



Global Studies 190/290/390/490
Section 001

**Think Tank Learning Community:
Origins and Aspects of the Palestinian/Israeli Conflict**
Fall 2007

Wednesdays, 3:00-3:50 PM
EMS E170

Course Description

Analysis of the origins and evolution of the conflict between Palestinians and the State of Israel.

Course Objectives

Students will become familiar with the historical context of the conflict as well as the current political forces at play. They will be able to differentiate between various groups' agendas and methods, and achieve an understanding of the challenges to reaching a comprehensive settlement.

Instructor

Douglas Savage
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229-6795

Office Hours

By appointment in Garland 114

Student Responsibilities

Attendance: We meet once per week for less than one hour. Attendance is required.

**If you do not attend class, you will not pass.
If you are not prepared to make this minimal time commitment,
please drop this class.**

You are allowed **ONE** unexcused absence. Each additional unexcused absence will lower your final participation total by 5 points (see Grading Criteria below).

If you need to have a scheduled absence, you must notify me beforehand. If you miss class due to illness or other emergency, you should contact me as soon as possible thereafter, and before the next class in any case.

Weekly Individual Reflections:

Each week you'll be asked to respond online to questions associated with that session's assigned materials using the Dropbox in the D2L course site. Your postings are designed to demonstrate that you have identified and begun to form an opinion on the related issues. Your individual postings should reflect your personal perspective on the topics regardless of which role-playing group you are in for the in-class discussions (see below). They are due by 11:59pm on Monday of each week. Please note the D2L site will not accept postings after the deadline. **No credit will be given for late postings.**

In-class Discussion:

For purposes of in-class discussion, the class members will be randomly divided into two groups representing Palestinians and Israelis. Group members should communicate between class meetings via the D2L site to attempt to form a common position on issues associated with that week's topic. The two groups will then discuss the topic in class.

Remember, within your group you are role-playing as a Palestinian or Israeli; this role may or may not reflect your actual views on the issues, but you should try your best to stay "in character".

Final Status Talking Points:

The final session of class will be a negotiation between the groups on all outstanding issues in the conflict. To help you prepare, you will be asked to submit a list of issues that you think are most important to Israelis and Palestinians respectively, and how you propose to settle them.

Academic Misconduct

Your integrity is of far greater value than any grade you might receive. You are expected to be honest in all aspects of your academic performance. Failure to do so will result in discipline under rules published by the Board of Regents (UWS 14). Further information on Academic Misconduct and UWM's related policies are available at:

<http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/OSL/DOS/conduct.html#academic>

Participation by Students with Disabilities

If you need special accommodations in order to meet any of the requirements of this course, please contact me as soon as possible.

Grading Criteria

Your grade in this class is largely a function of simple arithmetic. If you attend and actively participate, you will earn the necessary points for a good grade. If you choose to miss class and/or fail to do the assigned work, you will lose points. Your final grade will be based on your point total in the following areas:

Individual Reflections (13 @ 3 points)	39 points possible
Class Participation	50 points possible
Final Status Talking Points	11 points possible

100 points possible

Grading Scale

A	(94-100 points)
A-	(90-93 points)
B+	(87-89 points)
B	(83-86 points)
B-	(80-82 points)
C+	(77-79 points)
C	(73-76 points)
C-	(70-72 points)
D+	(67-69 points)
D	(63-66 points)
D-	(60-62 points)
F	(< 60 points)

Course Material

There is no assigned text book for this course. Discussion will be based on materials contained in modules on the D2L site. Students interested in further background information and opinions are encouraged to explore the many web-based resources available on the conflict.

Two lists of sites recommended by the Islamic Society of Milwaukee and the Milwaukee Jewish Council for Community Relations respectively are available on the D2L site.

Discussion Topics

SECTION ONE: MANDATORY PALESTINE

September 5	Course Introduction
September 12	British World War I Diplomacy (c. 1915)
September 19	Conflicting Aspirations (c. 1920's)
September 26	The Palestinian Revolt (c. 1936-39)
October 3	Partition and The Establishment of Israel (c. 1947)

SECTION TWO: LAND FOR PEACE

October 10	The Palestinian/Arab Response (c. 1964-67)
October 17	The Invasion of Lebanon and First Intifada (c. 1982-87)
October 24	The Oslo Accords (c. 1993)
October 31	Stalemate: Security vs. Occupation (c. 1995-2000)
November 7	The Second Intifada (c. 2000)

November 14 **Israeli and Palestinian Elections (2006)**

November 21 **Fatah/Hamas Split and Its Aftermath (2007)**

SECTION THREE: FINDING A SOLUTION

November 28 **Peacemaker Simulation- Israelis**

December 5 **Peacemaker Simulation- Palestinians**

December 12 **Final Status Negotiations**