

**STUDY ABROAD - THE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL  
COURSES SPRING 2024 -- *Listings subject to change***

**ALL LANGUAGE LEVELS WILL OPEN DEPENDING ON ENROLLMENT**

***I. LANGUAGE COURSES***

**HEBREW – BEGINNERS**

702.1001

8 hours, 6 credits Staff

**HEBREW – LOWER INTERMEDIATE**

702.2001

8 hours, 6 credits Staff

**HEBREW – UPPER INTERMEDIATE**

702.2002

8 hours, 6 credits Staff

**HEBREW – LOWER ADVANCED**

702.3001 702.3001

8 hours, 6 credits Staff

**HEBREW – ADVANCED**

702.3002

8 hours, 6 credits Staff

**HEBREW – UPPER ADVANCED**

702.3003

8 hours, 6 credits Staff

**MODERN STANDARD ARABIC – ELEMENTARY 1**

702.1028.01.A

6 hours, 5 credits Staff

**MODERN STANDARD ARABIC - ELEMENTARY 2**

702.1029.01.A

6 hours, 5 credits Staff

**MODERN STANDARD ARABIC – INTERMEDIATE 1**

702.2042.01.A

6 hours, 5 credits Staff

**MODERN STANDARD ARABIC – INTERMEDIATE 2**

702.2015.01.A

6 hours, 5 credits Staff

**SPOKEN ARABIC – BEGINNERS 1 and 2**

702.1003

4 hours, 4 credits Staff

These courses familiarize students with the local spoken Arabic (colloquial) on elementary levels. Students will acquire basic skills in vocabulary and grammar. Emphasis is put on current topics to enable students to communicate with native-Arabic speakers in actual everyday situations.

## **II. ELECTIVE COURSES**

### **SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**ARAB-ISRAELI RELATIONS**

702.2126 (POL, HIST)

3 hours, 3 credits Mr. Yisrael Neeman

This course introduces students to the study of the Arab-Israeli conflict, from its initial stages starting from the first waves of Zionist immigration to Palestine through the 1948 war and the establishment of the state of Israel. It will focus on the emerging features of the conflict, the struggle between the Palestinian Arab and Jewish Nationalist movements, and the regional and international involvement in these events. Subsequent sessions will focus on the wars of 1956, 1967, 1973 and later developments

such as the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty (1979) and Israel's invasion of Lebanon in 1982. Moving closer to the present, the course will highlight the 1987 Palestinian Intifada, the Oslo accords and the prospects for peace leading up to the second Intifada and the breakdown of negotiations. We will conclude with a discussion of the current age of uncertainty in the region and the impact of non-state actors (such as Hizballah and Hamas) on the conflict, in an effort to bring the class up to the present as possible. A variety of scholarly studies, diverse opinions, and approaches will provide the background for class discussions.

### **ARAB-PALESTINIAN CITIZENS OF ISRAEL: POLITICS, SOCIETY AND CULTURE**

702.2890

(POLISCI, HIST, ANTHRO, SOCIO)

3 hours, 3 credits

Dr. Maha El-Taji Dagash

Arab citizens are a significant minority in the State of Israel, consisting of almost 21% of the population. Many Arab citizens self-identify as Palestinian and consider themselves Palestinian citizens of Israel. Palestinian-Arab citizens of Israel are a diverse and dynamic minority, trying to preserve its culture and its national identity, while struggling for equality in an ethnic state. Students in this course will study this minority group, explore the historical context in which it was created, become familiar with its demographic, religious and geographic characteristics and understand its socio-economic conditions. Topics that will be covered include how this minority navigates its complex identity and the various historical events that have shaped the relationship between Palestinian-Arab citizens and the state between 1948 and the present. The different forms and recent developments in their political participation and their attempts at self-expression in the arts and the media will also be discussed. Since the majority of Palestinian-Arab citizens of Israel live in Haifa, the Galilee and the northern part of Israel, and since Haifa has become a cultural hub for those citizens, this course will give considerable attention to Palestinian-Arab social and cultural life in Haifa and the surrounding Arab cities and towns. Students will discover a rich, changing and vibrant population, and will better understand the depth and complexity of life in Israel.

## **INTERCULTURAL ENCOUNTERS: THROUGH AN ANTHROPOLOGICAL LENS**

702.2967 (ANTHRO, SOCIO)  
3 hours, 3 credits Dr. Anat Hecht

In an increasingly mobile and cosmopolitan world, intercultural encounters play a significant role. Israel in general, and Haifa in particular, offer a unique opportunity to explore and experience such encounters at first hand. The course introduces the students to the field of intercultural encounters, from an Anthropological perspective. The sessions address a verity of issues, such as: pluralism, cultural diversity, sameness and difference, identity and belonging, self and other, tolerance, conflict and dialogue.

Special emphasis is placed upon the qualitative study of intercultural encounters, within an overall ethnographic framework. The weekly sessions will be accompanied by several selected readings, as well as other materials, including photos, movie clips, testimonies, and so on, which will enhance the class presentations and discussions. However, the main emphasis will be on the “hands-on” experience and practice of *doing* (small-scale) qualitative research, rather than merely reading about it on a theoretical level. Students will therefore be expected to complete a series of practical exercises and assignments, as well as share their experiences with their fellow classmates.

## **MENTORED INDEPENDENT RESEARCH IN PSYCHOLOGY**

702.3850.01.A (PSY)  
10 hours, 3 credits -- Only Open to Psychology Majors with a 3.2 GPA

Based on their interests, students are matched with a faculty mentor and then conduct supervised research in her/his laboratory. In the context of this mentored independent research, students are typically integrated into an existing research project, or, together with their faculty mentor, develop a novel independent project. In addition to completing the mandatory hours (10 hours of lab work = 3 credits), students are required to write a final paper summarizing their work.

### **POLITICAL ECONOMY OF THE MIDDLE EAST**

702.2790 (ECO, POLISCI, HIS)  
3 hours, 3 credits Dr. Yakub Halabi

The modern Middle Eastern, with its wars, oil resources, rentier oil-rich states, socialist poor ones, wealthy few and impoverished millions, its stagnant economies, democratization and authoritarianism, embodies the general features of Third World countries that are in a transition period. The regime in the Arab state is considered to be strong, operating within weak state institutions and seeking to govern a strong society. The consolidation of power by the regime is predicated among other things on the maintenance of adequate living standards. Throughout this course we will analyze the political economy of some non-oil Arab states, such as Egypt and Syria, that adopted corporatism and socialism and nationalized private companies as way for maintaining order and stability and meeting the security challenges posed by the Arab-Israeli conflict. In addition, the course explores the features of the rentier oil-rich states. The goals of this course are to: 1) explore the social structure and social classes and analyze states-society relations within these states; 2) seek an understanding of the issues and problems facing these states, such as security challenges, high birth rate and unemployment rates, and low foreign direct investments; 3) examine the nature of the rentier state and its impact on state-society relations; 4) examine the nature of the socialist states and their foreign security challenges; 5) understand the repercussions of the transformation into free-market economies on the democratization process and the so-called Arab-Spring. While the course focuses primarily on what is going on within the regional states, rather than on the Middle East's place in the international political order and the world economy, it is inevitable thinking coherently about subjects such as oil, socialism and free market economies without reference to the region's complex interaction with the outside world.

### **WOMEN IN THE ARAB WORLD: BEYOND STEREOTYPES**

702.2374 (POLISCI, HIST, GENDER, SOC)  
3 hours, 3 credits Dr. Rana Zaher

This course brings the case of women in the Arab world to the forefront of the academic discussion, yet from a non-Orientalist angle that defies the overgeneralizations and dichotomizations that usually characterize discussions about Arab women. Arab women may share many issues and challenges in common, ethnographically speaking, but they may also differ in their choice of struggle and resistance to oppression in accordance with the difference in their political, social and cultural context.

The course will expose the students to the different realities of Arab women in different contexts and embarking on different fronts, and will re-define certain classical concepts such as *feminism* and *struggle* to better reflect the dynamics of these women's solution-seeking patterns. The main topics that will be discussed in class include Islamic Feminism vs. Arab secular Feminism, resistance and empowerment from within, the Arab Spring's effect on women, Arab women's political representation, Arab women's portrayal in the media, Arab women's involvement in economy and business. The course is based on multiple learning resources; academic material, films, and guest speakers when possible.

## **HUMANITIES**

### **FAITH, REASON AND DOGMA IN JEWISH PHILOSOPHY**

702.2190 (REL, PHIL)  
3 hours, 3 credits Dr. Avi Kadish

Which is to be preferred: Science or tradition? What is more important: Truth or morality? Can God be proven? Can ideas ever be commanded? How did philosophy and humanity change between the Middle Ages and that of the modern world? Can the Jewish tradition be read in a rationalistic way? The axis of Jewish philosophy is in the tension between universal human reason and unique experience of individuals, and we will deal with that tension from many different angles throughout this course.

In this course we will study the ethics and dogmatics of Moses Maimonides (1135-1204). We will contrast his rationalistic approach towards understanding the Torah and Jewish tradition to that of his critics in the centuries between his own lifetime and the expulsion of the Jews from Spain in 1492.

### **PARALLEL NARRATIVES: ISRAEL AND PALESTINE STORIES**

702. 2338 (LIT, SOC, ANTH)  
3 hours, 3 credits Dr. Miryam Sivan

Stories both reflect and mold our world. And all cultures tell stories to themselves and to others because all people tell stories. Narrative is a fundamental human cognitive ability that enables us to process and make meaning from what we see and experience around us. Within its storylines and frames, we move from the concrete to the abstract, weaving together what is seen, what imagined, what feared, desired, what is difficult to comprehend. Whether meant to be read alone, read aloud,

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performed or watched on stage or screen, stories function as an entertaining and educative means of introducing people to the beliefs, practices, politics, and mores of a group of people. Stories are windows that allow us to peer into and make contact with a particular society.

In this course, we will read and watch contemporary stories by Israeli Jewish and Palestinian writers and film directors. This will allow a more nuanced and multifaceted understanding of Israel's complex history of identity, place, community, and landscape -- and its continual metamorphosis through time. We will read poems, stories, plays, and novels; we will watch films. All these stories will provide us with an opportunity to not only examine literary, aesthetic, and cinematic qualities, but as importantly, will help us gain insight into the contemporary cultural and political contexts in which these works have been created.

### **III. *OTHER UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENTS***

#### **BRITISH AND AMERICAN LITERATURE**

*Students in the International School may enroll in BA level courses in the Department of English. All courses in the Department of English are taught in English. The course list of the Department of English will be available and will be posted on the International School website.*

#### **CREATIVE ART**

The Department of Fine Arts offers study courses in the areas of painting, drawing, sculpture, ceramics, print-making, and lithography for international students who are enrolled in their home universities as art majors. Students who are interested must send in a portfolio before the beginning of the semester for the Art Dept. to approve. Please make note that these courses are taught in Hebrew (though of course students and faculty know English). \*\* Also, many of the courses are year-long and so it may not be possible to enter them in the Spring semester.