignments. These will be due at 9:00 AM on Tuesdays or Thursdays, and we will discuss the assignments that day in our virtual classroom. I plan to assign more than eight of these responses. Only your best 8 grades in this category will count toward your final grade.

Discussions (10 @ 100-200 words)

Almost every week you will be responsible for submitting one original post and one response to a classmate's post on a topic for that week. Original posts will be due Thursdays at 11:59 PM and your last response will be due Fridays at 11:59 PM. I plan to assign more than ten of these responses. Only your best 10 grades in this category will count toward your final grade.

Submitting Written Assignments

Unless noted otherwise, all written assignments and discussions are due at 11:59 PM. All written assignments submitted through Canvas must be in a format which Canvas can read. I recommend .pdf files if possible. If I cannot read an assignment, you will need to re-submit it in a different format.

“Attendance” and Participation

This class meets in a Zoom “virtual classroom” Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12:30-1:45 Central Time. I will use this time for discussion, for taking your questions, and for some lecturing. In accordance with university directives and in the interest of accessibility, I will record all “virtual classroom sessions” and post those sessions to Canvas. At this time, there is no “attendance” grade category. I reserve the right to create such a category if necessary, with accommodation for students who cannot attend every Zoom session. Most importantly, you are responsible for all material presented or discussed during these classroom sessions, regardless of whether or not you were “present.”

Professionalism and Grading

College is your gateway into the working world. Therefore, in this class I will follow practices of common courtesy and professionalism expected in the workplace. I expect that all students will do the same. Keep in mind the following principles:

- Students are expected to participate in all online discussions as listed in the course calendar.
- Students who stop participating in class activities or online assignments may be reported as not attending, and may be dropped from the class.
- **Students who exhibit highly unprofessional behavior may be subject to penalties to their final grades**, up to and including failure in the class. Such unprofessional behavior includes, but is not limited to:
 - plagiarism or other forms of academic dishonesty
 - highly disruptive or disrespectful activity in person or in online forums.

Graduate Credit

Graduate students enrolled in History 538 will be required to complete an additional research paper and/or produce longer writing assignments. Please contact me for details.

Communication

Please reach out to me to ask questions and to help me know you better as an individual. The best ways to contact me are through the Canvas Discussions, the Canvas Inbox, or through Zoom meetings. See below for advice on offline communication, for when you do not have access to the Internet.

Canvas Discussions

If you have general questions about the course or about course content, or you just want to chat, please contact me through the “Professor’s Office” discussion forum on Canvas. If you have a question, there’s a good chance several other students have it too! I check the Discussion Boards at least once a day, Monday through Friday. I will usually respond to any question within “one business day,” even if I do not have a definitive answer.

Canvas Inbox

In addition to the discussion boards, Canvas also has a tool for one-on-one communication: The Inbox. Please use the Canvas Inbox to contact me about issues that apply only to you or that you prefer to keep private (e.g., requests for extensions). I will check my Canvas Inbox at least once a day, Monday through Friday. You should check yours regularly too. Where possible, I will use this tool to contact students about individual or private class matters (e.g., missing or late assignments).

Email.

Check your UWSP email account regularly (e.g., spointer@uwsp.edu). I may use email in addition to the Canvas Inbox. I check my campus email account (efrancis@uwsp.edu) at least once a day, Monday through Friday.

Zoom/Virtual Office Hours

I will hold virtual office hours on Zoom at the times listed on Canvas. I am also willing to schedule Zoom meetings at other times. These times are for one-on-one meetings or study groups, and are distinct from our regular class sessions. If you do not have Internet access, you can still access Zoom meetings using the phone number and passcode provided in the invitation.

“Netiquette” in Online Communication

In addition to common courtesy, I ask that all students follow some basic principles of “netiquette” in online exchanges through Canvas Discussions, Inbox messages, emails, and carrier pigeon messages. I recommend these principles in all your academic communication.

- Briefly identify yourself. Give your name and mention the class you have with the professor. We professors receive numerous emails every day and may have hundreds of students. This makes it difficult to identify emails simply signed “Dave” or “Sally.”
- Always use appropriate terms of address. I prefer to be addressed as “Dr. Francis” or “Professor Francis.” I recommend you follow this pattern with your other professors, unless they tell you otherwise.
- Always include a relevant subject heading where possible--particularly when you send an email. For instance, identify the course number or course name or summarize your concern.

Offline Communication

If you do not have access to the Internet, you can still contact me:

You can call my office phone (715) 346-3289 and leave a voicemail. This will be forwarded to my office email. Please leave a phone number or another way to contact you, and I will reply as soon as I can.

You can participate in Zoom meetings by phone. Every Zoom meeting invitation includes phone numbers you can call, along with a passcode for telephone access.

Course Policies

These policies cover any issues not addressed above. Course policies are listed in alphabetical order.

Academic Honesty.

I expect all students to uphold principles of academic honesty in this classroom. Students who commit any form of academic dishonesty in this class will be given a "**0**" (**zero**) grade for the relevant assignment. Further penalties can range from a lowered grade in the class (up to and including failing the class) to suspension or expulsion from the University.

- Academic dishonesty includes (but is not limited to):
 - plagiarism.
 - cheating on exams
 - providing false information on official documentation (e.g., signing others in for attendance, or giving false excuses to make up work)
 - presenting the same piece of work for credit in two different classes without prior permission
- Review your rights and responsibilities as outlined on the following web page: "Student Conduct Process." UWSP Office of the Dean of Students. 2020.
<https://www.uwsp.edu/dos/Pages/Student-Conduct.aspx>. Accessed June 17, 2020.

Copyright on Course Materials

Lecture materials, recordings, and original materials produced for this class (The Arab-Israeli Conflict) are protected intellectual property at UW-Stevens Point. Other material used in this course, such as textbooks, articles, audiovisual recordings, or applications may also be protected by copyright.

Students in this course may use the materials and recordings for their personal use related to participation in this class. Students may also take notes solely for their personal use. If a lecture is not already recorded, you are not authorized to record my lectures without my permission unless you are considered by the university to be a qualified student with a disability requiring accommodation. [Regent Policy Document 4-1] Students may not copy or share lecture materials and recordings outside of class, including posting on internet sites or selling to commercial entities. Students are also prohibited from providing or selling their personal notes to anyone else or being paid for taking notes by any person or commercial firm without the instructor's express written permission. Unauthorized use of these copyrighted lecture materials and recordings constitutes copyright infringement and may be addressed under the university's policies, UWS Chapters 14 and 17, governing student academic and non-academic misconduct.

Disability and Assistive Technology Center (DATC)

As a professor at UWSP, I am committed to providing reasonable and appropriate accommodations to students with disabilities and temporary impairments. If you have a disability or acquire a condition during the semester where you need assistance, please contact the Disability and Assistive Technology Center (DATC) on the 6th floor of Albertson Hall (the University Library) as soon as possible. DATC can be reached at 715-346-3365 or DATC@uwsp.edu.

Extra Credit

As a rule, I do not grant extra credit in my classes. I definitely do not create special extra credit assignments for individual students. Any extra credit assignment will be publicly offered to the entire class with plenty of time for students to participate.

Late Work, Missed Assignments, and Extensions

I will accept late submissions of most assignments. All work submitted after the deadline is subject to a **penalty of -5% per day late** (or portion thereof).

Contact Me to Request Accommodations for Late or Missed Work

I am willing to waive or reduce late penalties if you are unable to complete work due to circumstances beyond your control such as:

- University-approved travel.
- Personal emergency.
- Technical failures beyond your control (e.g., failures of Canvas or loss of Internet access).
- Religious holidays.
- Mandatory service as a member of the armed services or emergency personnel such as police, fire, or rescue squad.

If you believe you will need an extension on an assignment, contact me as soon as possible. When possible (e.g., upcoming religious holidays or scheduled military deployment), contact me before the deadline. The earlier you contact me, the easier it is for me to arrange for some kind of accommodation.

Registrar Policies

All UWSP students are responsible for understanding the policies which govern their education. See the web page for the Office of the Registrar (<https://www.uwsp.edu/regrec/Pages/AtoZPolicySearch.aspx>) for information on the following policies (and many more):

- Add/Drop Procedure, Forms, Schedule
- Attendance Information
- Incompletes

Semester Schedule

LIST OF TOPICS

This is a brief summary of topics I hope to address in this class. I will issue more detailed schedules throughout the semester as needed. These will give deadlines for readings, assignments, and other course activities and may be updated as often as every week. The Canvas calendar will also keep track of upcoming assignment deadlines. As with all materials, it is the students' responsibility to keep up with this information.

- Introduction to Class
- The Land and Its Lure
- Cultures of Nationalism
- Zionism and the Colonization of Palestine
- World War I and the Palestine Mandate
- From Nationalism in Palestine to Palestinian Nationalism
- From the Great Revolt through the 1948 War
- Zionism and Palestinian Nationalism: A Closer Look
- The Arab-Israeli Conflict
- The Palestinian National Movement Comes of Age
- Coming Full Circle: Oslo and Its Aftermath
- Recent Developments: Twenty-First Century Perspectives

Major Dates

Below is a list of important dates this semester. All assignments are due at 11:59 PM on the day listed.

Week 1/Thursday, September 3	First class session
Week 6/Thursday, October 8	Prospectus Due
Week 8/Thursday, October 22	Exam 1 Due
Week 9/Thursday, October 29	Annotated Bibliography Due
Week 10/Tuesday, November 3	No "Virtual Classroom" Meeting. Voting Day Holiday.
Week 12/Thursday, November 19	Final Paper Due
Week 13/Tuesday, November 24	Class Meets Normally
Week 13/Thursday, November 26	Thanksgiving Day Holiday. Class Does Not Meet.
Week 16/Wednesday, December 16	Exam 2/Final Exam Due
Finals Week	
Week 16/Friday, December 18	Deadline for Revisions to Final Paper
Finals Week	