

Abilene Approval Chart for Curriculum Changes

A = Approve I = Information Item R = Respond In Writing

Course Number: Politics of Israel (POLS 262)

New Course – The Department of Political Science & Criminal Justice is proposing a new course for its menu of regional political science courses. This course has been taught as a special topic three times.

Campus-Level Academic Review ^a							
Change to a Course Include signatures from all chairs/program directors for cross-listed courses. ^a							
1.	Title (description unchanged)	A	A	A	I	I	I
2.	Description (not affecting content)	A	A	A	I	I	I
3.	Course term(s)	A	I	A	I	I	I
4.	Content (change of course outcomes)	A	A	A	I	I	A
5.	Number of credit hours	A	A	A	A	A	A
6.	Course number within the hundred	A	A	I	I	I	I
7.	Course number beyond the hundred	A	A	A	A	A	A
8.	Prerequisites	A	A	A	I	I	I
9.	Course restriction (e.g., majors only, junior standing)	A	A	A	A	A	A
10.	Level change (U to G or G to U)	A	A	A	A	A	A
11.	Cross list course	A	A	A	A	A	A
12.	Department of record	A	A	A	A	A	A
13.	Open or close a course	A	A	A	A	A	A
Change to a Degree Plan							
14.	Educational Program — Revise	A	A	A	A	A	A
15.	Educational Program — Adopt/revise admission requirements	A	A	A	A	A	A
16.	GPA — Revise program-required GPA	A	A	A	A	A	A
17.	Minor — Revise	A	A	A	A	A	A

³ For undergraduate majors, a minimum of 30 hours is required. These programs must have a minimum of 6 elective hours, unless the requirements of external accrediting bodies make it impossible. Master's programs must include a minimum of 30 hours, and doctoral programs must include a minimum of 30 hours beyond the master's.

⁴ When a department/school or dean proposes closing a program, approval routing follows the typical process beginning with the department/school. An administrative proposal by the provost or senior vice president for academic affairs would follow the "provost-proposed" routing on the chart.

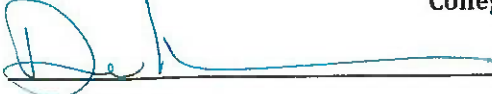
Updated 8/1/2023

Department/School(s)

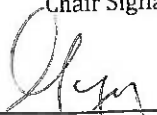
  4-12-24
Chair Signature Date

Chair/Program Director Signature Date

College Academic Council(s)

 4-12-2024
Chair Signature Date

Chair Signature Date

  Dean(s) 4/15/2024
Signature Date

Signature Date

Teacher Education Council

Signature Date

**Campus Academic Council:
Abilene Undergraduate or Abilene Graduate**

Signature Date

Provost

University General Education Council

Signature

Date

University Faculty

Abilene Faculty Senate Chair signature

Date

Dallas Faculty Council Chair signature

Date

Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

Signature

Date

President

Signature

Date

Abilene New Course Application

You may delete the preceding instructional pages before submitting application.

Course ID	POLS 262
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1. Systems and Catalog Information Complete each item.

A	Course Developer	Neal Coates
B	Course Instructor	Neal Coates
C	Course Title	Politics of Israel
D	Course Abbreviation for Banner if title is more than 30 characters	
E		CAHSS
F		PSCJ--POLS & CJ
G		Number of Credit Hours--3
G 1		Number of Lecture Contact Hours--3
G 2		Number of Lab Contact Hours--0
H	Is the course for a fixed or variable number of credit hours?	No
I	Is the course repeatable for additional credit?	No
J	Maximum total number of credit hours a student can earn for this course	3
K		<u>Course Schedule Type</u> --Lecture
L		Number of Faculty Workload Hours--3
M		<u>Select Grade Mode</u> --Standard
N	Maximum Enrollment	25
O	Catalog Description (50 words or less)	Examination of the domestic and international relations of Israel, including topics such as domestic politics, culture, ancient and modern history, geography, natural resources, democracy, the Arab/Israeli conflict, threat posed by Iran and

		terrorism, economics, technology, and U.S. foreign policy.
P	List any prerequisites (course/s, test scores, class standing, major, etc.)	None
Q	List any corequisites (these <i>must</i> be taken at the same time; note that a single requirement cannot be both a prerequisite <i>and</i> a corequisite)	None
R	If the course is cross-listed, specify the subject code and course number of the other course	NA
S	Does this course require any additional student course fees?	No
T1	Will the course be offered in fall terms?	No
T2	Will the course be offered in spring terms?	<u>Spring, Odd</u>
T3	Will the course be offered in summer terms?	No
U	First semester this course will be offered under new Course ID. <i>May not be earlier than the coming fall semester.</i>	Spring 2025
V	Is this course required for a program(s)?	No
W	Should the addition of this course be retroactively applied to the degree plan it supports? <i>This is rare, and rationale should explain compelling extenuating circumstances.</i>	No
X	Has this course been offered as a Special Topics course? <i>New courses are not required to be taught as Special Topics courses prior to approval.</i>	Spring/Jan. '19, 19 students; Spring/Jan. '21, 18 students; Spring/Jan. '23, 7 students.

Y	List any courses in which the content overlaps the proposed course. (Course ID and Name). <i>Attach a statement from the instructor/dept chair of the existing course justifying the new offering.</i>	None
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2. Curriculum

- A. Explain any effects of this course on any degree plans. If the addition of the course alters program requirements, submit a separate [Approval Chart for Curriculum Change](#) to update the program.

This course addition should be considered in the context of the overall changes to the political science major being submitted at the same time as this application. This course serves as an option in menus related to the new structure of the political science major.

- B. Justify the addition of this course to the current curriculum, explaining the gap it meets.

The political science major includes a variety of comparative politics courses that look at particular regions of the world. For example, we have a course about West European politics, and a course on Russia and East Europe. We do offer a course on the Middle East, which is always well-subscribed, but ACU does not offer a course in the catalog specifically on the country of Israel, while several similar universities do. This course is especially relevant for Christians and others interested in this region, because Israel has come to be understood as critical to the topics of peace and economics in the Middle East, and because of the topic of terrorism in the region. This course suits the political science curriculum at this University.

3. Course Design

- A. Audience and Course Goal

1. Describe the intended audience, including prerequisite skills.

The course is geared towards upperclassmen learners, both from within and outside of the political science major, but is accessible to sophomore-level students.

2. State the overarching course goal(s) in performance terms.

The overall goal of the course is to understand the many aspects of the country of Israel, a key democratic state and economic and military powerhouse. This course introduce students to this study, including Israel's international relations and comparative politics, and to understand Israel within the context of the Middle East. Beyond the examinations and other assignments, the culminating assignment is the journal article submitted to a national-level undergraduate journal.

B. Student Learning Outcomes and Measurements

	Student Learning Outcome	Measurement
1	Examine and compare the political institutions, governmental and non-governmental actors, and political culture and economics and other capabilities in the State of Israel, distinguishing basic differences and similarities among them.	Quizzes, exams, journal article submitted for publication.

2	Summarize and analyze academic articles about politics of Israel.	Review a number of readings and articles and current news during discussion in class and exam questions.
3	Analyze scholarship, current events, and trends pertaining to class, race, gender, and indigenous politics in Israel.	Class discussions related to these topics and complete assignments and maps described in the syllabus.
4		
5		

C. Text and Resources

Give the full publication information of the textbook/s and other required resources and outside readings. For **combined undergraduate/graduate** courses, make two lists:

- A. full publication information; label **Undergraduate**.
- B. full publication information; label **Graduate**.

4. Supporting Documentation

Required of all applications	
1	Approval Chart for Curriculum Changes
2	Syllabus — Attach the syllabus for the course based upon the anticipated first-semester offering.
4	Library — Submit new course application and syllabus to the Library dean's office. Attach the Library's memo.
Attach if applicable	
5	Content Overlap — Include one document for each course you listed in Section 1Y. Attach statement from instructor/dept chair of existing course justifying the new offering.
6	Departmental Resources — List the resources that support the course and are available only through the department, if applicable. Attach the list of the holdings and the location(s).
7	Resources — List resources (other than library or departmental resources) that are needed to support this course (computers, lab equipment, other technology, etc.). Attach a complete list of all items and indicate possible sources or estimated cost of each. List the sources of any needed funds.

8	Expenses — List additional expenses needed to implement this course (full-time or part-time faculty, graduate or lab assistants, student employees, travel, special student costs, room renovation, storage facility, etc.). Attach a complete list of all items, the estimated cost of each and the source of the funds.
9	Justification — Attach any documents to which you refer in Section 2B.

POLS 262 (3)
Politics of Israel
 January Short Course 2025
 M-F: 8A-12Noon, 1-5P
 Admin. Rm. 128

Neal Coates, Professor
 O: AD 131, 674-2917
coatesn@acu.edu
 Hours: By Appointment
 Abilene Christian University

Mission Statement

The mission of Abilene Christian University is to educate its students for Christian service and leadership throughout the world. The mission of the College of Arts and Sciences is to engage students with humanity's greatest ideas to create understanding, apply insights, and serve the world as Christian thinkers and problem solvers. The mission of the Department of Political Science and Criminal Justice is to provide a program of study to help students understand domestic and international politics and law enforcement theory and practice, and to prepare students for informed and active participation in public service. This course aims to fulfill this mission by introducing students to the study of Israel, a key democratic state in the Middle East and economic and military powerhouse.

Course Description

This course is designed to introduce students to the international relations and comparative politics of Israel, and to understand it within the Middle East. Emphasis will be placed on topics such as domestic politics, culture, ancient and modern history, geography, natural resources, the Arab/Israeli conflict, the threat posed by Iran and terrorism, economics, technology, and U.S. foreign policy. This course is especially relevant for Christians and others interested in this region which is critical to peace and world economics.

Required Texts

Gregory Mahler, *Politics and Government in Israel*, Third Edition, 2016

Dan Senor and Saul Singer, *Start-Up Nation*, 2009

Other readings will be distributed via syllabus, in class, email, or put on reserve.

Recommended Reading (List is not exhaustive)

The Middle East and Israel are a dynamic political environment, so students should regularly read news regarding the area, and may want to create a news alert for countries or topics of interest. Here are good current events links:

Jerusalem Post	www.jerusalempost.com
Haaretz	www.haaretz.com
Yediot Aharonot	www.ynetnews.com
Israel Hayom	www.israelhayom.com
Jerusalem Times	www.jerusalemtimes.com
Ma'an News Agency	www.maannews.net/en
i24News	www.i24news.tv/en
Arutz Sheva (Settler news)	www.israelnationalnews.com
Jordan Times	www.jordantimes.com
Egypt Daily News	www.egyptdailynews.com
Daily Star (Beirut)	http://dailystar.com.lb
New York Times—Middle East	www.nytimes.com/pages/world/middleeast/index.html
Washington Post—Middle East	http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/world/mideast

Prerequisites

At least 3 hours of 200-level political science or permission of the instructor.

Class Procedure

Lecture/Discussion. Lectures are designed as a springboard for discussion among class members. Students are encouraged to participate fully in class discussions. Adequate preparation means that each student diligently keeps pace with all reading assignments because this course requires much reading. Lecture notes will be distributed via email to students. Highlights of this short course include an IMAX movie and special guest speakers.

Faithful class attendance is expected, and irregular attendance can result in a lower grade or being dropped from the course. Attendance will be checked every class meeting. Students who miss more than one class (this is a January short course) may be dropped from the course with a grade of "F." Student papers and tests remaining in the professor's possession one month after the last day of the semester will be discarded.

It is expected that all students will adhere to the University's honor code. Violations of academic integrity and other forms of cheating, as defined in ACU's Academic Integrity Policy, involve the intention to deceive or mislead or misrepresent, and therefore are a form of lying and represent actions contrary to the behavioral norms that flow from the nature of God. Violations will be addressed as described in the Policy. While the university enforces the Policy, the most powerful motive for integrity and truthfulness comes from one's desire to imitate God's nature in our lives. Every member of the faculty, staff and student body is responsible for protecting the integrity of learning, scholarship and research. The full Policy is available for review at the Provost's office web site (<https://cdn01.acu.edu/community/offices/administrative/office-of-the-provost/academic-integrity-policy/overview.html>) and the following offices: provost, college deans, dean of campus life, director of student judicial affairs, director of residential life education, and academic departments.

In addition, some students may be considering Generative AI Use. It is important to clarify acceptable and unacceptable uses of generative artificial intelligence (AI) to complete assignments for this course. While generative AI tools have many benefits, including their ability to create new content and enhance creative expression, students are cautioned to use this tool both wisely and ethically to protect yourself and your academic integrity. Generative AI involves uses algorithms and machine learning to analyze existing content and create new content based on its analysis. While this may seem like a convenient tool for completing school work, it can easily lead to instances of plagiarism and academic dishonesty. For instance, the use of generative AI to complete assignments can result in work that is not your own and does not demonstrate your understanding of the material--remember, your ideas matter! AI cannot learn for you. It is crucial to remember that academic assignments are designed to assess your knowledge and understanding of the material and contribute to your learning. To clarify further, here is a list of acceptable and unacceptable uses of generative AI tools:

Acceptable Use

- Research assistance: AI can access billions of internet resources.
- Study assistance: AI can help summarize academic content for exam preparation.
- Revision and editing: AI can help identify flaws in reasoning or fix minor errors.
- AI can be used when the instructor specifically states that it is acceptable.

Unacceptable Use

- Plagiarism: Attempting to take credit for AI-generated content as your own work.
- Refer to the ACU Academic Integrity policy or the instructor for further guidance.

Under no circumstances can class sessions be audio or video recorded in any manner without the express written consent of the instructor. Any violation of this policy may result in the student being dropped with a grade of "F".

Service Learning: Container Preparation/Loading

Israeli citizens and the government regularly donate to humanitarian causes and respond to natural disasters around the world, so understanding the various topics of this course is facilitated by performing such work. One mission and humanitarian effort in Zambia uses a storage and preparation building close to the ACU campus, and on Jan. 21Sa at 10A, students will spend about two hours helping load a 40 ft. container for Zambia Medical Mission. The address for Bontke Construction Company is 102 College Drive.

Assignments

During some of the class lectures there are built-in Group Discussions. At the end of every topic lecture is an Assignment built into the PPT slide, due at 11:59P that evening. Both the Discussions and the Assignments will be included in the Participation grade. Students should select 7 of these end-of-lecture Assignments (note that three of these are required of all students—why taking course, and preparing the two map assignments). They deal with:

- 1 Why taking course (required)
- 2 Jerusalem travel itinerary
- 3 Selling two water technologies
- 4 Who owns the land - or - Oil lamp collection
- 5 Map of natural resources (required)
- 6 Sample test questions
- 7 Life in Israel video about technology
- 8 Why Israel participated in Suez Crisis events
- 9 What if Eichmann had not been pursued
- 10 Abba Eban interview
- 11 Significance of Camp David Agreement
- 12 Youtube of politician/issue
- 13 Interest group description
- 14 Why are Jews discriminated against
- 15 Military unit choice and description
- 16 Map of Israel and its neighbors, and identify threats (required)
- 17 Integration
- 18 Topic of student's choosing regarding Palestinians
- 19 Significance of Abraham Accords

Tests and Late Assignments

There are two tests during the semester, the Midterm Exam and the Final Exam. Material for the exams comes from class lectures and the textbook. Topics covered on the Midterm will include through Topic No. 10, and the Final will test topics that are covered after the Midterm. The privilege of making-up the Midterm and submitting last assignments will be reserved only for persons encountering such problems as illness, participation in official university activities, or death or serious illness in the family. If these conditions apply, contact the instructor ahead of the time to make arrangements; otherwise, late work is not accepted. The Final Exam must be taken at the time required by the University. The Midterm is one class period in length, and the Final is a take-home exam—the question(s) will be distributed per the date on the syllabus.

Journal Article/Project

This course requires a substantial paper or project. There are thousands of research ideas regarding all aspects of the study of Israel, including on such unusual subjects such as the efforts to save Biblical-era animals (see www.jpost.com/israel-news/mossad-secrecy-and-iran-how-israel-reintroduced-persian-fallow-deer-650001), how long does it take to check out of a hospital in Israel, and who came up with the idea of the Abraham Accords (and why would that matter)? The paper or project for this course should also provide a synthesis and evaluation of

literature on a particular topic regarding Israel. A student might, for example, contact an Israeli interest group and prepare a project for them. Topics must be approved by the instructor. Remember, political science research aims to explain and predict, and to prescribe. At the end of our short week, students will meet with the professor to discuss their proposal. The final product is due later in the semester (date is in the syllabus).

For those who choose a writing project, the research paper is not a “traditional” paper—the “product” will be an article submitted to an undergraduate journal, for possible publication. A large number of undergraduate journals to consider are listed later in the syllabus. Students should follow deadline, length, format, etc. rules for the journal of their choosing. Students will also submit to the instructor a copy of their final paper and proof of its submission to a journal by the due date indicated on the syllabus. When students send their paper into the journal selected as appropriate, they make sure its cover page includes what is needed only for the journal—in other words, it should not have the instructor’s name on it or the course name. Students are submitting the article as an undergraduate student, not as a class assignment.

An example article is “Putin’s Constitutional Reforms Consolidate Power Around The Presidency”, published July 13, 2020, in the Georgetown Public Policy Review. This research assignment was for the ACU Comparative Politics course in Spring 2020. The article is at <http://gppreview.com/2020/07/13/putins-constitutional-reforms>

Refreshment Breaks

The class will take one or two refreshment breaks during the week, and enjoy some snacks and beverages Israelis do. Besides learning more about life in Israel, this serves as another opportunity to learn about successful business techniques. For example, see:

“PepsiCo—From Boycotting Israel to Buying SodaStream for Billions: Another blow for BDS,” Tablet Magazine, 8-22-18,
www.tabletmag.com/sections/news/articles/pepsico-from-boycotting-israel-to-buying-sodastream-for-billions

“Pepsi Beverage Company in Israel Essay,” Ivy Panda, 9-11-19,
<https://ivypanda.com/essays/pepsi-beverage-company-in-israel>

Learning Outcomes

Examine and compare the political institutions, governmental and non-governmental actors, and political culture and economics and other capabilities in the State of Israel, distinguishing basic differences and similarities among them. Students will demonstrate these outcomes by way of quizzes, exams, journal article submitted for publication, and class discussions.

Summarize and analyze academic articles about politics of Israel. To accomplish this outcome, students will review a number of readings and articles and current news and discuss in class.

Analyze scholarship, current events, and trends pertaining to class, race, gender, and indigenous politics in Israel. To accomplish this outcome, students will participate in class discussions related to these topics and complete assignments and maps described in the syllabus.

Extra Credit

There is an extra credit opportunity this semester, worth 25 points added to the Final Exam. It is highly encouraged to enter the ACU Undergraduate Research Festival, for either an oral or poster presentation. Students who present their research compete for Outstanding Presentation Awards in several categories. Applications and abstracts for the 2023 ACU Undergraduate Research Festival are due Friday, Feb. 3, by 5 p.m. The Research Festival will be held Tuesday, Apr. 11 in Hunter Welcome Center. For additional information and to submit a proposal, visit --
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScuQ3tCE_Dunbe0f8hWYSi9ndv3xScYIdGADtGdwdXYzm9Auw/vie

wform If you have questions, contact the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs at orsp@acu.edu or the Office of Undergraduate Research at uresearch@acu.edu. An example URF poster entered in Spring 2020 was "Entrenched Politics: Relationship between the Length of Tenure in Office and the Freedoms Experienced by Peoples in the Middle East and Africa." This poster by an ACU POLS major later won Best Undergraduate Poster during the Association for the Study of the Middle East and Africa 13th Annual Conference in Nov. 2020. The ASMEA conference is usually held in Washington, D.C.

Study Abroad Opportunity in the Middle East

The Department of Political Science & Criminal Justice encourages students to prepare for their future by participation in the Middle East Studies Program, located in Amman and sponsored by the CCCU. See www.bestsemester.com/locations-and-programs/middle-east. In past years, MESP has made its housing space in Amman, available for CCCU students and faculty for low cost. There is a program assistant on site to help with any emergencies, and staff can help students find Arabic instructors. For more information, contact cdirksen@cccu.org.

Students can also look into free trips to Israel sponsored by the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, the Anti-Defamation League, Hasbara Fellowships, American Jewish Committee, and Brandeis Summer Institute for Israel Studies. For students interested in touring Israel and Jordan, there are also a number of low-cost and special options. For example, "Passages" sponsors trips to Israel by the Philos Project and The Museum of the Bible. See <https://passagesisrael.org>

ADA Compliance Policy

Abilene Christian University is dedicated to removing barriers and opening access for students with disabilities in compliance with ADA and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. The ACU website provides more information at <https://acu.edu/accessibility-statement>. Please contact the instructor to discuss any approved accommodations that you require for this class.

Title IX Policy

At ACU, we strive to comply with all applicable legal requirements prohibiting, preventing, and responding to sexual misconduct against any member of the ACU community. The full Title IX policy and process can be found at <https://acu.edu/human-resources/title-ix-and-sexual-misconduct-information>.

Grading Guidelines

A book award is given to the student with the highest average at the end of the semester. Grades are based on the following criteria:

Container Service Project 5%
 Attendance, Participation 20%
 Research Project/Journal Paper 25%
 Midterm Exam 25%
 Final Exam 25%

A 90-100 (Excellent)
 B 80-89 (Good)
 C 70-79 (Average)
 D 60-69 (Inferior but passing)
 F 59 and below (Failing)

Course Outline*

Jan. 9M 1. Introduction

Mahler, Introduction

2. Jerusalem

Mahler, Ch. 11

10A, "Jerusalem" IMAX and interviews with producer and director (60 min.)

3. Geography and Natural Resources

"Why Israeli Rule of Golan Is Lawful—and Wise," Peter Berkowitz, Real Clear Politics, 2-19-16, www.realclearpolitics.com/articles/2016/02/19/why_israeli_rule_of_golan_is_lawful_--_and_wise_129706.html

"Netanyahu sets new climate, renewable energy targets for Israel," Al Monitor, 12-22-20, www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2020/12/israel-paris-climate-agreement-benjamin-netanyahu-energy.html

"How Israel defies drought," Christian Science Monitor, 6-21-15, www.csmonitor.com/World/Middle-East/2015/0621/How-Israel-defies-drought

"Israel Ready to Build Red Sea-Dead Sea Project With Jordan," Ammon, 1-2-19, <http://en.ammonnews.net/article.aspx?artid=39768>

"Unpacking Israel and Lebanon's historic maritime border deal," PBS, (8.34), 10-29-22, www.youtube.com/watch?v=5950peA3EXI

4. Ancient History to World War I

Mahler, Ch. 1 (pp. 13-22)

"Herod the Great's Israel," NYT, 4-2-15, www.nytimes.com/2015/04/05/travel/herod-the-greats-israel.html

"Exquisite ancient mosaic uncovered in Israel," Fox News, 7-30-18, www.foxnews.com/science/2018/07/30/exquisite-ancient-mosaic-uncovered-in-israel.html

Class Field Trip: Bill Humble Collection of Oil Lamps, College of Biblical Studies Building

5. Joppa and Caesarea

6. History: World War I to 1950; Roots of the Modern-day Arab-Israeli Conflict

Mahler, Ch. 1 (pp. 23-44)

"Iran executed my grandfather. Now the regime is trying to hide the way it has treated other Jews," Shahrzad Elghanayan, Washington Post, 4-22-15, www.washingtonpost.com/posteverything/wp/2015/04/22/iran-executed-my-grandfather-now-the-regime-is-trying-to-hide-the-way-it-has-treated-other-jews

Jan. 10T 7. Life Today in Israel: Society, Religion, Zionism, Palestinians

Mahler, Chs. 2, 3

"A Conspicuous Absence on Israel's List of Top Baby Names," NYT, 9-30-14, www.nytimes.com/2014/10/01/world/middleeast/a-revelation-in-israeli-baby-names.html?partner=rss&emc=rss

"Israel's spectacular champions," JPost, 5-27-16, www.jpost.com/Opinion/Israels-spectacular-champions-455171

"What's the Only Country in the World Where Men Claim They're More Religious Than Women?," Conrad Hackett, op-ed, Haaretz, 4-11-18, www.haaretz.com/israel-news/the-only-country-in-the-world-where-men-claim-they-re-more-religious-than-women-1.6616864

"Israeli surfers claim to set world record with gas-drilling protest," Times of Israel, 6-22-18, www.timesofisrael.com/israeli-surfers-claim-to-set-world-record-with-gas-drilling-protest

8. 1956 Suez Crisis

9. Capture and Trial of Adolf Eichmann

10. 1967 War and 1973 War

11. Camp David

U.S. Foreign Aid to Israel, CRS, 11-16-20, <https://fas.org/sgp/crs/mideast/RL33222.pdf>

Jan. 11W **8A, Midterm Exam**

10-11A, Zach McCartney, ACU Adjunct Professor of Bible, Hillcrest Church of Christ University Minister, and representative of GTI Tours -- "Learning the Chessboard"

12. Government

Mahler, Chs. 4 (pp. 116-130), 5, 6, 7 (pp. 189-210, 124-29), 8

"Israel's New Law Inflames the Core Tension in Its Identity," The Atlantic, 7-21-18, www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2018/07/israel-nation-state-law/565712

"Israel's Netanyahu refuses to resign amid corruption allegations," Al Jazeera, 1-1-19, www.aljazeera.com/news/2019/01/israel-netanyahu-refuses-resign-corruption-allegations-190101082745643.html

"A guide to Israel's perplexing political parties," Jewish Insider, 12-24-20, <https://jewishinsider.com/2020/12/israel-election-netanyahu-saar>

"Israel holds fifth election in four years as Netanyahu attempts to regain power," PBS, 10-31-22, www.youtube.com/watch?v=NS10YDvUp-c

"Far-right Ben-Gvir emerges as key player in Israel elections," Al Jazeera, 11-1-22, www.aljazeera.com/news/2022/11/1/far-right-ben-gvir-emerge-as-key-player-in-israel-election

13. Interest Groups

Mahler, Ch. 7 (pp. 210-16)

“Christians United for Israel,” Wikipedia

“Eyeing simpatico White House, J Street readies to lobby for Iran deal reentry,” Times of Israel, 11-20-20, www.timesofisrael.com/eyeing-simpatico-white-house-j-street-readies-to-lobby-for-iran-deal-reentry

14. Bias and Discrimination: Durban, Iran, and the United Nations

“UN says Israel, not Iran, North Korea or Syria worst violator of human rights,” Fox, 3-29-15, www.foxnews.com/opinion/2015/03/29/un-says-israel-not-iran-north-korea-or-syria-worst-violator-human-rights/?in_tcmp=ob_homepage_opinion&intcmp=obnetwork

“Is Israel an ‘apartheid’ state? This U.N. report says yes,” WPost, 3-16-17, www.washingtonpost.com/news/worldviews/wp/2017/03/16/is-israel-an-apartheid-state-this-u-n-report-says-yes

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20. Israeli Lounge at Kennedy Center

21. Conclusion

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3P, Final Exam

Meet with professor about paper/project proposal

Jan. 21Sa **10A, Zambia Medical Mission Container Loading, Bontke Construction**

Feb. 3F **5P, Applications and abstracts for ACU Undergraduate Research Festival due**

Mar. 3F **5P, Journal Article/Project due**

Apr. 11T **ACU Undergraduate Research Festival**

May 5F **5P, Service Project due, Extra Credit due**

*All dates, including test dates, are tentative and subject to change at the Professor's discretion.

Research Resources

Start With These

CIA World Factbook entry for "Israel"
www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/is.html

State Department Fact Sheet entry for "U.S. Relations With Israel"
www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/3581.htm

Israel: Background and U.S. Relations in Brief, CRS Report, 9-11-20,
<https://fas.org/sgp/crs/mideast/R44245.pdf>

Culture and Country Background

U.T. Perry-Castañeda Library Map Collection: Middle East Maps
www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/middle_east.html

Recent Congressional Research Service Reports

U.S. Foreign Aid to Israel, CRS Report, 4-10-18,
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Iran and Israel: Tension Over Syria, CRS In Focus, CRS Report, 10-24-18,
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Congressional Research Service Reports on the Middle East and the Arab World
www.fas.org/sgp/crs/mideast/index.html

Additional News

Al Jazeera
<http://english.aljazeera.net>

World Press Review
www.worldpress.org

Newspapers of the World on the Internet—Middle East
www.actualidad.com/east.html

World newspapers, in English
www.world-newspapers.com

Web Sites

CIA World Factbook entry for "Israel"

www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/is.html

State Department Fact Sheet entry for "U.S. Relations With Israel"

www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/3581.htm

Political Resources: Middle East

www.politicalresources.net/m_east.htm

Charles Lipson's Home Page

www.charleslipson.com/News-Mideast.htm

Keele Guide to Middle East Government and Politics on the Internet

www.keele.ac.uk/depts/por/mebase.htm#general

Middle East Institute

www.mideasti.org

Middle East Media Research Institute

www.memri.org

Biblical Archaeology Review

www.biblicalarchaeology.org/magazine

Institute for Science and International Security

www.isis-online.org

The Washington Institute

www.washingtoninstitute.org

Gloria Center

www.gloria-center.org

International Institute for Counter-Terrorism

www.ict.org.il

Middle East Forum

www.meforum.org

Foundation for Defense of Democracies—Iran/Hezbollah Project

www.defenddemocracy.org

Stratfor: Global Intelligence

www.stratfor.com

Jane's

www.janes.com

Federation of American Scientists

www.fas.org

Global Security
www.globalsecurity.org

Michael Totten (blog)
www.michaeltotten.com

Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs
www.mfa.gov.il/mfa

Israel Atomic Energy Commission
www.iaec.gov.il/pages_e/english.asp

Freedom House
www.freedomhouse.org

Transparency International
www.transparency.org

The Israel Project
www.theisraelproject.org

Tikun Olam, blog by American Richard Silverstein
www.richardsilverstein.com

www.mideastruth.com
 (cartoons)

State Department Smart Traveler Enrollment Program
<https://travelregistration.state.gov/ibrs/ui>

Bible Lands Museum, Jerusalem
www.blmj.org/en

Wikitravel
<http://wikitravel.org>

Links to Professional Graduate Schools and Academic Organizations

www.apsia.org/apsia/index.php
 (remember Bush and LBJ)

Association for the Study of the Middle East and Africa
www.asmeascholars.org

Association for Israel Studies
<http://reg.co.il/ais/ais/home.ehtml>

Proper citation form for internet

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 T. Friedman, From Beirut to Jerusalem
 M. Heller and S. Nuseibeh, No Trumpets, No Drums
 D. Korn, Stalemate (War of Attrition)
 A. Lesch and M. Tessler, Israel, Egypt and the Palestinians
 D. Makovsky, Making Peace with the PLO
 M. Perry, A Fire in Zion
 I. Rabinovitch, The Brink of Peace (Syria-Israel negotiations)
 E. Said, The Politics of Dispossession (Palestinians)
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 D. Shipler, Arab and Jew
 C. Smith, Palestine and the Arab-Israeli Conflict

Foreign Policies

- M. Barnett, Confronting the Costs of War
 Y. Bar-Simon-Tov, Israel and the Peace Process
 L. Brand, Jordan's Inter-Arab Relations
 M. Brecher, Decisions in Crisis (Israel, 1967, 1973)
 A. Drysdale and R. Hinnebusch, Syria and the Middle East Peace Process
 Y. Evron, War and Intervention in Lebanon
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 M. Kerr, The Arab Cold War
 R. Khalidi, Under Siege (PLO in Lebanon)
 A. Lawson, Why Syria Goes to War
 M. Mufti, Sovereign Creations
 I. Rabinovitch, The War for Lebanon, 1970-1983
 N. Safran, Israel: The Embattled Ally
 Z. Schiff and E. Yaari, Israel's Lebanon War

Spying, Arms Control, the United Nations, Theory

- S. Aronson, The Politics and Strategy of Nuclear Weapons in the Middle East
 A. Cohen, Israel and the Bomb
 Y. Evron, Israel's Nuclear Dilemma
 D. Gold, Tower of Babel: How the United Nations Has Fueled Global Chaos
 S. Hersch, The Samson Option (Israeli nuclear program)
 C. Hume, The United Nations, Iran, and Iraq
 G. Thomas, Gideon's Spies: The Secret History of the Mossad

Terror

- R. Bergman, Rise and Kill First: The Secret History of Israel's Targeted Assassinations
 D. Byman, A High Price: The Triumphs and Failures of Israeli Counterterrorism
 D. Gold, The Rise of Nuclear Iran: How Tehran Defies the West
 A. Pedahzur, The Israeli Secret Services and the Struggle Against Terrorism
 S. Reeve, One Day in September: The Full Story of the 1972 Munich Olympics Massacre and the Israeli Revenge Operation, Wrath of God
 Mosab Hassan Yousef, Son of Hamas

General

- A. Dershowitz, The Case for Israel
 D. Gold, The Fight for Jerusalem: Radical Islam, the West, and the Future of the Holy City
 W. Laqueur, The History of Zionism
 W. Laqueur and Barry Rubin, The Israel-Arab Reader

B. Lewis, The Arabs in History
 B. Lewis, The Middle East: A Brief History of the Last 2,000 Years
 B. Lewis, What Went Wrong? Western Impact and Middle Eastern Response
 J. Michener, The Source
 B. Netanyahu, A Durable Peace: Israel and its Place Among the Nations
 D. Ross, Doomed to Succeed: The U.S.-Israel Relationship from Truman to Obama
 D. Ross and D. Makovsky, Be Strong and of Good Courage: How Israel's Most Important Leaders Shaped Its Destiny
 H. Sachar, A History of Israel
 A. Shavit, My Promised Land: The Triumph and Tragedy of Israel

Some Good Movies

Ben Hur	Ten Commandments	Walking the Bible	Lawrence of Arabia
Munich	7 Days in Entebbe	Operation Finale	One Night with the King
Exodus			

Undergraduate POLS Journals

Afkar: The Undergraduate Journal of Middle East Studies
<https://afkarjournal.com>

Al Noor (Boston College)
www.bcalnoor.org

Columbia Journal of Politics & Society
www.helvidius.org

Critique: A Worldwide Student Journal of Politics
<https://about.illinoisstate.edu/critique>

Georgetown Public Policy Review
<http://gppreview.com>

Hemispheres (Tufts)
<https://tuftshemispheres.org>

Kedma: Penn's undergraduate journal on Jewish thought, Jewish culture, and Israel
<http://ccat.sas.upenn.edu/jwst/undergraduate/kedma-journal>

Michigan Journal of Political Science
<https://lsa.umich.edu/polisci/news-events/all-news/search-news/michigan-journal-of-political-science-is-live-.html>

Penn Undergraduate Law Journal (University of Pennsylvania)
www.pulj.org

Sigma Iota Rho Undergraduate Journal of International Relations
www.sigmaiotarho.org

Stanford Undergraduate Research Journal
www.stanford.edu/group/journal

Towson University Journal of International Affairs
<http://wp.towson.edu/iajournal>

Undergraduate Journal of Global Citizenship (Fairfield University)
<https://digitalcommons.fairfield.edu/jogc>

World Outlook (Dartmouth)
<https://sites.dartmouth.edu/worldoutlook>

Instructor

Neal Coates is a professor and chair of the Department of Political Science & Criminal Justice at Abilene Christian University, where he has taught since 1999. Prior he served as a prosecutor in the City of College Station and as a staff attorney for the Texas Department of Insurance. Coates holds a J.D. from the University of Kansas and a M.A. and Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Connecticut. Coates teaches about international affairs, including Politics of the Middle East, Politics of Israel Iran, Terrorism Studies, International Law and Organizations, American Foreign Policy, Developing Countries, Criminal Law. He maintains a blog on Iran at <https://blogs.acu.edu/coatesn> and at his LinkedIn page. Coates also penned a series of newspaper op-eds opposing the U.S. being a party to the JCPOA with Iran. He was a participant in the Foundation for Defense of Democracies Counter-terrorism Fellowship in Israel, and writes and speaks on democracy and terrorism in the Middle East, the United Nations Law of the Sea Convention, and the Bush Doctrine.



March 26, 2024

Dr. Neal Coates
Professor
Department of Political Science
Department Chair
(325) 674-2917

Re: Politics of Israel (POLS 262)

Dear Dr. Coates,

Thank you for submitting Politics of Israel (POLS 262) to us for review. I have reviewed it based on the ACU Syllabus Guidelines. I found the syllabus to meet all aspects of the checklist.

Please note that this letter is intended as a reference, which will be read by the department chair and council members, who may also have questions or comments of their own. If you have any questions, please feel free to let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott E. Hamm".

Dr. Scott E. Hamm,
Assistant Director, Adams Center

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M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: March 7, 2024
TO: Dr. Neal Coates
FROM: Mark McCallon, Associate Dean for Library Services
RE: Course Application for POLS Course – Politics of Israel

After reviewing the course syllabus, the library is able to provide adequate support for the course. Please contact Laura Baker, Librarian Liaison, if additional resources are needed to support the course. Thank you for letting us review the course proposal and syllabus.