HBT3233 Israeli History and the Contemporary Novel

Instructor
Dr. Dror Abend-David

Meetings
T 5-6 R 6

Room
MAT102

Office
Pugh 337

Office Hours
M 6, W 5-6

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Course Description

The course carries a general education designation (H).

The course will discuss a number of the leading Hebrew novels (but not necessarily Historical Novels) since the 1950’s and their representation of Israeli History. The course will first provide some background about the relation between history and fiction, and the place of the novel (of various subgenres) as a tool for historiography. The discussion will then place the Hebrew novels within this context and ask students to apply theoretical methods to draw their own conclusion about the representation of Israeli history in the texts that they read.

Grades

(1) Class participation, including short weekly assignments (20%); (2) Written assignments (15%); (3) Student Presentation (5%); (4) Midterm paper (30%); (5) Final paper (30%)

Grading Scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100-93</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>90-92</td>
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<tr>
<td>87-89</td>
<td>B+</td>
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<tr>
<td>83-86</td>
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<td>73-76</td>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>70-72</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<td>C-</td>
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Required Texts


Secondary materials will be posted on the course website (see a bibliography below).

Course Assignments

**Participation and Attendance** – Class discussion will more often consist of active discussion and various activities than class lecture. Students are therefore expected to come to class prepared and ready to participate.

Attendance is mandatory and will be monitored according to the rules of the School of Arts and Sciences at the University of Florida [here](https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx). Each three unexcused absences will count for half a grade off the final grade in the course (e.g. from A to A-). Nine unexcused absences will result in a failing course grade.

For an excused absence: Please do not contact the instructor. Contact the office of the Dean of Students at umatter@ufl.edu. The office of the Dean of Students will alert your instructor (and your other instructors for the relevant dates).

**Weekly assignments** – Students will be asked to prepare weekly assignments, often creative and in groups. These assignments will address reading and/or class discussions.
**Written Assignments** – There will be three short individual written assignments. In these assignments students will usually be asked to respond to a short text or an article we will later discuss in class.

**Presentation** – There will be one short (5-10 minutes) presentation in which students will apply some of the material to texts of their own choice.

**Midterm and Final Paper** – Each student will choose, in consultation with the instructor, a paper topic that addresses some of the topics and texts that are discussed in class. The topics of the midterm and the final papers must be different. Each of the two assignments (the midterm and final paper) represents 30% of the final grade in the course.

**Academic Honesty.**
Students are expected to follow University of Florida Academic Honesty Guidelines. These can be found at [http://www.aa.ufl.edu/aa/Rules/4017.htm](http://www.aa.ufl.edu/aa/Rules/4017.htm)
Students may also wish to consult The University of Florida Student Guide Standard of Ethical Conduct found at [http://www.dso.ufl.edu/stg/](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/stg/)
Students are also expected to follow the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures Academic Honesty Guidelines:
Academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. An academic honesty offense is defined as the act of lying, cheating, or stealing academic information so that one gains academic advantage. Any individual who becomes aware of a violation of the Honor Code is bound by honor to take corrective action.

Violations of the Academic Honesty Guidelines include but are not limited to:

- **Cheating.** The improper taking or tendering of any information or material which shall be used to determine academic credit. Taking of information includes copying graded homework assignments from another student; working with another individual(s) on graded assignments or homework; looking or attempting to look at notes, a text, or another student's paper during an exam.
- **Plagiarism.** The attempt to represent the work of another as the product of one's own thought, whether the other's work is oral or written (including electronic), published or unpublished. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, quoting oral or written materials without citation on written materials or in oral presentations; submitting work produced by an online translation service or the translation feature of an online dictionary as your own.
- **Misrepresentation.** Any act or omission with intent to deceive a teacher for academic advantage. Misrepresentation includes lying to a teacher to increase your grade; lying or misrepresenting facts when confronted with an allegation of academic honesty.
- **Bribery, Conspiracy, Fabrication.** For details see website below.

The UF Honor Code states: “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.” On all work submitted for credit the following pledge is either required or implied:
“On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.”
Violations of this policy will result in disciplinary action according to the judicial process.
For more details go to: http://www.aa.ufl.edu/aa/Rules/4017.htm

_Students with Disabilities._
Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

**Reading Schedule:**

Week 1: Introduction
Week 2: History and Historiography:
   Secondary: Trevor-Roper: “The Coming of the Kilt”
Week 3: Story and Hi-Story:
   Secondary: Mitchell
   Secondary: Curtoys
Week 4: Introduction to Israeli Novel:
   Secondary: Zerubavel 2002
Week 5: Pioneers, 1882-1948:
   Primary: Shalev
   Secondary: Zerubavel 2000
Week 6: Pioneers, 1882-1948:
   Primary: Bartov
   Secondary: Bunyan
Week 7: The War of Independence, 1948:
   Primary: Oz: _Panther in the Basement_
   Secondary: Shuval
Week 8: Early Days, 1948-1967:
   Primary: Megged
   Secondary: Kellman
Week 9: Presentations
Week 10: Post 1967 – Remembering the Holocaust:
   Primary: Ben-Amotz
   Secondary: Keynan
Week 11: Jews, Arabs, and in-betweens:
   Primary: Michael
   Secondary: Schwartz
Week 12: Social Criticism:
   Primary: Castel-Bloom
   Secondary: Ofengenden
Week 13: Social Criticism:
   Primary: Oz: *Black Box*
   Secondary: Halkin

Week 14: Alternative History:
   Primary: Matalon
   Secondary: Hever
• Week 15: Alternative History:
   Primary: Kashua
   Secondary: Rottenberg
• Week 16: Conclusion

Bibliography

Primary Sources:

        1994.

Secondary Sources:

Kellman, Steven G. "Portrait of the Artist as Necrophage: Aharon Megged's *Living on the Dead."
Keynan, Irit, "The Memory of the Holocaust and Israel's Attitude toward War Trauma,


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<th>Monday</th>
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