

Syllabus

I. Basic information

Title of the course: History of Israel

Number of the course: BX19060211

Type of the course: compulsory

Class hours: 32

Course credit: 2

Semester: Every second semester

Department: School of History and Culture

Lecturer: Prof. Shuqing Zhang

II. Introduction of the course

This course begins from the ancient history of Jewish people and its diaspora, explores the process for them to establish their state Israel, including Haskalah, Zionism, etc.. Focusing on the distinct political, economic and cultural development, and therefore, lead the student to understand tension in Israel and its sensitive position in the Middle East. Antisemitism will be important part in this course, which includes the origin of antisemitism (from historical perspective), the development of antisemitism in Medieval Christian Europe, antisemitism based on the so-called “scientific” basis the pseudoscience of race in modern Europe, and the contemporary examples of Antisemitism with Regard to the State of Israel.

III. Purpose of the course

The teaching purpose is to lead the students to comprehend the basic and frontier issues of Israeli history, to understand the distinctive characteristics of its history and its unique position in the world history, and therefore, to lead them how to read, to consult academic materials and to write academic paper as well.

IV. Students

This course is graduate students-oriented.

V. Teaching methods

Special lectures plus class discussion and representation.

VI. Contents of teaching and time allocation

- [1] Jewish ancient history (2 hours)
- [2] the Diaspora and the origin of Anti-semitism (2 hours)
- [3] Anti-semitism in Medieval Europe (2 hours)
- [4] Anti-semitism in modern Europe (2 hours)
- [5] Zionism and the establishment of Israel (2 hours)
- [6] Consolidation and Growth (1948-1966) (2 hours)
- [7] Israel before and after six-days war (1966-1977) (4 hours)
- [8] the Likud's Revolution and the age of instability (1977-1992) (4 hours)
- [9] Peace and Conflict (1992-2006) (4 hours)
- [10] Social integration and Mental difficulties (2006-2012) (2 hours)
- [11] Embracing New Challenges (2012-) (2 hours)
- [12] Contemporary antisemitism regarding Israel (4 hours)

VI. Requirements

Term paper.

VII. Reference books

1. Abba Eban, *My People: The Story of the Jews*, Weidenfeld and Nicolson Ltd, London, 1969.
2. Mitchel Bard, *Israel Matters* (Chinese Edition), Social Science Literature Publishing House, 2017.
3. Zhang Qianhong, *The History of Israel*, the People's Publishing House, 2012.
4. Xu Xin, *Antisemitism: Past and Present*, the People's Publishing House, 2015.
5. Daniel Gordis, *Israel: A Concise History of a Nation Reborn*, trans. By Wang Yue, Zhejiang People's Publishing House, 2018.

6. Ari Shavit, *My Promised Land: The Triumph and Tragedy of Israel*, trans. By Jian Yang, China Citic Press, 2016.

Some other Chinese reference books relating to Israeli history and contemporary anti-semitism.