

SIS 396-010, SIS 696-010 Israeli politics GOV 432 003 Spring 2008
Dr. Naomi Gale (Schusterman Visiting Professor)

Israel is a parliamentary democracy; a mosaic in which ethnic, class, religion, national and migration play a dynamic part in the intricacies of the political system. The course is divided into two sections: (1) an introductory to the principles of the political system, the system of government, the electoral system, the historical background and the legal basis. (2) The major socio-political changes the Israeli society experienced during its history: The period until the mid 1970's, when one political party dominated the socio-political arena and the second, until the present day when the political system has been through many changes that alter the political characters of the society.

Required books: (available for purchase in the university Bookstore)

Arian Asher and Michal Shamir, (ed.) *Election in Israel -2003*, transaction Publishers. 2005

Elazar J. Daniel and Shmuel Sandler (ed) *Israel at the Polls, 1996*. Israeli History, Politics and Society Series, London and Portland, Or: Frank Cass, 1998

Mahler S. Gregory (2004) *Politics and Government in Israel: The Maturation of a Modern State*. Lanham, MD: Roman and Littlefield.

Perez Don, Gideon Doron, *Government and Politics of Israel* (3rd.ed) Colorado, Westview Press. 1997

Course Requirements

Students are expected to do the reading for each class in advance and come to class prepared so they can participate and contribute to the discussion and to the understanding of the topics.

Grades will be based on the following:

1. Class attendance and participation: this in particular will be taken into account in decision on a borderline grades. (up to 10%)
2. Students are required to submit by email to the lecture on the Monday prior to each class a short summary of the main arguments discussed from the reading list. Each week the students will be given the material for submission for the following class (20%).
3. End-of-term exam or submission of paper (70%)

Bibliography (tentative)

Political Culture and ideology, the yishuv

Perez Don, Gideon Doron, *Government and Politics of Israel* (3rd.ed) Colorado, Westview Press. 1997, Chap. 1 Historical Origin of Israel, chap.2 Political Culture, 1-69

Mahler S. Gregory (2004) *Politics and Government in Israel: The Maturation of a Modern State*. Lanham, MD: Roman and Littlefield. Chapters 1-2 pp 13-84

Goldstein, Yaacov, N., (2002) "Labour and Likud: Roots of their Ideological-Political Struggle for Hegemony over Zionism, 1925-35", in: Efraim Karsh, Israel: *The First Hundred Years*, Portland: Frank Cass Publishers, pp. 79-90

*Horowitz, Dan, and Moshe Lissak, (1978) *Origin of the Israeli Polity: Palestinian under the Mandate*. Chicago and London: University of Chicago Press. Chap. 1 Introduction (1-15), Chap. 8 The State of Israel and the Political Heritage of the Yishuv (186-212).

Elazar J. Daniel and Shmuel Sandler, Introduction: The Battle over Jewishness and Zionism in the Post-Modern Era". in Elazar J. Daniel and Shmuel Sandler (ed) *Israel at the Polls, 1996*. Israeli History, Politics and Society Series, London and Portland, Or: Frank Cass, 1998, pp. 1-32

The Party system and Elections

Mahler S. Gregory (2004) *Politics and Government in Israel: The Maturation of a Modern State*. Lanham, MD: Roman and Littlefield. Chapters 4-8 pp. 117-250

Goldberg Giora, "The Electoral Fall of the Israeli Left", in Elazar J. Daniel and Shmuel Sandler (ed) *Israel at the Polls, 1996*. Israeli History, Politics and Society Series, London and Portland, Or: Frank Cass, 1998, pp. 53-72

Don-Yehiya Eliezer, "Religion, Ethnicity and Electoral Reform: The Religious Parties and the 1966 Elections", in Elazar J. Daniel and Shmuel Sandler (ed) *Israel at the Polls, 1996*. Israeli History, Politics and Society Series, London and Portland, Or: Frank Cass, 1998, pp. 73-102

Frisch Hillel, "The Arab Vote: The Radicalization of Politicization?", in Elazar J. Daniel and Shmuel Sandler (ed) *Israel at the Polls, 1996*. Israeli History, Politics and Society Series, London and Portland, Or: Frank Cass, 1998, pp. 102-120

Bick Etta, "Sectarian Party Politics in Israel: The Case of Israel Ba'Aliya, The Russian Immigrant Party", in Elazar J. Daniel and Shmuel Sandler (ed) *Israel at the Polls, 1996*. Israeli History, Politics and Society Series, London and Portland, Or: Frank Cass, 1998, pp. 121-148

Factors influencing the Elections

Rubin Barry, "External Influences on the Israeli Elections", in Elazar J. Daniel and Shmuel Sandler (ed) *Israel at the Polls, 1996*. Israeli History, Politics and Society Series, London and Portland, Or: Frank Cass, 1998, pp. 149-166

Lehman-Wilzig Sam, "The Media Campaign: The Negative Effects of Positive Campaigning", in Elazar J. Daniel and Shmuel Sandler (ed) *Israel at the Polls, 1996*. Israeli History, Politics and Society Series, London and Portland, Or: Frank Cass, 1998, pp. 167-186

Yael Yishai, "The Great Losers: Women in the 1996 Elections", Elazar J. Daniel and Shmuel Sandler (ed) *Israel at the Polls, 1996*. Israeli History, Politics and Society Series, London and Portland, Or: Frank Cass, 1998, pp. 187-208

Steinberg Gerald M., "Peace, Security and Terror in the 1996 Elections", in Elazar J. Daniel and Shmuel Sandler (ed) *Israel at the Polls, 1996*. Israeli History, Politics and Society Series, London and Portland, Or: Frank Cass, 1998, pp 209 -236

Political Leadership and Political Elites

Nachmias David, "Israel Bureaucratic Elite: Social Structure and Patronage," Public Administration Review 51, 1 1991, 413-420

Inbar, Efraim, "Netanyahu Takes Over", in Elazar J. Daniel and Shmuel Sandler (ed) *Israel at the Polls, 1996*. Israeli History, Politics and Society Series, London and Portland, Or: Frank Cass, 1998, pp. 33-52.

Elazar J. Daniel and M. Ben Mollov, "Introduction: Elections 1999 – The Interplay between Character, Political Culture and Centrism", in Elazar J. Daniel and M. Ben Mollov, (ed.) *Israel at the Polls, 1999*, London and Portland, Or: Frank Cass, 2001, pp 1-20

Foreign Policy and the middle East

Mahler S. Gregory (2004) *Politics and Government in Israel: The Maturation of a Modern State*. Lanham, MD: Roman and Littlefield. Chapters 9-10 pp. 251-330

Elazar J. Daniel and Shmuel Sandler (ed) *Israel at the Polls, 1996*. Israeli History, Politics and Society Series, London and Portland, Or: Frank Cass, 1998