Dear Lord Rutherford,

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Association for Israel Studies, I have the honour to present to you, on behalf of the members of the Board, the Cabinet of His Majesty, the Cabinet of the British Government, the following declaration of intention:

To favour the establishment of a National Home for the Jewish people...to facilitate the development of the object, it being clearly understood that nothing may prejudice the rights of existing national communities, or the good of any...
Foreign Office,
November 2nd, 1917.

Dear Lord Rothschild,

I have much pleasure in conveying to you, on behalf of His Majesty's Government, the following declaration of sympathy with Jewish Zionist aspirations which has been submitted to, and approved by, the Cabinet.

"His Majesty's Government view with favour the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, and will use their best endeavours to facilitate the achievement of this object, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine, or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country."

I should be grateful if you would bring this declaration to the knowledge of the Zionist Federation.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

[Incised signature]
33rd Annual Conference of the Association for Israel Studies

A CENTURY AFTER BALFOUR: VISION AND REALITY

JUNE 12-14, 2017 | WALTHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

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AVIVA HALAMISH
The Open University of Israel 2009-2011

EX OFFICIO

YORAM PERI
Editor, Israel Studies Review

PAUL SCHAM
Managing Editor, Israel Studies Review
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**MONDAY EVENTS**

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Imagining Palestine |
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HELLE G4  
Formation of Israeliness | TC12  
HELLE G4  
Spies, Sex and Sabich: Israeli Television in the Age of Netflix |

### TUESDAY EVENTS

| Scholars for Peace in the Middle East (SPME)  
Wine and Cheese Reception | Usdan Student Center Courtyard | 5:30 - 6:30 PM |
| Film Screening: Ben-Gurion, Epilogue | Shapiro Campus Center Theater | 8:00 - 9:30 PM |

### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14TH

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Israeli Culture | WB1  
OLIN-SANG 124  
Two Decades Plus Since “Foreigners Deserve Rights?”: What Rights Do They Deserve and What are Common Themes Between Israel and Germany? | WC1  
OLIN-SANG 101  
Anti-Zionism(s) in America: Definitions and Historical Evolutions | WD1  
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Teaching and Israel Studies |
| PANEL 2 | WA2  
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Roundtable: Between the Rule of Law and States of Emergency: The Fluid Jurisprudence of the Israeli Regime | WB2  
OLIN-SANG 101  
Roundtable: Innovative Pedagogical Approaches to Teaching Film in Israel Studies | WC2  
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MANDEL G12  
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| PANEL 3 | WA3  
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Israel and Armed Non-State Actors: A Shifting Strategic Environment | WB3  
MANDEL G10  
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MANDEL G3  
Roundtable: Campus Wars and Intellectual Integrity in Academia | WD3  
OLIN-SANG 116  
Imagining Zion |
| PANEL 4 | WA4 MANDEL G3 Israel and Asia | WB4 MANDEL G3 American Perspectives on the Balfour Declaration | WC4 OLIN-SANG 104 Zionist Imaginings after Balfour | WD4 OLIN-SANG 124 The Holocaust in Israeli Society |
| PANEL 5 | WA5 HELLER G3 Israel and the UN | WB5 MANDEL G11 Ghettoes, Camps and Immigration to Israel | WC5 MANDEL G12 Israel and Natural Resources | WD5 OLIN-SANG 104 Israel and the World |
| PANEL 6 | WA6 OLIN-SANG 104 Israeli Foreign Relations | WB6 HELLER G3 Religion and Society in Israel | WC6 MANDEL G10 Hebrew Literature | WD6 OLIN-SANG 112 Sociological Perspectives on Israeli Society |
| PANEL 7 | WA7 MANDEL G10 International Influence on the Jewish State | WB7 HELLER 163 Israeli-Palestinian Relations | WC7 OLIN-SANG 112 Religion and Spirituality in Israeli Society | WD7 MANDEL G3 Birthright Israel: Transforming Diaspora Engagement with Israel |
| PANEL 8 | WA8 OLIN-SANG 112 Perceptions of Israel | WB8 MANDEL G12 Israeli Geography and Development | WC8 HELLER G4 Israel-China Relations |  |
| PANEL 9 | WA9 HELLER 163 Influence of Women on State Formation | WB9 HELLER G4 Palestinian Israeli Citizens and Political Awareness | WC9 HELLER G3 Jerusalem: A Microcosm |  |
| PANEL 10 | WA10 MANDEL G12 Societal Challenges in Israel | WB10 OLIN-SANG 104 Six Day War in Retrospective: 50 Years Later | WC10 HELLER 163 Between Tel Aviv and Jaffa |  |
| PANEL 11 | WA11 MANDEL G11 Ethiopians in Israel | WB11 OLIN-SANG 112 Israel on the World Stage |  |  |
| PANEL 12 | WA12 OLIN-SANG 116 Roundtable: The Cult of the Occupation |  |  |  |
I am delighted on behalf of Brandeis University to welcome you to our campus for the 33rd Annual Conference of the Association for Israel Studies. This is the second time Brandeis has hosted this event. We recognize that AIS is the premiere academic society in the world for the promotion of wide-ranging and multi-disciplinary academic research and exchange of scholarly perspectives on Israel, and your program reflects the rich diversity and intellectual effervescence of the field.

Israel Studies has long occupied a central position at Brandeis and we are very proud of the key role that Brandeis has played in promoting Israel Studies worldwide through our Schusterman Center for Israel Studies. This is largely due to the work of the Founding Director of our Schusterman Center, Ilan Troen. His position as the President of your Association gives us additional reason to celebrate your conference and your being here.

We hope you enjoy the many offerings at this annual meeting and that you are enriched and renewed by your days on our campus with your colleagues. It is a privilege for Brandeis that you are here. Enjoy!

Cordially,
RON LIEBOWITZ
President, Brandeis University
remains a diadem in the crown of our Israel Studies programs, and we derive great satisfaction from the fact that so many alumni of our programs are in attendance at AIS.

As we know, 2017 marks many important moments in the history of Israel – 1897 (first Zionist Congress), 1917 (Balfour Declaration), 1947 (UN General Assembly Partition Resolution), 1967 War, 1977 (Ma’apach-Likud party came to power and Anwar Sadat visits Jerusalem), and 1987 (the First Intifada). Among these significant historical points, we decided to focus the theme of this year’s conference, A Century After Balfour: Vision and Reality, on the Balfour Declaration as it allows for a consideration of all the events marked in these other years. This centenary provides a lens for scholars to examine topics such as Israel’s attitudes towards imperialism and world powers, Israel in the context of the Middle East at a time when an understanding of nation-states is transforming, relations between Diaspora Jews and the Zionist movement and the State of Israel, the meaning of a Jewish homeland, the imperative to secure the civil and religious rights of minority communities in Israel and Palestine, and the role of international institutions in implementing the Declaration. These and other issues invite research and scholarship that will probe our understanding of the Balfour Declaration’s significance in a multi-disciplinary manner.

The field of Israel Studies is burgeoning throughout the world. Participants from every corner of the globe will be in attendance in Waltham, and we are certain that the level of intellectual discourse and stimulation will be high as so many disciplines and perspectives will be on display during our multiple sessions. May we all benefit from the learning and discussions that will take place at the Conference and may you enjoy the wide menu of offerings laid before you in this book.

Cordially,

DAVID ELLENSON, DIRECTOR
RACHEL FISH, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR
Schusterman Center for Israel Studies,
Brandeis University

Welcome to the 33rd Annual Conference of the Association for Israel Studies.

I have particular pleasure in welcoming you on this occasion. I have been happily involved with the establishment of the Schusterman Center for Israel Studies and still make it my home under the leadership of David Ellenson. Brandeis was the first American university to inaugurate a continuing program in Israel Studies, more than half a century ago, under the legendary Ben Halpern and his successors, especially Jehuda Reinharz.

Holding this second AIS conference at Brandeis enables taking measure of what is rapidly transpiring in the field. Even as Brandeis is a home to extensive Israel Studies programs with participants from Israel, China, Europe and the Americas, so have AIS conferences developed a wide-ranging international reach well beyond the handful of American-based scholars who founded the AIS in the 1980s. This will be evident as the hundreds of participants of different backgrounds, disciplines and interests share their research in a common commitment to free and informed exchange of perspectives.

May you enjoy and benefit from this 33rd annual conference that is but one instrument by which the AIS attempts to serve you as individual scholars and advance the field as a whole.

I offer special thanks to our hosts, in particular, the Program Co-Chair, David Ellenson, and to Rachel Fish, the Associate Director of the Schusterman Center, as well as to a dedicated, efficient and talented staff including Rise Singer, Anina Selve, Keren Goodblatt, and Abby Huber. All have invested their many talents in assuring the success of a conference that will surely be memorable academically and personally.

ILAN TROEN
President, Association for Israel Studies
Karl, Harry and Helen Stoll Chair in Israel Studies
Brandeis University
Conference Schedule

MONDAY, JUNE 12, 2017

REGISTRATION OPEN
MANDEL CENTER FOR THE HUMANITIES, ATRIUM
7:30-16:00

SESSION A
9:00-10:30

MA1 OLIN-SANG 116
TRAUMA, VICTIMIZATION AND VICTIMHOOD IN CONTEMPORARY ISRAEL
CHAIR:
ALON CONFINO
University of Virginia, Ben Gurion University of the Negev
ILAN PELEG
Lafayette College
The Victimhood Discourse in Israel: from Marginality to Hegemony?
IRIT KEYNAN
Center for Academic Studies, Or Yehuda
Transforming Victimhood: From Competitive Victimhood to Sharing Identity
ALON GAN
Kibbutzim College of Education, Technology and the Arts
The Victimization Discourse in Israel: Toward Sovereignty?
IDO ZELKOVITZ
Max Stern Yezreel Valley College
In Search of Revolution: Armed Struggle & Victimhood in the Early Discourse of Creating the Palestinian National Movement

MA2 MANDEL G11
AN INTRICATE AFFAIR: ISRAEL, THE DIASPORA AND THEIR INTERSECTIONS
CHAIR:
JULIE GRIMEISEN
Ludwig-Maximilian-Universität München
“A Better Human Being:” Jewish Diaspora Images of the New Israeli Woman

MA3 OLIN-SANG 124
FAKE NEWS, EPISTEMOLOGY, EMPATHY, AND ISRAEL
CHAIR:
RICHARD LANDES
Bar-Ilan University
GERALD STEINBERG
Bar-Ilan University
Examining the Media-NGO Nexus: What Makes a Narrative Credible?
MIRIAM ELMAN
Syracuse University
Fake News and Jerusalem’s Temple Mount/Noble Sanctuary: Destabilizing the World’s Most Contested Holy City
NIDRA POLLER
Independent Scholar
The Demonization of Israel at the Dawn of the New Century by French Journalism, Public Opinion, and Diplomatic Activity
BEN-DROR YEMINI
Yediot Achronot
Industry of Lies and Moral Disarray

MA4 OLIN-SANG 104
PERCEPTIONS WITHIN THE ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CONFLICT
CHAIR:
ODED HAKLAI
Queen’s University
Public Mindsets toward the Disputed Territories and the Settlements
AMIRA HALPERIN
The Harry S. Truman Research Institute for the Advancement of Peace, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Changes in the Israeli-Palestinian Relations and New Technologies Revolution

LAURA ALMAGOR
Center for Jewish History
“A Highway to Battlegrounds”: Jewish Territorialism and the State of Israel, 1945-1960
ISRAEL-US RELATIONS

CHAIR:
BRUCE PHILLIPS
Hebrew Union College, Los Angeles

MITCHELL BARD
American-Israeli Cooperative Enterprise
The Evolution of U.S.-Israel Relations since Balfour

HAROLD ROSENHOLTZ
Independent Scholar
The U.S. & Israel: The Politics of “Commitment”

GUY FREEDMAN
Interdisciplinary Center Herzliya
The American Public Mood toward Israel

CONCEPTUALIZATIONS OF COLONIALISM

CHAIR:
RACHEL FISH
Brandeis University

SARA YAEL HIRSCHHORN
University of Oxford
Settler-Colonialism and Theoretical Alternatives for the Conceptualization of Post-1967 Israel/Palestine

URI RAM
Ben Gurion University of the Negev
From Martin Buber to Contemporary Neo-Buberians: German, American and Postcolonial Entanglements of Israeli Sociology

COLIN PEARCE
Clemson University
The Letter and the Speech, or, Defending the Israeli State: Leo Strauss, Senator Moynihan, and the “Zionism is Racism” Debate

ROUNDTABLE: TEACHING ISRAELI POLITICS TO NORTH AMERICAN UNDERGRADUATES

CHAIR:
LAURA CUTLER
American University

BRENT SASLEY
University of Texas, Arlington

CSABA NIKOLENYI
Concordia University

THE BALFOUR DECLARATION AND JEWISH MILITARY POWER

CHAIR:
YEHUDAH MIRSKY
Brandeis University

COLIN SHINDLER
University of London
The Political and Historical Origins of the Jewish Legion

MICHAEL KEREN
University of Calgary and Emek Israel Academic College
Religious Interpretations of the Jewish Legions’ Arrival in the Land of Israel

BAT-SHEVA MARGALIT STERN
Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies
Honor and Blood: Engendering the Debate On Voluntarism - The ‘Eretz Israeli Legion’ as a Case Study

ARIE NAOR
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
Hebrew Battalion and ‘Military Zionism’

OXFORD HANDBOOK OF ISRAELI POLITICS AND SOCIETY: PANEL 1: ISRAELI SOCIETY

CHAIR:
ORIT ROZIN
Tel Aviv University

ADANE ZAWDU and Sarah Willen, University of Connecticut
Natives and Newcomers in Israel

TAMAR HERMANN
The Open University of Israel
Public Opinion in Israel

ARIE PERLIGER, University of Massachusetts, Lowell, and Ami Pedazur, University of Texas
The Territories in Israeli Politics
THE OTHER ANNIVERSARY: 50 YEARS OF OCCUPATION
CHAIR:
MIRA SUCHAROV
Carleton University
Young Diaspora Jews and the Occupation: Constituting Identity from the Green Line

GERSHON SHA’IFIR
University of California, San Diego
What is the Occupation?

MARCO ALLEGRA
Universidad de Lisboa
Planning and Beyond: Israel’s Settlement Policy and the Normalization of Jewish Life in the West Bank

AEYAL GROSS
Tel Aviv University
The Writing on the Wall: Can the Occupation Turn 50 Legally?

UNDERSTANDING ISRAELI NATIONAL IDENTITY
CHAIR:
AVIVA HALAMISH
The Open University of Israel

JUDAH TROEN
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Negation of the Diaspora and the New-Jew: The Changing Contours of a Multifaceted Identity Project

NAHUM KARLINSKY, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev and Mustafa Kabha, The Open University of Israel
The Citrus Industry in Late British Mandate Palestine

AMIR LOCKER-BILETZKI
Concordia University
Empire and Nationalism in Mosh Sneh’s “On the National Question”

100 YEARS AFTER BALFOUR: MAJOR DEBATES
CHAIR:
RAPHAEL COHEN ALMAGOR
University of Hull

OLAF GLOECKNER
Moses Mendelssohn Center for European-Jewish Studies
Israel, Europe, Diaspora and the New Anti-Semitism

ANNE WEBERLING
University of Potsdam
Structuring the Major Debates

ALAN DOWTY
University of Notre Dame
Israel as a Democratic State

JUDIT BOKSER LIWERANT
National University of Mexico
Changing Patterns of Center-Diaspora Relations: Inner Dynamics and External Constraints in a Transnational World

COFFEE BREAK
10:30-11:00

SESSION B
11:00-12:30

ROUNDTABLE: ISRAEL-DIASPORA IN CONVERSATION
CHAIR:
DAVID ELLENSON
Brandeis University

MOAV VARDI
Channel 10 News Diplomatic Correspondent

ADDITIONAL SPEAKER TBD

INFLUENCE OF “ISRAELINESS” ON THE DIASPORA
CHAIR:
STEVEN BAYME
American Jewish Committee

ROHEE DASGUPTA
O.P. Jindal Global University
Jewish Identity and Israeli Sister Cities

SARA YAEL HIRSCHHORN
University of Oxford
From Jerusalem to JStreet to Johannesburg and Back: 1967 and the Whitening of the Jewish Diasporas
CARY NELSON
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
The Diasporic Disconnect: Alienation and the Peace Process

MB3 OLIN-SANG 101
THE PALESTINIAN ARAB CITIZENS IN ISRAEL: BETWEEN POLITICAL DIVERGENCE AND CIVIL CONVERGENCE
CHAIR:
ELIE REKHESS
Northwestern University

FAHIMA ABBAS
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
The Integration of Arab Middle Class in the Metropolitan Areas of Tel Aviv and Haifa

MOHANAD MUSTAFA
Center for Academic Studies, Or Yehuda
Higher Education Among Palestinians in Israel: Social and Political Transformation

RONNI SHAKED
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Political Radicalization in the Arab Public Sphere in Israel

ITAMAR RADAI
Tel Aviv University
al-Madaniyyat: An Alternative Civil Agenda for the Arab Citizens?

MB4 HELLER 163
HOPE, EXPECTATION, AND DISILLUSION IN THE MAKING OF HEBREW AND ISRAELI CULTURE
CHAIR:
BAT-ZION KLORMAN-ERAQI
The Open University of Israel

ARIEH SAPOSNIK
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
“Hosanna!—The British have Arrived”: Zionist Expectations and Redemptive Eschatologies after Balfour and British Conquest

OREN KALMAN
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
Why is the Issue of Cultural Coercion Missing from the Mizrahi Discourse of Early Israeli Statehood?

ELAD WEXLER
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
Dahn Ben-Amotz, the Zionist Ethos and a Spiritual Crisis

MB5 OLIN-SANG 104
INNOVATIVE APPROACHES TO TEACHING ISRAEL STUDIES
CHAIR:
MORRIE FRED
University of Chicago
Using Film to Teach the “Anthropology of Israel”

PIERRE ANCTIL
University of Ottawa
Interdisciplinarity as a Method of Discussing the Arab-Israeli Conflict in a Canadian Context

IRA ROBINSON
Concordia University
Between Religious Studies and Political Science: Teaching “Israel: Religion and State”

DINA ROGINSKY
Yale University
Emphasizing Multi-vocality in Israel Studies Teaching

KHINVRAJ JANGID
O.P. Jindal Global University
Who are the “Yehudi log?”: Teaching Israel in India

MB6 HELLER G4
THE BRITISH MANDATE AND THE TRANSFORMATION OF PALESTINE INTO A PLACE TO CALL HOME FOR JEWS
CHAIR:
DONNA ROBINSON DIVINE
Smith College

MOSHE NAOR, University of Haifa and ABIGAIL JACOBSON, Van-Leer Jerusalem Institute
Oriental Jews in the Transition to the British Mandate

ARIE DUBNOV
The George Washington University
On Vertical Alliances and Informal Imperialism, or: Between the Balfour Declaration (1917) and the Balfour Formula (1926)

ELIA ETKIN
Tel Aviv University
A Neighborhood of One’s Own: Formation of Jewish Neighborhoods under the British Mandate

MATAN BOORD
Tel Aviv University
Literature’s Role in Reducing Ambiguity Regarding Gender and Sexuality in Jewish Labor Circles in Mandate Palestine
MINORITIES IN ISRAEL

Chair:

André Levy
Brandeis University

Aziza Khazzoom
Indiana University Bloomington
Identification with Non-Jewish Arabs Among Alliance Educated Iraqi Immigrants to Israel

Rima Farah
Brandeis University
Reviving an Aramaic Identity in Israel: Maronites’ Continued Rejection of Arabism by Resurrecting a Christian Politics of Identity

Yael Mizrahi-Arnaud
Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies
The Jews of Sidon and the Yishuv: A Story of Dynamism and Support

Sigal Nagar-Ron
Sapir Academic College, and Hagar Tzameret, Sapir Academic College
The Wiping Out of the Social Category of Mizrahi and the Emergence of the “Periphery Index”: How Intra-Jew Divisions Transform into a Spatial Problem?

INFLUENCE OF THE BALFOUR DECLARATION

Chair:

Colin Shindler
University of London

Moshe Fox
Israel’s Foreign Ministry
The Impact of “Jewish influence”—the case of the Balfour Declaration

Martin Kramer
Shalem College
The Allied Balfour Declaration

Ian Lustick
University of Pennsylvania
The Balfour Declaration 100 Years Later: A Radically and Accidentally Relevant Document

ISRAELI SECURITY AND DIPLOMACY

Chair:

Mark Heller
Tel Aviv University

Amit Sheniak
Harvard University
The Israeli National Cyberspace: The Legitimization Process of Israel’s Cyber-Security Policy

Gil Merom
The University of Sydney
Learning, Strategy, Ethics, and the Law: The Evolution of the IDF’s Asymmetric Conflict Behavior

Aviad Levy
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Keep Calm and Stay Frustrated: The Unspoken Emotional Dimensions of Israeli Diplomacy in Europe

ISRAEL AND DIASPORA: DO THEY SHARE CONCERNS?

Chair:

Eli Avraham
University of Haifa and Reut Cohen, University of Haifa
Image Repair and Strategies in Fighting BDS, Anti-Semitism and the Boycott of Israeli Academia

Hanna Shaul Bar Nissim, Brandeis University and Hillel Schmid, Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Intergenerational Transmission of Philanthropic Values and Behavior Among Israeli Donors

Reut Bendrihem
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
“Lehitnachel Balevavot” as Moral Entrepreneurship: the Case of the “Garin Torani” in Mitzpe Ramon

THE SICK MAN OF EUROPE AND EMERGING NATIONAL IDENTITIES

Conversation with an Artist

Dor Guez
Head of the Photography Department, Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design

Gannit Ankori
Brandeis University
NEW PERSPECTIVES ON ISRAELI MILITARY PERSONNEL

CHAIR:
ELISHEVA ROSMAN
Bar-Ilan University
Melting Pot or Pressure Cooker: The IDF’s Effect on Bridging Social Schisms

AHARON KAMPINSKY
Efrata College
From Cooperation to Defensiveness: The Paradox of Religious Soldiers in the IDF

ITAMAR RICKOVER
Bar-Ilan University
From Balfour Declaration to the Six Day War—Changes in the Character of the Jewish Warrior

LUNCH BREAK
12:30-14:00

SESSION C
14:00-15:30

MC1 MANDEL G3
ISRAEL-US RELATIONS: DIPLOMATS AND LOBBYISTS

CHAIR:
TED SASSON
Brandeis University

NATAN ARIDAN
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
Diplomats and Lobbyists: Advocating for Israel: From Truman to Nixon—A Reassessment

DANIEL KURTZER
Princeton University
Freedom of Expression? The Possibilities and Limits of American Advocacy

STEVEN BAYME
American Jewish Committee
American Jewish Political Advocacy: How Significant a Factor?

MC2 OLIN-SANG 116
TRANSNATIONALISM AND NATIONALISM IN ISRAELI CULTURE

CHAIR:
OLGA GERSHENSON
University of Massachusetts, Amherst

INNA NARODITSKAYA
Northwestern University
Israeli Soundscape and Daily Life/Online

JANET WARD
University of Oklahoma
Tel Aviv Bauhaus: The Construction of Transnational and Zionist Vernacular Urban Modernism

MC3 OLIN-SANG 112
CONTESTED DIVISION, DISPUTED UNIFICATION, JERUSALEM: UNIFICATION AND DIVISION

CHAIR AND DISCUSSANT:
NOAH RUBIN
University of Michigan

OREN SHLOMO
Harvard University
Contemporary Transformation in East Jerusalem: Territorialization, Infrastructural Services, and Shifting of Urban Politics

MARIK SHTERN
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
Towards “Ethno-National Peripheralization?” Economic Dependency Amidst Political Resistance in Palestinian East Jerusalem

ERAN TZIDKIYAHU
Paris Institute of Political Studies (Sciences Po)
From a Cosmopolitan to a Segregated City—Jerusalem’s City Centers as a Case Study

MC4 MANDEL G12
ACTUALLY EXISTING ZIONISM: IS THE STATE OF ISRAEL NOT LORD BALFOUR’S “NATIONAL HOME FOR THE JEWISH PEOPLE,” AFTER ALL?

CHAIR:
RACHEL FISH
Brandeis University

ELHANAN YAKIRA
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
From Balfour’s National Home to the State of Israel

GABRIEL BRAHM
Northern Michigan University
Neo-Geo-Antisemitism—The Jewish National Home and Its Detractors

ASHLEY PASSMORE
Texas A&M University
Post-Nationalism and Its Discontents
GILAD HALPERN  
University of Haifa  
Self-Hating Israelis

TANYA ZION-WALDOKS  
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev  
“I Believe in Change from Within”: Jewish-Orthodox Israeli Women’s Transformative “Tempered Radicalism”

MC5  OLIN-SANG 101  
LAND, NATURE, AND THE PALESTINIAN/ARAB OTHER IN JEWISH CULTURE  
CHAIR:  
ILAN TROEN  
Brandeis University  
MOSTAFA HUSSEIN  
University of Southern California  
Intertwined Landscape: On the Integration of Islamicate Culture in the Construction of Jewish Landscape in Palestine/Israel  
YAEI ZERUBAVEL  
Rutgers University  
ASSAF HAREL  
Rutgers University  
Building, Burning and Belonging: Religiously Motivated Settlers and the Land of Israel  
LIRON SHANI  
Brandeis University and Shai M. Dromi, Harvard University  
Nationalizing the Nature—the Israeli Space between Environmentalism and Landalism

MC6  HELLER G3  
TRANSFORMING ISRAEL’S TRADITIONAL SOCIETIES: AN INTERSECTIONAL PERSPECTIVE ON WOMEN’S STRATEGIES OF CHANGE  
CHAIR:  
SHULAMIT REINHARZ  
Brandeis University  
EBTESAM BARAKAT  
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem  
“I’m the One Who Should Decide for Myself”: Druze Women’s Struggle to Get an Education  
SAFA ABU-RABIA  
Harvard University  
The Negev’s Struggle Over Land: Bedouin Women from the 1948 Generation—Resistance from within Patriarchal Spaces

MC7  MANDEL G11  
ZIONISM IN ISRAEL AND BEYOND  
CHAIR:  
GILBERT KAHN  
Kean University  
The Increasing Political Engagement and Influence of American Orthodox Jews on Israel-Diaspora Relations  
WILLIAM MILES  
Northeastern University  
De Facto Zionism: “Love of Israel” and the “Covenant of Blood”  
LUKAS WEINBEER  
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev  
Approaching and Integrating non-Hebrew speaking Olim—Mapai’s Mass Communication in French and German

MC8  OLIN-SANG 124  
BIOGRAPHY AND THE BUILDING OF A JEWISH STATE  
CHAIR:  
AVI SHILON  
Tsinghua University  
PAULA KABALO  
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev  
David Ben-Gurion’s Jerusalem Vision Post June 1967: What Was the Plan and Why Does it Matter?  
ARIEL COHEN  
University of Virginia  
Rights and Sovereignty in a Developing International Order: David Ben Gurion’s Am Yisrael in the 1920s/30s Global Landscape  
ADI ARMON  
Da’at Hamakom Center for the Study of Cultures of Place in the Modern Jewish World, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem  
Benzion Netanyahu—The Formative Years
MC9  HELLER 163
WRITING ISRAELI HISTORY
CHAIR:
AVIVA HALAMISH
The Open University of Israel
SHAY HAZKANI
University of Maryland, College Park
The Israeli Postal Censorship: A new Source for Writing History from Below of Israel/Palestine
ESTHER CARMEL-HAKIM
University of Haifa
From a Pension in Safed to the Dan Hotel Chain: Entrepreneur Kaete Dan
YITZHAK CONFORTI
Bar-Ilan University
Utopia and History in the Zionist Movement

MC10  HELLER G4
OXFORD HANDBOOK OF ISRAELI POLITICS AND SOCIETY: POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS: PANEL 2: POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS
CHAIR:
CSABA NIKOLENYI
Concordia University
CHEN FRIEDBERG
Ariel University and Reuven Hazan, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
The Legislative Branch in Israel
MENACHEM HOFNUNG, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Mohammed Wattad, Zefat Academic College
The Judicial Branch in Israel
AS’AD GHANEM
University of Haifa
Arab Political Institutions in Israel
YORAM PERI
University of Maryland
The Military in Israeli Politics

MC11  MANDEL G10
HOW TO TEACH ISRAEL STUDIES IN AN AGE OF SHRINKING ENROLLMENT IN THE HUMANITIES
CHAIR:
DONNA ROBINSON DIVINE
Smith College
NAOMI SOKOLOFF
University of Washington
Have We Got a Prayer? The Crisis in the Humanities, Hebrew Poetry, and World Literature
SHIRA KLEIN
Chapman University
Using Wikipedia in the Israel Studies Classroom

WELCOME RECEPTION
USDAN STUDENT CENTER COURTYARD
15:45-16:30
GREETINGS:
DAVID ELLENSON
Brandeis University
ILAN TROEN
President, AIS

AWARDS CEREMONY
USDAN STUDENT CENTER, LEVIN BALLROOM
16:45-17:30
AIS-ISRAEL INSTITUTE LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
Alan Dowty
University of Notre Dame
Pnina Lahav
Boston University
ANNUAL SHAPIRO AWARD FOR BEST BOOK IN ISRAEL STUDIES 2016
Abigail Jacobson
The Van Leer Jerusalem Institute
Moshe Naor
University of Haifa
Oriental Neighbors: Middle Eastern Jews and Arabs in Mandatory Palestine (Schusterman Series in Israel Studies/Brandeis University Press).

ANNUAL BEN HALPERN AWARD FOR BEST DISSERTATION IN ISRAEL STUDIES 2016
Irit Katz
Girton College, University of Cambridge
Judah Troen
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
“This is What is Done Abroad: Model Others and the Construction of National Identity in the Parliamentary Discourse of Israel.”
ANNUAL BARUCH KIMMERLING PRIZE FOR BEST GRADUATE PAPER PRESENTED AT 2016 ANNUAL MEETING
Geoffrey Levin
New York University
“Enlightening a Stained Democracy: The American Jewish Committee and Israel’s Palestinian Arab Minority, 1949-1966.”

KEYNOTE ADDRESS: REFLECTIONS ON THE BALFOUR DECLARATION
USDAN STUDENT CENTER, LEVIN BALLROOM
17:30-18:15

WELCOME:
RON LIEBOWITZ
President, Brandeis University

KEYNOTE CONVERSATION:
LEON WIESELTIER
Isaiah Berlin Senior Fellow in Culture and Policy, Brookings Institution
MODERATOR:
ILAN TROEN
President, AIS

BANQUET (PAYMENT REQUIRED)
HASSENFELD CONFERENCE CENTER, SHERMAN HALL
18:30-20:00

TUESDAY, JUNE 13, 2017

REGISTRATION OPEN
MANDEL CENTER FOR THE HUMANITIES ATRIUM
8:00-16:00

SESSION A
9:00-10:30

TA1  HELLER G3
CHALLENGING ISRAEL’S ORTHODOX HEGEMONY: CONTESTED VISIONS OF JEWISH IDENTITY
CHAIR:
NATAN ARIDAN
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

DAVID BARAK-GORODETSKY
University of Haifa
Refugee Judaism in the Eyes of the Israeli Establishment: An Historical Exploration

TANYA ZION-WALDOKS
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
Israel’s Rabbinic Courts vs. Religious Women Activists—Who Represents Israel’s True Defense Force?

OFIR ABU
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
Religious Pluralism, National Identity, and the State: The Case of Non-Orthodox Judaism in Israel

TA2  MANDEL G10
POPULAR CULTURE AND THE FATE OF ETHNICITY IN CONTEMPORARY ISRAEL
CHAIR:
ANDRÉ LEVY
Brandeis University

URI DORCHIN
Zefat Academic College
Mizrahi Rap: Signifying Orientalism Anew

GABRIELLA DJERRAHIAN
Université du Québec à Montréal
A New Blueprint for Blackness: Ethiopian Israelis and the Consumption of Popular Music

ADANE ZAWDU
University of Connecticut
The Popularization of the Siqd Holiday in Israel: A View from Below on Making Ethnicity

ASAF LEOBOVITZ
Ariel University
Spiritual Traditionalism Among Israeli Celebs as Post-Secular Discourse of Citizenship

TA3  OLIN-SANG 124
MATERIALITY AND THE TIME OF THE PRESENT IN ISRAELI CULTURE
CHAIR:
SARA HOROWITZ
York University

ORIT ROZIN
Tel Aviv University
Confronting Fear and Enriching the Self and the Nation: Practices and Emotions in the Aftermath of the Czech-Egyptian Arms Deal

TAMAR BERGER
Suburban Realities: The Israeli Case
YAELE MUNK  
Open University of Israel  
The Catastrophic Horizon: Dead-End Israeli Cinema in the Materialistic New Millennium

ODED NIR  
Ohio State University  
Peace as Vanishing Mediator: Towards a Marxist History of Zionism and Israel

TA4  
OLIN-SANG 112  
BALFOUR AND STATE-BUILDING: A CENTURY OF ZIONISM IN INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVE  
CHAIR:  
JONATHAN ADELMAN  
University of Denver
JEFF WEINTRAUB  
Bryn Mawr College  
From 1923 to 1948 and Beyond: The Dynamics of Modern Nationalism and Post-Imperial “Exchange of Populations” as a Context for Understanding the Histories of Israel and Zionism

ASAF ROMIROWSKY  
Scholars for Peace in the Middle East  
The Anomaly of the Arab Palestinian Refugees

ANNA GEIFMAN  
Bar-Ilan University  
Extremists as State-Builders: The Bolsheviks, Hamas, ISIS... and the Zionists?

TA5  
OLIN-SANG 104  
EDUCATION: IT’S COMPLICATED  
CHAIR:  
MATTHEW BOXER  
Brandeis University
DAVID BRYFMAN  
The Jewish Education Project  
Jewish Generation Z and Israel: It’s Complicated and Conflicted

HANNAH KOBER  
Brandeis University  
The Motivations and Experiences of Jewish Students of Arabic at Israeli Universities

NIR RESSISSI  
Oranim College of Education  
Does Outsourcing Zionist Education Indicate a Neo-Zionist Vision?

ILAN FUCHS  
Brandeis University  
Women’s Education in the Haredi Leumi Community: A Curriculum for the Creation of a Stay at Home Revolutionary

TA6  
OLIN-SANG 104  
VISIONS FOR A JEWISH STATE  
CHAIR:  
NAHUM KARLINSKY  
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
LIOR LAVID  
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev  
Between “Altneuland” and Mini Israel

AVI SHILON  
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev  
More than Poetry and Music: Spiritual’s Place in Jabotinsky’s Later View of Nationalism

MOSHE BERENT  
Open University of Israel  
Did Zionism Aspire for a State?

ROMAN VATER  
University of Oxford  
Fighting for a Civic Nation: The “I am an Israeli” Organization as a post-Zionist/post-“Canaanite” Phenomenon
ISRAELI POLITICS

CHAIR:
PNIINA LAHAV
Boston University

CSABA NIKOLENYI
Concordia University
Defectors in the Knesset: What Explains Exit and Loyalty?

MARK TESSLER and ALON YAKTER
University of Michigan
The Dealignment of the Israeli Political Party System

RUVI ZIEGLER
University of Reading
Permanent Transience: Israel’s (Non)immigration Policy

HADARA BAR-MOR, Netanya Academic College, Lilach Littor, The Open University of Israel, and Gila Menachem, Tel Aviv University
Courts and Social Rights within Liberal Constitutions: The Organic and Functional Approaches to Judicial Review in the Age of Privatization and Contracting Out

EDUCATING ISRAELIS

CHAIR:
TALI TADMOR-SHIMONY
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

AMIRA ERAN
Levinsky College of Education
Parent-Children and School Relations in Communal Education – A Century after the Balfour Declaration

LAURA WISEMAN
York University
Growing Up: The Phantasm of Israeli Childhood

HANIT BENGLAS KAUFMAN
Tel Aviv University
Models of the Secular Pluralistic Beit Midrash in Israel: Innovative Methods of Teaching

PALESTINIAN ARABS IN ISRAELI SOCIETY

CHAIR:
DANA BLANDER
Israel Democracy Institute
Is There a Place for the ‘Other’ in the “National Home for the Jewish People”?

AS’AD GHANEM
University of Haifa
Restoring Faith—The Politics of Empowerment Among the Palestinians in Israel after Oslo

SHAHBARI ILHAM
University of Bradford
Internationalization of the National Aspirations of the Arab Minority in Israel

ELIE REKHESS
Northwestern University
Sami Michael’s Hasut and the Political History of the Arabs in Israel

OXFORD HANDBOOK OF ISRAELI POLITICS AND SOCIETY:

CHAIR:
ILAN TROEN
Brandeis University

SERGIO DELLAPERGOLA
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Demographic History of Israel

MIRA SUCHAROV
Carleton University
Israel and the Jewish Diaspora

KEN STEIN
Emory University
Israel and the United States

OREN BARAK
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Israel’s Policies in the West Bank and Gaza

FORMATION OF ISRAELINESS

CHAIR:
MOSHE NAOR
University of Haifa

ASSAF SELZER
University of Haifa
The Inauguration Ceremony of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem—Was it an Academic Event or a National One?

BEN HERZOG
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
Public Attitudes toward the Israeli Citizenship Law (1952)
MARTIN LASKIN
Southern Connecticut State University
The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Labor Zionism

MILI LEITNER
University of Chicago
Separate But Equal? The Palestine Broadcasting Service and the Racialization of Zionism in Mandatory Palestine

COFFEE BREAK
10:30-11:00

PLENARY SESSION I: 50 YEARS SINCE ‘67
USDAN STUDENT CENTER, LEVIN BALLROOM
11:00-12:30

MODERATOR:
DAVID ELLENSON
Brandeis University
ANITA SHAPIRA
Tel Aviv University
HUSSEIN IBISH
Arab Gulf States Institute
DAN KURTZER
Princeton University
HUSAM ZOMLOT
Chief Representative of the Palestinian General Delegation to the United States

GENERAL ASSEMBLY (BOX LUNCH PROVIDED TO FIRST 100 ATTENDEES)
OLIN-SANG 101
12:45-13:45

SESSION C
14:00-15:30

TC1  HELLER G3
ETHNIC AND RELIGIOUS MINORITIES IN ISRAEL

CHAIR:
AZIZA KHAZZOOM
Indiana University
HAVATZELET YAHEL
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

SAFA ABU-RABIA, Harvard University and Avinoam Meir, Ben Gurion University
Involvement of Nakba’s Third Generation Bedouin Women in the Land Conflict in the Naqab\Negev: Between State Dispossession and Social Patriarchy.

NOHAD ‘ALI
Western Galilee College and University of Haifa
Being a Muslim in an Ethnic Jewish State: Culture, Identity and Minority Status Internalization

TC2  HELLER 163
ISRAELI CINEMA

CHAIR:
DINA ROGINSKY
Yale University
OREN BARAK, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Daphne Inbar, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
“Revenge of the Jobniks”: Daily Resistance of Soldiers As Represented in Contemporary Israeli Cinema

NAVA DUSHI
Lynn University
Hanging by a Thread: Israeli Cinema in the International Arena

UTA LARKEY
Goucher College
The Brichah (1945-49) in History and Film

TONY SHAW, University of Hertfordshire and GIORA GOODMAN, Kinneret College
Star Power: Kirk Douglas, Hollywood and Israel

TC3  MANDEL G12
DEFINING THE TENT: PERSPECTIVES ON SUPPORT OF, ENGAGEMENT WITH, AND CONNECTION TO ISRAEL

CHAIR:
SARAH ANNE MINKIN
Just Vision
ARIELA KEYSAR, Trinity College and SERGIO DELLAGPEROLA, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Are We All One Happy Family? American and Israeli Jews

RACHEL FISH
Brandeis University
The Politics of the Israel Discourse within the Academy
JANET KRASNER ARONSON AND MATTHEW BROOKNER
Brandeis University
Who Supports AIPAC and J Street? A Community Divided

MATTHEW BOXER AND DAVID MANCHESTER
Brandeis University
Use, Misuse, and Missing: Survey Data in Jewish Communal Discourse on the 2015 Iran Nuclear Deal

TC4 OLIN-SANG 116
PEACE NEGOTIATIONS AND PERSONALITIES
CHAIR: SONJA WENTLING
Concordia College
RAPHAEL COHEN ALMAGOR
University of Hull
Arafat, Barak and Clinton at Camp David: Clashes of Characters and Conduct
LIOR LEHRS
New York University
Unofficial Israeli Diplomats in the Israeli-Arab Conflict—A Historical Perspective
ZACHARY SMITH
University of Pennsylvania
Electoral System Change in the Middle East: Threat and Elite Action Across Regime Type
BARIS KESGIN
Elon University
Tracing Shimon Peres’ Leadership Traits

TC5 OLIN-SANG 112
FIELD RESEARCH AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF ISRAEL STUDIES CURRICULA ON NORTH AMERICAN CAMPUSES
CHAIR: ANNETTE KOREN
Brandeis University

JULIA LIEBERMAN
Saint Louis University
CSABA NIKOLENYI
Concordia University
Field Immersion and the Teaching of Israeli Politics
GABRIEL NOAH BRAHM
Northern Michigan University
Don’t Boycott this Class

TC6 OLIN-SANG 104
INFLUENCE OF RELIGION IN ISRAELI SOCIETY
CHAIR: JOSEPH RINGEL
Northwestern University
MOTTI INBARI
The University of North Carolina, Pembroke
Uzi Meshulam’s “Mishkan Ohalim” Affair and the Influence of Radical Ultra-Orthodox Ideology
TEHILA KALAGY
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
From Defensive Conservatism to a Conservatism of Adaptation: Acculturation Strategies of ultra-Orthodox Academics in the Workplace
HEATHER MUNRO
Durham University
Examining the Notions of Secular and Religious Through the Case of Hasidic Women in Jerusalem

TC7 MANDEL G3
ISRAELI FOREIGN POLICY IN THE TRUMP ERA
CHAIR: ROBERT FREEDMAN
Johns Hopkins University
ILAN PELEG
Lafayette College
The Impact of Trump’s Policy on Israeli Politics
YAELE ARONOFF
Michigan State University
The Policy of the Trump Administration toward Israel
STEVEN DAVID
John Hopkins University
Israel and the Iran Nuclear Agreement—Two Years Later

TC8 MANDEL G11
ISRAELI ETHNICITIES REVISITED
CHAIR: URI RAM
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
LIHI YONA
Columbia University
The Man of Honor Killings: The Racialized Space between Honor and Dignity
ORNAL SASSON-LEVY and Nissim Leon,
Bar-Ilan University
Hishtaknezut: Passing as White or Class Mobility

GILLY HARTAL
McGill University
Inventing Gay Utopia: Gay Tourism to Tel Aviv and Israeli Ethnicities

TC9 MANDEL G10
GENDER AND ISRAELI SOCIETY
CHAIR:
SHULAMIT REINHARZ
Brandeis University

ORLY BENJAMIN
Bar-Ilan University
Gender and Government Procurement in Israel: How Do Privatization Contracts Promote Gender Inequality?

DIKLA BAR ORIAN
Bar-Ilan University
Shaping of the Settler—Women in the First Wave of Settlements, 1967-1977

LILACH ROSENBERG-FRIEDMAN
Bar-Ilan University
Captivity and Gender: Female Prisoners of Israel’s War of Independence as a Case Study

TC10 OLIN-SANG 101
REVISITING BALFOUR
CHAIR:
GERSHON SHAFIR
University of California, San Diego
A Century of Balfour Declarations

YEHUDAH MIRSKY
Brandeis University
State, Community & Nation on the Anvil of Political Theology

MARIA G. NAVARRO
Universidad de Salamanca
Preventive vs. Proactive Policies: An Interpretation of Balfour Declaration’s Political Vision

AVITAL GINAT
Tel Aviv University
Shifting Loyalties: The Balfour Declaration and the Transition towards British Orientation During and After First World War

TC11 OLIN-SANG 124
IMAGINING PALESTINE: ZIONISTS’ POLITICAL IMAGINATION, 1917-1947
CHAIR AND DISCUSSANT:
YAYL ZERUBAVEL
Rutgers University

ALON CONFINO
University of Virginia and Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
What Would Palestine Look Like? Zionists Imagine Palestine on the Night of November 29, 1947

DIMITRY SHUMSKY
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
From Recognition to Denial: The Palestinian Arabs in Ben-Gurion’s Political Imagination in the British Mandate Period

TC12 HELLER G4
SPIES, SEX AND SABICH: ISRAELI TELEVISION IN THE AGE OF NETFLIX
CHAIR:
SARA HOROWITZ
York University

RACHEL S. HARRIS
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
The Office of Gender and Age Diversity: Mossad 101

MARTIN SHICHTMAN
Eastern Michigan University
Violence and the Death of the Family in Fauda

SHAYNA WEISS
United States Naval Academy
Srugim

COFFEE BREAK
15:30-16:00

PLENARY SESSION II: ROLE OF NGO’S INSIDE/OUTSIDE OF ISRAEL
USDAN STUDENT CENTER, LEVIN BALLROOM
16:00-17:30

MODERATOR:
RACHEL FISH
Brandeis University

PETER BEINART
City University of New York

ALISA DOCTOROFF
Past President, UJA-Federation of New York
GERALD STEINBERG
Bar-Ilan University

WINE AND CHEESE RECEPTION
HOSTED BY SCHOLARS FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST (SPME)
OPEN TO ALL CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS
USDAN STUDENT CENTER COURTYARD
17:30-18:30

FILM SCREENING
SHAPIRO CAMPUS CENTER THEATER
BEN-GURION, EPILOGUE
20:00-21:30

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14, 2017

REGISTRATION OPEN
MANDEL CENTER FOR THE HUMANITIES ATRIUM
8:30-12:45

SESSION A
9:00-10:30

WA1 OLIN-SANG 124
ISRAELI CULTURE
CHAIR:
ARIEH SAPOSNIK
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
JEROME CHANES
CUNY Graduate Center
The Play’s the Thing: ha-Bimah and the Cameri—Israeli Society through the Lens of Theater
ALEC MISHORY
Independant Scholar
“There were Shepherds Abiding in the Field”: Origins of Israeli Folk Dance Costumes
NINA SPIEGEL
Portland State University
U.S.-Israel Relations: Israeli Cultural Development in the Early Years of the State

WA2 OLIN-SANG 101
ROUNDTABLE: BETWEEN THE RULE OF LAW AND STATES OF EMERGENCY: THE FLUID JURISPRUDENCE OF THE ISRAELI REGIME
CHAIR:
NITZAN LEOBOVIC
Lehigh University
IAN LUSTICK
University of Pennsylvania
ILAN PELEG
Lafayette College
YOAV MEHOZAY
University of Haifa

WA3 HELLER G4
ISRAEL AND ARMED NON-STATE ACTORS: A SHIFTING STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENT
CHAIR:
PETER KRAUSE
Boston College
Victory Hanging in the Balance: Why Zionist Armed Groups Competed, Fought and Won
BOAZ ATZILI
American University
Israel’s Triadic Coercion: Persistence and Changes
EHUD EIRAN
University of Haifa
What Do We Talk about When We Talk about Military Adaptation? Israel in South Lebanon, 1985-2000
DANIEL SOBELMAN
Harvard University
A Comparative Look at Israel’s Conflicts with Hezbollah and Hamas Over the Past Decade
OREN BARAK
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Defending Ourselves Against the Wild Beasts: A Defensive Turn in Israel’s Offensive Military Strategy

WA4 MANDEL G3
ISRAEL AND ASIA
CHAIR:
YORAM PERI
University of Maryland
MERON MEDZINI
Hebrew University of Jerusalem
The Reaction of the Asian Nations to the Balfour Declaration
JAMES (JIM) NORWINE, Texas A&M University, Pinhas Alpert, Tel Aviv University, Michael Jennings, University of Idaho and Brent Hedquist, Texas A&M University - Kingsville
Southwest Asia’s Ominous Climate Future: The End of an Ancient Heart(h)land?

MING HUI PAN
Concordia University
A Century of Zionism in China: The Harbin Jewish Community since 1917

WA5 HELLER G3
ISRAEL AND THE UN
CHAIR:
PAUL SCHAM
University of Maryland

ELAD BEN-DROR
Bar-Ilan University
Arab Support for the UN Plan to Internationalize Jerusalem and its Decisive Weight in the Passage of the 1949 Resolution to Do So

KATHERINE HARBORD
Liverpool John Moores University
“Um Shmum”? The Role of the UN in the Perpetration of Palestinian Refugee Status

WA6 OLIN-SANG 104
ISRAELI FOREIGN RELATIONS
CHAIR:
BERKAY GULEN
University of Washington
Institutional Change in the Middle East: Turkish Foreign Policy towards Israel between 2002 and 2014

ALFRED TOVIAS
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Israel and Spain: Are They Rival or Complementary Countries?

MICHEL GHERMAN
Federal University of Rio de Janeiro
Peripheral Zionism: Ambiguities of History of Zionism in Brazil (1900-1930)

WA7 MANDEL G10
INTERNATIONAL INFLUENCE ON THE JEWISH STATE
CHAIR:
EVA GUREVICH
Brandeis University
Eliezer Livneh: The Israeli Translator and Adapter of American Neo-Conservative Political Thought in the 1970s

ANJA SCHMIDT-KLEINERT
University of Bielefeld
Inclusion through Exclusion: Young Russians in the Yisra’el Beiteinu Party Actively Construct a Sense of Belonging

KHNVRJAJ JANGID
Jindal Global University
Indian National Movement and Zionism: In the Light of Balfour Declaration

WA8 OLIN-SANG 112
PERCEPTIONS OF ISRAEL
CHAIR:
SARA AIROLDI
State University of Milan
Home, Nation, State? Political Wording and the Meaning of Jewish Nationhood in Italy (1917-1938)

JONATHAN GROSSMAN
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Israeli and Jewish Proposals to Resettle Palestinian Refugees in the Wake of the Six-Day War: The Case of Brazil

FELICIA WALDMAN
University of Bucharest
Israel and the Israeli-Arab Conflict in the Eyes of Romanian Communists (1948-1975)

MARWA MAZIAK
University of Washington
“The Territories”: Ambiguities and (dis)Continuities in Israel’s Civil-Military Relations

WA9 HELLER 163
INFLUENCE OF WOMEN ON STATE FORMATION
CHAIR:
LILACH ROSENBERG-FRIEDMAN
Bar-Ilan University

MEIR CHAZAN
Tel Aviv University
Women Defense Service in the Palmach, 1942-1945s
TALI TADMOR-SHIMONY, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev and Nirit Raichel, Kinneret College
Gender, Professional Identity, and Familial Life in the Yishuv Area: The Married Women Teachers, 1880’s-1930

MIRA YUNGMAN
The Open University of Israel
The Leading Women’s Zionist Organizations in the US, 1912-1948: Identities, Vision and Ideologies—A Comparison

SAM LEHMAN-WILZIG and Gilad Greenwald, Bar-Ilan University
From Collectivity to Personalization: The Historical Retrogression of Female Politicians’ Media Image in Israeli Newspapers

WA10 MANDEL G12
SOCIALE CHALLENGES IN ISRAEL

CHAIR:
NAHUM KARLINSKY
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

OZ FRANKEL
New School for Social Research
Consumer Modernity, Citizenship, and the Everyday in 1960s Israel

RAFI GROSGLIK
Brandeis University
Neoliberal-Environmentalism in Israeli Legislation: The Case of the Law for Regulation of Organic Produce

DIVYA MALHOTRA
Jawaharlal Nehru University
The Health Gap: Understanding Access to Healthcare in Israel

WA11 MANDEL G11
ETHIOPIANS IN ISRAEL

CHAIR:
SHARON SHALOM
Brandeis University
Between Subjective Identity and Objective Identify—A Case Study of Ethiopian Immigrants in Israel

ALON BURSTEIN, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Liora Norwich, Brandeis University
From a Whisper to a Scream: The Politicization of the Ethiopian Community in Israel

SOLOMON GETAHUN
Central Michigan University
The Beta-Israel Migration and Israel’s Continued Predicament

WA12 OLIN-SANG 116
ROUNDTABLE: THE CULT OF THE OCCUPATION

CHAIR:
RICHARD LANDES
Bar-Ilan University

JOSHUA MURAVCHIK
Institute of World Politics

GILEAD INI
CAMERA

KENNETH LEVIN
Harvard University Medical School

ELHANAN YAKIRA
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

COFFEE BREAK
10:30-10:45

SESSION B
10:45-12:15

WB1 OLIN-SANG 124
TWO DECADES PLUS SINCE “FOREIGNERS DESERVE RIGHTS?”: WHAT RIGHTS DO THEY DESERVE AND WHAT ARE COMMON THEMES BETWEEN ISRAEL AND GERMANY?

CHAIR AND DISCUSSANT:
GALIA SABAR
Ruppin College and Tel Aviv University

HADAS COHEN
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Case 1: Israel

DANI KRANZ
Bergische University Wuppertal
Case 2: Germany

ODED ORON
University of Washington
Let My People Stay: Seeking Asylum in the Jewish State
WB2  OLIN-SANG 101
ROUND TABLE: INNOVATIVE PEDAGOGICAL APPROACHES TO TEACHING FILM IN ISRAEL STUDIES

CHAIR:
RACHEL HARRIS
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

OLGA GERSHENSON
University of Massachusetts, Amherst
IDF on Screens: New Genres, New Values

ASSAF HAREL
Rutgers University
Teaching about Post-1967 Settlers through Film

DAVID STARR
Brandeis University
The History of Zionism and Israel Through Short Educational Documentary Videos

OREN KROLL-ZELDIN
University of San Francisco
Teaching Palestine in Israel Studies Through Palestinian Film

WB3  MANDEL G10
POLITICAL USAGES OF HOLOCAUST MEMORY IN ISRAEL

CHAIR:
ELKHANAN YAKIRA
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

AYALA PAZ
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
The “Eichmann Controversy” in Israel: Reading of Hannah Arendt’s Eichmann in Jerusalem through the Lens of The Origins of Totalitarianism

LIRAZ YAFFE
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
Motherhood as Resistance?: Representations of Mothers in the Holocaust during the 50’s in Israeli’s Newspapers

WB4  MANDEL G3
AMERICAN PERSPECTIVES ON THE BALFOUR DECLARATION

CHAIR:
DAVID ELLENSON
Brandeis University

JUDAH BERNSTEIN
New York University
From the Balfour Declaration to Cleveland: The 1921 ZOA Convention Reconsidered

MARK RAIDER
University of Cincinnati
Stephen S. Wise and the Balfour Declaration

WALKER ROBINS
University of Oklahoma
The Influence of Judah Magnes on American Liberal Protestant Interpretations of the Balfour Declaration

WB5  MANDEL G11
GHETTOS, CAMPS AND IMMIGRATION TO ISRAEL

CHAIR:
AVINOAM PATT
University of Hartford
Ghetto in Flames: Zionists, Bundists and the Meaning of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising

LIOR YOHANANI
Rutgers University
Internment Camps in Palestine: British Staff, Jewish Guards, German Internees

BENNY NURIELY
Emek Israel College and Sapir Collage
Experts, Camps and Immigration to Israel—The Joint and the OSE in South France 1947-1951

WB6  HELLER G3
PERSPECTIVES OF ORTHODOXY IN ISRAEL

CHAIR:
MOTTI INBARI
The University of North Carolina, Pembroke

RAPHAEL COHEN ALMAGOR
University of Hull
The Monopoly of Jewish Orthodoxy in Israel and its Effects on the Governance of Religious Diversity

SARA LEVINGER
University of Haifa
Women’s Rights and Gender -Theologians Challenges in Jewish and Democratic State

MEIR SEIDLIER
Ariel University
Rabbi Joseph Carlebach’s (1883-1942) non-Zionist Zionism

JOSEPH RINGEL
Northwestern University
Counter-Culture within a Counter-Culture: Religious Humanist Education and Thought in the Gush Emunim Movement
WB7  HELLER 163  
ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN RELATIONS  
CHAIR:  
AS’AD GHANEM  
University of Haifa  
OMRI SHAFER RAVIV  
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem  
YEHUDA (UDI) BLANGA  
Bar-Ilan University  
“The Logic of the Defeated”: The Attempts to Reach an Agreement between Israel and Egypt in 1971  
SHEILA KATZ  
Berklee College of Music  
A Century of Palestinian-Israeli Joint Nonviolence  
ROCCO GIANSANTE  
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem  
Erasing Borders: The Ottoman Dream of Avi Mograbi.  

WB8  MANDEL G12  
ISRAELI GEOGRAPHY AND DEVELOPMENT  
CHAIR:  
YAELO ZERUBAVEL  
Rutgers University  
AVI PICARD  
Bar-Ilan University  
Desert Development Towns and the Central Place Theory  
MOTI GIGI  
Sapir Academic College  
Urban Kibbutz and Development-Town—the Story of Migyan and Sderot  
TAMAR HERMANN  
The Open University of Israel  
Walking the Israel National Trail (INT): Political, Sociological and Cultural Aspects  
SHAY RABINEAU  
State University of New York, Binghamton  
Ancient Trails, Modern Hikers: Israeli Waymarking in the Sinai Peninsula  

WB9  HELLER G4  
PALESTINIAN ISRAELI CITIZENS AND POLITICAL AWARENESS  
CHAIR:  
SAFA ABU-RABIA  
Harvard University  
BEN MOLLOV, Bar-Ilan University and Chaim Lavie, Ba-Ilan University  
The Impact of Israeli-Palestinian Inter-religious Dialogue: Theoretical and Empirical Perspective  
ELIEZER DON-YEHIYA  
Bar-Ilan University  
The Power-Sharing Model and Israel’s Arab Minority  
RAMI ZEEDAN  
The Open University of Israel  
The Arab-Palestinian Minority in Israel: The Municipalities’ Crisis  
DANA GOLD  
University of Western Ontario  
Is Peace Between Israelis and Palestinians Viable? Analyzing Theories of Peace in International Relations  

WB10  OLIN-SANG 104  
SIX DAY WAR IN RETROSPECTIVE: 50 YEARS LATER  
CHAIR:  
EHUD EIRAN  
University of Haifa  
NIMROD HAGILADI  
IDF Command and Staff College  
Six Day War or the Seven Years War?  
OMRI ADOMI  
IDF Command and Staff College and The Hebrew University of Jerusalem  
The German Influence on the Israeli ‘Blitzkrieg’ in 1967  
YAGIL HENKIN  
IDF Command and Staff College  
Learning to Win, Learning to Lose: The IDF, the Egyptian Army, and the Lesson-I: Learning Process before the Six-Day War  

WB11  OLIN-SANG 112  
ISRAEL ON THE WORLD STAGE  
CHAIR:  
ROHEE DASGUPTA  
O.P. Jindal Global University  
ADRIAN KRUPNIK  
Tel Aviv University  
Between Two Homelands: Jewish-Argentines’ Return Migration from Israel, 1960-2005  
RÁCHEL SURANYI  
Eötvös Loránd University and University of Haifa  
“I Stepped out from a 3.5 Year Long Relationship by Getting on the Plane.” Ethnic Returnees or Migrants? The Relationship between the Hungarian Jewry and Israel
WC1  OLIN-SANG 101
ANTI-ZIONISM(S) IN AMERICA: DEFINITIONS AND HISTORICAL EVOLUTIONS
CHAIR:
GEOFFREY LEVIN
New York University
Israelis, Arabs, and the Palestinianization of American Jewish Anti-Zionism

NOAM PIANKO
University of Washington
“Israel Guidelines” and the Shifting Definition of American “Zionism” and “Anti-Zionism”

AMY WEISS
College of Saint Elizabeth
American Anti-Zionism: When Does Criticism of a Jewish State Become a Form of Antisemitism?

HASIA DINER
New York University
Julius Rosenwald’s Rejection of Zionism

WC2  MANDEL G11
POLITICAL POSSIBILITIES: ISRAELIS AND PALESTINIANS
CHAIR:
GANNIT ANKORI
Brandeis University

SUNIL KUMAR
Jawaharlal Nehru University
The Role of Israel’s Labour Party on Palestinian Question Since 1967-1993

WC3  MANDEL G3
ROUNDTABLE: CAMPUS WARS AND INTELLECTUAL INTEGRITY IN ACADEMIA
CHAIR:
RICHARD LANDES
Bar-Ilan University

CHARLES JACOBS
Americans for Peace and Tolerance

CARY NELSON
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

ANDREW PESSIN
Connecticut College

JEFFREY HERF
University of Maryland

JIM WALD
Hampshire College

LUCIEN OULAHBIB
Membre du CLESID, Laboratory of University Jean Moulin Lyon 3

WC4  OLIN-SANG 104
ZIONIST IMAGININGS AFTER BALFOUR
CHAIR:
KATHERINE HARBORD
Liverpool John Moores University

STEVEN FINE
Yeshiva University

LINDSAY KATZIR
Louisiana State University
Rainbows Built of Bitter Tears: Anglo-Jewish Zionism Before the Balfour Declaration

ELIRAN ZERED
Bar-Ilan University
Deus ex Machina: The Metaphors Underlying Ze’ev Jabotinsky’s Conception of the Jewish Nation
WC5 MANDEL G10
ISRAEL AND NATURAL RESOURCES
CHAIR:
LIRON SHANI
Brandeis University
YORAM COHEN
University of California, Los Angeles
The Regional Influence of Israel’s Water and Energy Resources
GABRIEL MITCHELL
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
Israel’s Pursuit of Regional Energy Partners: A Historical Review
JEFFREY SOSLAND
American University
Israel’s Blue Revolution: The Road to Middle East Water Tech Interdependence

WC6 MANDEL G12
HEBREW LITERATURE
CHAIR:
PHILIP HOLLANDER
University of Wisconsin-Madison
Not the Mythological Sabra – Reexamining Hanoch Bartov’s Fiction
MENNA ABUKHADRA
Cairo University
The Image of Women in Modern Hebrew Feminist Poetry: A Century of Evolution
MIRIAM NEIGER
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
“The Sinai is Boiling”: Avigdor Hameiri and the Balfour Declaration
AYELET GIL-RONEN
Tel Aviv University
The Universal vs. the Local: Lea Goldberg’s Writings for Children During the Yishuv Period

WC7 OLIN-SANG 112
RELIGION AND SPIRITUALITY IN ISRAELI SOCIETY
CHAIR:
YEHUDAH MIRSKY
Brandeis University
ANDREA GONDOS
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
Zionism, Identity and Kabbalah: Decoding the World and Works of Isaiah Tishby

ASAF LEBOVITZ
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Ariel University
Jew-Age Among Israeli Celebrities: Jewish Spirituality as Discourse of Citizenship

EPHRAIM TABORY
University of California, Los Angeles
Like a Bridge Over Troubled Waters: The Impact of Joint Mediation and Study Programs on Secular-Haredi Relations

WC8 HELLER G4
ISRAEL-CHINA RELATIONS
CHAIR:
GANGZHENG SHE
Brandeis University
PINGAN LIANG
Shanghai International Studies University, China
Diaspora Jews in China and Their Contributions to Zionism and the State of Israel
YANG YANG
Shanghai International University
The Development of Hebrew Teaching and Israel Studies in China
GUANGMENG CHEN
Brandeis University
Who’s Making Israel’s China Policy? From the Perspective of Structural Analysis
MENG YANG
Peking University and Free University of Berlin
The Other Side of the Israeli Innovation Myth—From the Sino-Israeli Perspective

WC9 HELLER G3
JERUSALEM: A MICROCOSM
CHAIR:
SHAY RABINEAU
State University of New York-Binghamton
OFIRA GRUWEIS-KOVALSKY
Zefat Academic College
Between Local and National Politics: The Jerusalem Municipality, 1948-1955
MARIK SHTERN
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
Sharing Colonial Space?: Palestinians and Israelis in the French Hill Neighborhood of Jerusalem
WC10  HELLER 163
BETWEEN TEL AVIV AND JAFFA
CHAIR:
MENAHEM KLEIN
Bar-Ilan University
ARNON GOLAN
University of Haifa
Reconsidering Urbicide: The Case of Jaffa/Tel Aviv
TAMIR GOREN
Bar-Ilan University
The Jewish Neighborhoods of Jaffa and the Question of Annexation to Tel Aviv 1940-1944

SESSION D
14:15-15:45

WD1  MANDEL G10
TEACHING AND ISRAEL STUDIES
CHAIR:
LIRON SHANI
Brandeis University
PNINA ABIR-AM
Brandeis University
Glocal Science, Science Teaching & Israel Studies as Inspired by Anniversaries of the Balfour Declaration
IGAL GALILI
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Upgrading Disciplinary Education to Discipline-Cultural One
MIRIAM SHENKAR
Ohio State University
Experiential Learning at the Centennial of the Balfour Declaration

WD2  MANDEL G12
VIOLENCE AND REVENGE IN ISRAELI LITERATURE
CHAIR:
MIKHAL DEKEL
CUNY
LIOR LIBMAN
State University of New York, Binghamton
Aharon Megged’s The Buried Treasure and the Buried Trauma of the Zionist Left
HANNAN HEVER
Yale University
Irony and Revenge in Yehuda Amichai’s Early Writings

TAMAR HESS
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Jealousy and Revenge in Yuval Shimon’s The Salt Line

WD3  OLIN-SANG 116
IMAGINING ZION
CHAIR:
LUNA GOLDBERG
School of the Art Institute of Chicago
The Emergence of the Swiss Roof in the Holy Land: Politicized Readings of Gal Weinstein’s Roof at the 25th International Biennial of Sao Paulo
DINA ROGINSKY
Yale University
Man and Nature in Kibbutz Ceremonies: Biblical, Palestinian and German influences
MARC VOLOVICI
Princeton University
What was “Kongressdeutsch”? On Language Problems in the Zionist Congress

WD4  OLIN-SANG 124
THE HOLOCAUST IN ISRAELI SOCIETY
CHAIR:
ZBYNĚK TARANT
University of West Bohemia in Pilsen
“No Borders, No Guarantees”—The Munich Conference as a Threat to Balfour Declaration and the Roots of ‘Munich Trauma’ in the Zionist Discourse
LEA GANOR
Bar-Ilan University
Israel Defense Forces (IDF) and the Holocaust: What Role Did the Holocaust Play in Educating Israeli Soldiers since the First Palestinian Intifada (1987)?
EYAL LEWIN
Ariel University
Israeli Concept of the Holocaust as a Reflection of a Changing National Ethos

WD5  OLIN-SANG 104
ISRAEL AND THE WORLD
CHAIR:
BARIS KESGIN
Elon Kesgin
MICHAEL B. BISHKU
Augusta University
Israel’s Relations with Anglophone West Africa
CHRISTOPHER SCHILLING
University of the West of England
Rethinking Israel-Taiwan Relations

NAOKI MARUYAMA
Meiji Gakuin University
Japan and the Zionist Movement: From the Russo-Japanese War to the Balfour Declaration and its Aftermath

WD6 OLIN-SANG 112
SOCIOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVES ON ISRAELI SOCIETY
CHAIR:
URI RAM
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

DANA ZARHIN, Tel Aviv University and University of Haifa and OFIR ABU, BEN-GURION University of the Negev
The Combat Against Sex Trafficking in Israel: Revisiting the Role of International Actors in Norm Localization

NADIA BELKIND
Tel Aviv University
A Calling or Resume Building: Volunteering and Social-Involvement Processes of Students in Israeli Universities

AYA SHOSHAN
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
Organizing Dissent in Israel: The Influence of Militarist Culture on Social Protests

DORON TIMOR
Tel Aviv University
New Elite in the Israeli Student Movement: The Arising of the “Herut” Movement and the Right-Wing on Campuses, 1965-1977

WD7 MANDEL G3
ISRAEL AND POPULAR CULTURE
CHAIR:
LEN S AXE
Brandeis University

ZOHAR RAVIV
Taglit-Birthright Israel
Birthright Israel’s Education Platform

MICHELLE SHAIN
Brandeis University
Connection to Israel Among Young Adult U.S. Jews: Strength and Fragility

YEHONATAN ABRAMSON
Johns Hopkins University
Making a Homeland, Constructing a Diaspora: The Case of Taglit-Birthright Israel

BUS TO LOGAN AIRPORT
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current issue: volume 32, issue 1

The Temple Mount/al-Aqsa in Zionist and Palestinian National Consciousness: A Comparative View
Hillel Cohen

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Noa Hazan and Avital Barak

The Return to the Monument: The Looming Absence of the Temple
Hava Schwartz

From Yehuda Etzion to Yehudah Glick: From Redemptive Revolution to Human Rights on the Temple Mount
Shlomo Fischer

The Temple Mount in the Teachings of Rabbi Shlomo Goren
Shifra Mescheloff

The End Point of Zionism: Ethnocentrism and the Temple Mount
Tomer Persico
This research follows the history of the Acco Festival for Other Israeli Theatre from 1980-2012, chronicling it as a site of celebration as well as confrontation. The festival is presented as a borderland that brings together established mainstream directors and actors, alternative artists from the fringes, and Acco’s Jewish and Arab residents. The book explores the festival’s artistic direction, repertoire, organization, budget, infrastructure, reception, and the host community.

The Charm of Wise Hesitancy
DAVID C. JACOBSON
Israel: Society, Culture and History
2017 | 9781618115546 | Cloth | $79.00
This volume explores the growing fascination with Talmudic stories among secular and religious Israelis in recent decades, inspired by contemporary Israeli writers who have sought to make readers aware of the special qualities of these well-crafted narratives that portray universal human situations, including marriages, relationships between parents and children, power struggles between people, and the challenge of trying to live a good life.

Nostalgia for a Foreign Land
Studies in Russian-Language Literature in Israel
ROMAN KATSMAN
Jews of Russia and Eastern Europe and Their Legacy
2016 | 9781618115287 | Cloth | $79.00
This volume focuses on several Russian authors, among many who immigrated to Israel with the “big wave” of the 1990s or later, and whose largest part of their works was written in Israel: Dina Rubina, Nekod Singer, Elizaveta Mikhailichenko and Yury Nesis, and Mikhail Yudson.

Writing Palestine 1933-1950
DOROTHY KAHN BAR-ADON
Edited by Esther Carmel-Hakim & Nancy Rosenfeld
2016 | 9781618114952 | Cloth | $79.00
This is an edited collection of articles by journalist Dorothy Kahn Bar-Adon. Between 1933-1950 Bar-Adon covered life in Jewish towns and kibbutzim, as well as in the Arab communities of Mandatory Palestine. This book offers a vivid view of life in urban and rural areas of pre-State Israel.

A Red Rose in the Dark
Self-Constitution through the Poetic Language of Zelda, Amichai, Kosman, and Adaf
DORIT LEMBERGER
Emunot: Jewish Philosophy and Kabbalah
2016 | 9781618114938 | Cloth | $120.00
How can we characterize the uniqueness of poetic language? Following Wittgenstein, this book investigates the dialogic, aesthetic and mystical language-games of Zelda, Yehuda Amichai, Admied Kosman, and Shimon Adaf based on their family resemblance of intertextuality in their language-games. It resists common social-cultural categorizations while focusing on Wittgenstein’s universal concepts.

Prayer After the Death of God
A Phenomenological Study of Hebrew Literature
AVI SAGI
Emunot: Jewish Philosophy and Kabbalah
2016 | 9781618115034 | Cloth | $89.00
The widespread view is that prayer is the center of religious existence and that understanding the meaning of prayer requires that we assume God is its sole destination. This book challenges this assumption and, through a phenomenological analysis of the meaning of prayer in modern Hebrew literature, shows that prayer does not depend at all on the addressee. Prayer is, above all, the recognition that we are free to transcend the facts of our life and an expression of the hope that we can override the weight of our past and present circumstances.
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- Professor Gil Troy, Department of History, McGill University, Montreal, QC
An Open Letter from Gil Troy, Chair, Birthright Israel International Education Committee

I get it. Talking up Taglit-Birthright Israel to Israel Studies academics is like preaching the virtues of Trader Joe’s to gourmet chefs. But with Birthright-Israel closing in on that Jewishly symbolic number of 600,000 participants since it began in late 1999, this phenomenon - which might appear frivolous - should be taken seriously.

As this generation’s greatest Jewish educational innovation, as perhaps the greatest Israel-oriented intervention since the Ulpan and the Zionist summer camp, Birthright illuminates the history of the American Jewish community, as well as the mindset of the American Jewish student. Moreover, Birthright embraces a model of mutually beneficial Israel-Diaspora relations - rather than have one side feel it’s helping the poor, pathetic “other.”

Because Birthright is one of the most effective recruiters of students to Israel Studies, it helps to have a sense of what the program entails beyond the so-called “ten-day party in Israel” (which is probably more restrained than a typical campus weekend, because Birthright participants must wake up early - and act responsibly - every morning).

Birthright began as a constructive, Israel-oriented, response to the “continuity” crisis that emerged after the first wave of sophisticated surveys of American Jewry highlighted how common intermarriage was becoming and how difficult it was for non-Orthodox Jews to engage with Judaism, especially during the critical college and post-college years. The Jewish community had built up elaborate structures for pre-college Jewish experiences - and for parents, while often ignoring that 18 to 26 cohort - precisely the age when many were deciding whom to marry and what careers to pursue.

Jewish leaders were realizing that these third and fourth generation millennials were different from their parents and grandparents. Distanced from the immigrant experience, the trauma of Holocaust, the Israeli rollercoaster of 1967, even the thrill of freeing Soviet Jewry, these kids were more Americanized, less rooted. America’s extraordinary welcome also made it easy for this generation to be “loved to death,” marrying out. But, contrary to all those who dismissed them, they were (and are) still seeking meaning, still open to a good challenge - and happy to discover their roots.

Birthright offered the gift of a free trip to Israel with 39 other Jews and 6 Israeli peer companions, not alone, exposing young Jews to a communal experience in Israel as the ultimate Jewish educational tour, inviting them to navigate their own “Jewish journeys” in an immersive, albeit introductory fashion in Israel. Birthright always emphasized that this gift came with “no strings attached,” no institutional, denominational, or ideological commitment expected. The program introduces participants to different ways of “being & doing Jewish,” along with Israel’s richness and complexity - past, present and future - and without a partisan axe to grind.

Birthright’s initial success surprised everyone - and survived the onslaught of terrorism that began less than a year after the program did. Since then, Israel itself has been a more fraught and polarizing subject. Birthright has resisted pressure from those who want it to be a Hasbara training camp or a political program pushing one agenda or another.
Those of us leading Birthright understand the necessary value of it remaining “Israel 101” - a thoughtfully structured introductory experience - not a political program boosting the Left or the Right. Our mission, as articulated by the International VP of Education Dr. Zohar Raviv, is to encourage participants to turn their predetermined exclamation points into question marks, acknowledging complexity, context and nuance, and befriending some unavoidable ambiguity which lies in their wake.

The Birthright poster child, therefore, returns to campus primed to learn. Of course, shifting from a seeing, feeling, tasting, educational touring experience to a more formal classroom can be challenging; too many students arrive with exclamation points reinforced in bold, with markers, rather than softened into question marks. But that’s the nature of the informal education business: our job as the educational staff is to maintain the program’s integrity and credibility, to make sure the participants get a range of experiences which introduce Jewish history, Jewish tradition, Jewish identity, and Israel, in all their glory and complexity, in ten intensive days.

We conclude by inviting the participants to learn more - and hope that when they come to your classrooms, when they read your books, they approach hungrily but humbly, thirsting to learn while appreciating that Israel Studies can help them interpret their Israel experience through a different, academically rigorous, lens.

We at Birthright are always learning, always adapting, always happy to hear feedback. I have the privilege of chairing the International Education Committee, which we see as Birthright's internal think tank, dedicated to ensuring that we don’t become addicted to our own success - or our usual ways of doing things. Most recently, we have reevaluated our world-wide infrastructure of staff training, our geopolitics modules, and our trips to Israeli Arab villages and joint Jewish-Arab initiatives that promote grassroots shared visions and coexistence efforts. I invite you to contact me with thoughts, ideas, innovations, and challenges.

Gil Troy
Chair, Birthright Israel International Education Committee
Gilroy@gmail.com

Gil Troy is Distinguished Scholar in North American History at McGill University and a Visiting Scholar this year at the Ruderman Program in Israeli-American relations at Haifa University. The author of 11 books, his next book will be The Zionist Ideas: An Update of Arthur Hertzberg’s Classic Reader, to be published in spring, 2018.
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<td><a href="mailto:aselzer@staff.huafa.ac.il">aselzer@staff.huafa.ac.il</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>SHAFER RAVIV, OMRI</td>
<td>The Hebrew University of Jerusalem</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ravin.omri@gmail.com">ravin.omri@gmail.com</a></td>
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<td>SHAIFIR, GERSHON</td>
<td>University of California, San Diego</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gshaifir@ucsd.edu">gshaifir@ucsd.edu</a></td>
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<td>Brandeis University</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mshain@brandeis.edu">mshain@brandeis.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
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<td>The Hebrew University of Jerusalem</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ronni.shaked@gmail.com">ronni.shaked@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
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<td>Brandeis University</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sshalom@brandeis.edu">sshalom@brandeis.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
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<td><a href="mailto:lironsh@brandeis.edu">lironsh@brandeis.edu</a></td>
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<td>SHAPIRA, ANITA</td>
<td>Tel Aviv University</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ashapira@post.tau.ac.il">ashapira@post.tau.ac.il</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
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<td>Palestinian General Delegation to the United States</td>
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**TAXI COMPANIES**

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**TO JOIN:**
- View available wi-fi networks
- Select “Brandeis guest”
- Connect
- Open an internet browser, and you will be prompted with a registration page.
- Submit details and hit “enter.”
- You will be given a code that you can then use to log into “Brandeis guest” wi-fi. Your email address is your user name.

**SOCIAL MEDIA**

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**EMERGENCIES**

In the event of an emergency while on campus, please call the campus police emergency line, (781) 736-3333. If calling from a campus phone, dial 63333.
## SHUTTLE SCHEDULE

### MONDAY, JUNE 12, 2017

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<td>Mandel Center for the Humanities</td>
<td>18:30 following Keynote. Usdan Student Center loop road.</td>
<td>Marriott Newton Indigo Hotels Crowne Plaza</td>
<td>20:00 following Banquet. Hassenfeld Conference Center walkway.</td>
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### TUESDAY, JUNE 13, 2017

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<td>Mandel Center for the Humanities</td>
<td>17:45 following Plenary. Usdan Student Center loop road.</td>
<td>Marriott Newton Indigo Hotels Crowne Plaza</td>
<td>21:15 following Movie. Hassenfeld Conference Center walkway.</td>
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### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14, 2017

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<td>Mandel Center for the Humanities</td>
<td>16:00 Bus to Airport Departs Mandel Center for the Humanities, with a stop at the Admissions Parking Lot.</td>
<td>Logan Airport. All requested terminals.</td>
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<td>8:15 Marriott Newton</td>
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## DINING ON CAMPUS

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<thead>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td><strong>STARBUCKS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Heller School</td>
<td>8:30 - 13:00</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>EINSTEIN BROS. BAGELS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Shapiro Campus Center</td>
<td>8:00 - 16:00</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>FACULTY CLUB</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Near Shapiro Campus Center</td>
<td>11:30 - 16:00 (BUFFET ONLY)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>SHERMAN DINING HALL</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Kosher &amp; Non-Kosher</td>
<td>BREAKFAST: 7:30 - 9:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hassenfeld Conference Center</td>
<td>LUNCH: 11:30 - 14:00</td>
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<td>DINNER: 17:00 - 19:00</td>
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