

Fall 2020

The Arab-Israeli Conflict

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The media often presents the Arab-Israeli conflict as an irreconcilable age-old divide between Muslims and Jews, but political tensions between Arab Palestinians and Israeli Jews originated only a century ago. This class traces the history of this conflict from the start of Zionist immigration during the late-Ottoman era through the divisive policies of the British Mandate, the establishment of a Jewish state and the multiple wars between Israel and Arab countries. In examining these events, students assess the significance of Jerusalem to Christians, Muslims and Jews; the role of women in Palestinian nation-building; the development of Israeli heritage and cultural policies; the myriad effects of American diplomacy; the immigration of Arab Jews and their inclusion in the political life of Israel; and the various ways that Palestinians have resisted Israeli occupation. Students will learn how religious difference is but one part of a complex struggle for access to land and resources in the Middle East.

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday
10:30-11:20am

HIST 31205