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Dr. Gayle Zachmann
Office Address: 1120 Turlington Hall
Office Hours:
Mondays 8 and 9th (zoom)
Tuesdays 6th period, by appointment

France and Israel



(Montage courtesy Alexa Lisanti)

Well before the 2015 *Charlie Hebdo* and *Hyper Cacher* attacks and the subsequent spike in Jewish emigration to Israel, the expression *Boeing-Aliyah* already referred to those with means living progressively between Israel and France. Focusing on France and Israel, this class examines minority and majority cultural production and history, exploring representations of Israel in the post-war French real and imaginaries, as well as the rich and still understudied cultural and institutional flows between the two countries.

With over 200,000 French Jews already living in Israel, today 80% of France's Jews polled have considered *Aliyah* (moving to Israel). While progressively restrictive views of secularity and the rises of modern terror and new antisemitisms have certainly provoked higher rates of emigration among French Jews since the second intifada, the focus of this course goes beyond this last wave of immigration and security. Tracing key moments in the history of French Jews and relations between France and Israel, this class examines transforming post-war attachments to Israel, considering, *questioning, and complicating* --decade by decade-- respective national narratives, emblematic examples of cultural production, and what we know of France-Israel relations.

Objectives:

While Zionism threads its way through French Jewish cultural production beginning in the late nineteenth century, in the aftermath of the holocaust and Israeli independence, along with memory of the *Shoah*, the figuration of Israel and Franco-Israeli relations will undergo profound changes both in France and in Israel.

Taught in English (*and assuming no prior knowledge*), this course introduces students to known French and lesser-known French and Francophone-Jewish writers, artists, filmmakers and journalists of 20th and 21st centuries. It provides familiarity with basic genres and movements of literary, filmic and artistic interventions, as well as the history, cultural context, figures and forms that mark and memorialize France-Israel relationships to this day.

Preparation and Attendance:

This class is conducted in seminar style. It is discussion based. Attendance and demonstration of preparation at each class session are required. While the class will include secondary readings, different kinds of primary sources (readings, visual art and films) will be discussed as the basis for understanding the shifting aesthetic, social, political and commercial contexts with which artists, critics and thinkers engage.

For each week there will be a seminar sheet with reading assignments and themes for discussion, questions to guide your reading, and critical works for consultation or suggested consultation. Be sure to prepare carefully.

Required Work/Texts/Links:

Most material (primary and secondary readings and films) for the course will be available electronically, along with your seminar sheet and weekly preparation instructions.

Organization of class sessions (some preliminaries):

Participation and attendance are mandatory. This course will be conducted in seminar format. Each student is expected to come to each session prepared to discuss the readings assigned. Reading of the assigned material and participation in class discussion are essential to the successful completion of the course.

For each class, everyone prepares questions and comments on the texts and critical texts for consideration.

Everyone prepares one page of written comments (mini-essay) on one chosen theme or aspect of the text/material for discussion that week (see "analytical mini-essays" below).

Written Work:

Each week on Tuesday, you will turn in an *analytical* mini essay of 1-1.5 pages max addressing *an aspect* (a theme, a technique, a strategy of the text, a question) of the readings that you have thought about/considered/studied. I will explain further how these "mini-essays" work and the logic behind them for stimulating class discussion and building material for class papers.

Final Paper: 7-10 pp. Due in canvas no later than December 13th.

Grading:

Participation/demonstrated preparation (25%), oral presentations/preparation of weekly mini-essays on readings (50%)= 75%

Final Paper: 25%

Preliminary Program Themes and Primary Readings

N.B. You will receive weekly seminar sheets with reading assignments, secondary readings, themes for discussion and questions to guide your reading. These are developed progressively for pedagogical reasons and primarily, to accommodate student research interests and projects. Below you will find a listing of themes and some of the primary materials that will be included and/or studied.

Week of August 22

France and Israel

Thursday:

Intro to the course, its terms, and its themes for discussion:

- France & Israel: Slashes, relations, and difference
- Perceptions and moments -- questioning assumptions
- Beginnings, departures and arrivals
- French Jews and the idea of Israel
- Master and Counter Narratives
- Majority and Minority Narratives
- From the French Revolution to Israel
- Lightening rods and the Republic
- Post-War, Post-Independence, and the Idea of Israel in France
- Rethinking France-Israel relations--decade by decade
- French and Francophone writers and artists and Israel
- Rethinking France and French in Israel/cultural flows
- Cultural Production and the Production of Culture
- Archive and analysis, approaches to cultural production
- The documentary impulse and genre
- Course archives, secondary materials

Week of August 29

Imagining Israel and Questioning Assumptions:

The French Revolution, the Holocaust, Israel in France, and France in Israel

Tuesday: The figure of the Jew and the idea of Israel in France
Paris and Jerusalem
From Vercors's *La Marche à l'étoile* to *Hello Goodbye*

Thursday: From Zionism and Anti-Zionism to Israeli Independence
French and Jewish, France and Israel
French paradigms of Israeli identity

Week of September 5

To Go or Not to Go: Israel and Aliyah

From Lanzmann's "Israel, why" to Moati's "Why ...leave?"

...and other stories of cultural flow

Thursday: Dueling Narratives
Shoah, Security, and Relations between France and Israel
Rethinking the Jews of France, Rethinking Jews in Israel
Michel Abitbol, *The Integration of North African Jews in France*
Jewish, Israel, and French & Francophone Studies

Week of September 12

Re-Imagining France-Israel Relations from Independence to 2022

Tuesday: The figure of the Jew in France, Minority and Majority narratives
Exodus 1947, Ertel, Lanzmann (selections)

Thursday: The Ambiguities of Postwar Imagining
Israel, Antisemite, Jew, and the Francophone Jew
Sartre (selections), *Les Temps Modernes* (selections)

Week of September 19

Competing Visions of France and Israel Post '67:

Claude Lanzmann and Pourquoi Israel

Tuesday: Lanzmann, *Why Israel*

Thursday: Lanzmann, *Why Israel*

Week of September 26

Claude Lanzmann, Israel and France in the 70s

Tuesday: Lanzmann, *Why Israel*

Thursday: Lanzmann, *The Patagonian Hare*; Rothberg, *Multidirectional Memory*
(selections)

Week of October 3

Witnesses, Trials and Tribulations I:

“Golden Age”? or “Return of the repressed”

Tuesday: Witnesses, Imaginary, and Figural Jews
Justice, Terror, Decolonization
Eichmann, Barbie
Goldberg (Cojot), *Namesake*; Zachmann, “Sketching the Postwar French Jew”

Thursday: Witnesses, Imaginary, and Figural Jews
Justice, Terror, Decolonization

Eichmann, Barbie
Goldberg (Cojot), *Namesake*; Zachmann, “Sketching the Postwar French Jew”

Week of October 10

Witnesses, Trials and Tribulations II: France, Israel, Entebbe

Tuesday: Selections: Katz, Leff, Mendel, “Engaging Colonial History and Jewish History”
in *Colonialism and the Jews* (2017)
Eichmann and Barbie

Thursday: Selections: *Colonialism and the Jews*
Eichmann and Barbie

Week of October 17

Lanzmann, Frenchies, Dimona Twists, France and Israel

Tuesday: Selections, *Dimona Twist*

Thursday: Selections, *Dimona Twist*

Week of October 24

**France, France-Israel and the 80s
Demographics, Geographics, and Cultures:
New Hebrews, French Jews and Israel, Israel in France?**

Tuesday: Selections From “Touche pas” to Arkin, *Refashioning Jewishness* (selection),
Macias and Brant

Thursday: Selections From “Touche pas” to Arkin, *Refashioning Jewishness* (selection),
Macias and Brant

Week of October 31

France-Israel and French in Israel

Tuesday: From *Colonialism and the Jews* to Arkin, Dimona Twist, Macias and Brant

Thursday: From *Colonialism and the Jews* to Arkin, Dimona Twist, Macias and Brant

Week of November 7

**From the 80s to 9/11:
Refashioning France-Israel and the Return of the Repressed**

Tuesday: Selections: Voices, Images, Interviews

Thursday: Halimi, Hallal, BDS, Toulouse and Israel
Chaouat, Voices, Images, Interviews

Week of November 14

Public/Private, New Zionisms, Conflict and New Cultural Exchanges

Tuesday: Cairns, Raczynow (selections)

Thursday: Voices, Images, Interviews

Week of November 21

France-Israel after the Second Intifada

Tuesday: Zenatti, Voices, Images, Interviews

Week of November 28

France/Israel: Beyond Je suis Charlie and the Hyper Cacher

Cultural Flows

Tuesday: Selections: Voices, Images, Interviews

Thursday: Selections: Voices, Images, Interviews
Research Projects

Week of December 5

Conclusions: Children of Israel and Citizens of the Republic

Tuesday: 2014...and Beyond, Research Projects
Conclusions...

Helpful Information:

Grading Scale & GPA Equivalent

A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E
100-93	92.9-90	89.9-87	86.9-83	82.9-80	79.9-77	76-73 (2.0)	72.9-70	69.9-67	66.9-63	62.9-60	59- (0)
(4.0)	(3.67)	(3.33)	(3.0)	(2.67)	(2.33)		(1.67)	(1.33)	(1.0)	(0.67)	

Students will need to earn a C or higher to use this course toward a major or minor and/or earn General Education Credit.

To receive writing requirement credit, a student must receive a grade of C or higher and a satisfactory completion of the writing component of the course.

For further information on UF's Grading Policy, see:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/>

GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

Canvas

All assignments, lecture notes, handouts, study guides, grades, etc. will be posted on the course website on Canvas. It is your responsibility to check the website regularly and keep up to date with the class.

Attendance and make-ups

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>.

Attendance is mandatory and will be assessed by roll call. Acceptable excuses include illness, religious holidays, & military obligation. These need to be documented excuses. Should you miss a class for any reason, you are responsible for informing yourself as to the material covered. Except in the case of certified illness or other UF accepted excuse, there will be no make-up option for missed exams/assignments. Where possible, make-ups should be arranged prior to absence. Alternatively, students should contact me on return to classes.

Class Demeanor & Academic Integrity

Students are expected to arrive to class on time and behave in a manner that is respectful to the instructor and to fellow students. Please avoid the use of cell phones and eating during class time. Opinions held by other students should be respected in discussion, and conversations that do not contribute to the discussion should be held at minimum, if at all.

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Conduct Code specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. [Click here to read the Conduct Code](#). If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

Accommodations

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. For more information see <https://disability.ufl.edu/>.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

- U Matter, We Care: umatter@ufl.edu – <https://umatter.ufl.edu/> ; 392-1575
- Counseling and Wellness Center: <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx> ; 392-1575
- Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS): Student Health Care Center; 392-1161
- University Police Department: <http://www.police.ufl.edu/> ; 392-1111 (911 for emergencies)

ACADEMIC RESOURCES

- E-learning technical support: Learningsupport@ufl.edu; <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml> ; 352-392-4357 (opt. 2)
- Career Resource Center: Reitz Union; <http://www.crc.ufl.edu/> ; 392-1601
- Library Support: <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>
- Teaching Center: Broward Hall; 392-2010 or 392-6420
- Writing Studio: 302 Tigert Hall; <http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/> ; 846-1138
- *Student Complaints On-Campus*: <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/> Visit the Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code webpage for more information.

Course Evaluation

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu> . Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/> .

COVID-19 Statement

In response to COVID-19, the following recommendations are in place to maintain your learning environment, to enhance the safety of our in-classroom interactions, and to further the health and safety of ourselves, our neighbors, and our loved ones.

- If you are not vaccinated, get vaccinated. Vaccines are readily available and have been demonstrated to be safe and effective against the COVID-19 virus. Visit one.ufl.edu for screening / testing and vaccination opportunities.
- If you are sick, stay home. Please call your primary care provider if you are ill and need immediate care or the UF Student Health Care Center at 352-392-1161 to be evaluated.
- Course materials will be provided to you with an excused absence. As with any excused absence, you will be given a reasonable amount of time to make up missed work.

