JWST68.1
Israeli Society: Structure, Institutions, Identities and Dynamics
Lev Grinberg

Fall 2015
10A T-T
Office Hours (by appointment)

Course Description
The goal of the course is to study the Israeli society from a sociological perspective. The course seeks to analyse structural and institutional aspects of the economy, politics and society that have shaped the Israeli society since its inception. The focus is on the historical dynamic transformations, strongly influenced by the changing relations between different social groups.

Requirements:
Students are expected to attend the classes, read the required readings, and actively participate in class discussions. Student will write four reading reports (two pages) during the quarter and a final integrative memo (5 pages).

Grades:
40% Reports
60% Final integrative memo.

Reading Assignments
Most of the readings will be posted on Bb. Items marked with * are chapters of books that can be purchased in the student bookstore, and will be also available at the Library Reserve Desk.

Recommended books

Course Schedule and Required Readings

Week 1 - Approaches to Israeli Society
*Kimmerling, B. (2001) The Invention and Decline of Israeliness, Ch. 1, p. 16-55.

Week 2 - The Institutional Framework of the Yishuv
*Grinberg, LL (2013) Mo(ve)ments of Resistance, Ch. 2., p. 60-89.
Week 3 - The Establishment of Israel

Week 4 – Crisis of Democracy

Week 5 – 1977: The Ascent of Likud to Power
*Shafir and Peled (2002) Being Israeli, Ch. 6, p. 159-183.

Week 6. The Economic Neo-Liberalization
*Grinberg, LL. Mo(ve)ments of Resistance, Ch. 6, p. 181-216.

Week 7 - Political Crisis Liberalism vs. Ethnic-nationalism

Week 8 - Globalization Through Peace

Week 9 – Times of Discontent
*Grinberg, LL (2013) Mo(ve)ments of Resistance, Chapter 8, p. 251-274.