Conflict Resolution from Theory to Practice:  
Israel as a Case Study (SPCR202)

Ofer Shinar Levanon, Ph.D.

Ofer.shinar@gmail.com

Office hours: by appointment

Monday, July 3th through Wednesday, July 27th, 2017

Mondays, Tuesdays & Wednesdays from 9:30-12:30

45 Academic Hours, 3 Academic Credits

Course Requirements

Students will be required to take an open book exam on the last day of the course. The exam will be three hours long. Computers will not be allowed during the exam.

Given prior and individual approval by the lecturer, each student may be allowed to write an academic essay on a topic related to the course issues instead of the exam. The essay proposal will be submitted via email to the instructor, Ofer Shinar Levanon (ofer.shinar@gmail.com), by the end of the first week of the course. Late submissions will not be accepted. Only those students who receive written approval from Ofer Shinar will be able to submit an essay in place of the exam. The essay will not exceed 3000 words and will be submitted by August 20th, 2015, via email to: rissummer@savion.huji.ac.il, and via hard copy to the following address:

Department of Summer Courses & Special Programs
Rothberg International School
Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Boyar Building, Mt. Scopus
91905, Jerusalem
ISRAEL
Please Note:
Papers for which a hard copy is not submitted will not be accepted. Late papers will not be accepted.

Exam Instructions
1. All materials could be used during the exam.
2. Please mention course materials in an extensive manner in your answers.
3. For those writing by hand - please use pens only. Your name should not appear on the exam. Do not exceed 4 pages of the attached booklet for each answer.
4. If you choose to type please note each answer is limited to 650 words. Do not access the Internet during the exam. Use of the Internet is permitted only for submitting the exam to rissummer@savion.huji.ac.il when you have finished typing your answers. The file’s name should be your student’s number only – your name should not appear as part of the file’s name or as part of the exam’s text.

Course Description
This course will present current academic research as well as the practical aspects regarding the Israeli-Arab conflict, one of the most significant international conflicts of our time. Furthermore, it will provide a broad multidisciplinary perspective on Israeli society as a side to an intractable conflict.

The failure of the Oslo Process presents an example of the difficulties stemming from conflict resolution of an intractable conflict. The course will additionally address the manner in which societies are influenced by their involvement in an intractable conflict, a long, unrelenting and violent conflict. Such conflicts become a major source of social identity and cohesion, a challenge to conflict resolution efforts, forcing peace makers to develop knowledge and expertise regarding the roots of the conflict.

The course will also examine the activities and role of the Israeli peace camp as well as the role of political leadership in the resolution of the conflict with the Palestinians.

The course will include a field trip as well as guest lecturers, allowing the students to meet both peace activists as well as conflict resolution scholars.
Course Outline
(Optional reading is marked by *)

Section I – Introduction to the Israeli - Arab Conflict

Class 1 (July 4): Introduction to the Israeli – Arab Conflict


Class 2 (July 5): The Oslo Peace Process and Beyond


Section II – International Conflicts

Class 3 (July 6): Conflict Resolution


Class 4 (July 10): **Field Trip – ‘Yad VaShem’ Holocaust Museum**


Class 5 (July 11): **Intractable Conflicts**


Class 6 (July 12): **Field Trip: Jerusalem and the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict**


**Section III - The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict**

Class 7 (July 17): **Barriers to Conflict Resolution**


Class 8 (July 18): The Settlements and the West Bank

- Movie Screening: The Law in These Parts, A film by Ra’an an Alexandrowicz (Israel, 2011)


Section IV - Conflict Resolution

Class 9 (July 19): The Role of Civil Society in the Resolution of the I-P Conflict


Class 10 (July 24): From Trauma to Reconciliation

Movie Screening: Waltz with Bashir, A film by Ari Folman (Israel, 2008).


Class 11 (July 25): From Trauma to Reconciliation (Cont.)

o Becker, D. (2004). Dealing with the Consequences of Organised Violence in Trauma Work, Berghof Research Center for Constructive Conflict Management (on website)


Class 12 (July 26): Final Examination