

SOU44012 — Conflict Studies 2: Israel/Palestine

Module Information	
Module Code	SOU44012
Module Title	Conflict Studies 2: Israel/Palestine
Department	Sociology
Year Group	Senior Sophister
Module Personnel	David Landy
Academic Year	2026-27
Credit Weighting	10 credits
Semester	Semester 2
Contact Hours	22 hours, one lecture and one tutorial per week.

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Module Description	The focus for the module is Israel/Palestine, one of the major conflict zones of our time. Israel/Palestine is a paradigmatic example of a long running conflict, and of a modern state which aims to ensure the ongoing dominance of a particular ethnic group. No contemporary conflict or indeed genocide has aroused greater interest in recent years, especially in Ireland, than this one. Beyond the headlines, how can we understand how this instance of genocide and the conflict behind it has been constructed, conducted and dealt with internationally.
Module Learning Aims	This module moves beyond the current crisis in Gaza and Israel to examine the roots and routes of the conflict and the reactions of the various parties, taking a critical look at Israeli and Palestinian responses. We also examine international interventions, both what motivates the interest in Israel/Palestine and the effect of this involvement. The class uses the particular issue of Israel/Palestine to develop an understanding of a conflict situation, which has general applicability. Key debates that this class engages in concern conflict and race, colonisation practices, resistance strategies, the representation of conflict, the use of human

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	rights by parties in conflict situations, and critiques of the role of outside intervention.
Learning Outcomes	On successful completion students will: • Understand the main issues involved in the Israel/Palestine conflict; • Relate this specific instance of conflict to wider theoretical understandings within race and conflict studies; • Interrogate the relationship between colonisation and genocide; • Theorise the roles of normalisation and resistance within conflicts; • Critically analyse the role of external involvement and the 'peace industry' within a conflict zone; • Understand the reasons behind the globalisation of the conflict and relate this to other conflicts.
Indicative Reading / Resources	There is no set text, but the following texts will prove useful: • Gelvin, James. 2014. <i>The Israel-Palestine Conflict: One Hundred Years of War</i>. • Kotef, Hagar. 2020 <i>The Colonizing Self: Or, Home and Homelessness in Israel/Palestine</i>. Durham, NC: Duke University Press. • Lentin, Ronit. 2018. <i>Traces of Racial Exception: Racializing Israeli Settler Colonialism</i>. Bloomsbury Academic: London • Matar, Dina. 2010. <i>What it Means to be Palestinian: Stories of Palestinian Peoplehood</i>. I.B. Tauris: London, 2010; • Zureik, Elia. 2016. <i>Israel's Colonial Project in Palestine</i>. London: Routledge <u>Journals and media</u> • +972 Magazine https://www.972mag.com/ • Al-Shabaka https://al-shabaka.org/ • Electronic Intifada http://electronicintifada.net/ • Ha'aretz http://www.haaretz.com • Holy Land Studies <u>Accessible from Library website</u> • Israel Studies <u>Accessible from Library website</u> • Israel Affairs <u>Accessible from Library website</u> • Journal of Palestine Studies <u>Accessible from Library website</u>

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	- The Jerusalem Quarterly <u>Accessible from Library website</u> - Yediot Aharonot http://www.ynetnews.com/
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Assessment

Assessment Components	Assignment 80%, tutorial attendance and presentation 20%
Assessment Details	Written assignment

Additional Information

Prerequisites	None
Co-requisites	None
Any other information	