

# Israel/Palestine: Will It Ever End?

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## **Session: Winter 2017**

Dates: Wednesdays, January 11<sup>th</sup> – February 15<sup>th</sup>

Time: 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Location: 124 Leeds House Building

## **Schedule of topics:**

### **Week 1 – Introduction**

- Review of course
- Expectations of participants
- Basic geography and clarifying terminology
- Understanding the two narratives (Israeli and Palestinian)

### **Week 2 - Who are the Palestinians, why are they unhappy and what do they want?**

- History/demography/current issues
- Presentation based on 6 trips to Israel/Palestine and meetings with dozens of politicians, religious leaders, NGO's, academics and international observers
- 1967 and "the occupation", the "wall" and the "settlers"

### **Week 3 – Who are the Israelis, where do they come from and what do they want?**

- The history of anti-Semitism in Western Europe, and the rise of Zionism
- The legacy of the Holocaust
- Today's complex Israeli society

**Did you know?** Your registration in the LinR program allows you to borrow materials from Carleton University's MacOdrum Library. To receive a temporary borrowing card, visit the circulation desk and identify yourself as a participant of LinR.

#### **Week 4 - What does it mean to be a “Jewish State”?**

- Israel defines itself as a “Jewish and Democratic State”. We will examine the legal framework and practical consequences for both Jews and non-Jews living as citizens of the State of Israel

#### **Week 5 - The issue of the Palestinian refugees**

- 68 years ago about ¾ million Palestinians fled what became Israel. But today, according to the UN there are still over 5 million Palestinian refugees.
- How can this be? What can be done about it? What is the “right of return”? Is it feasible?

#### **Week 6 - Conclusion/discussion**

- What are the issues that need to be resolved?
- Will a 2 state solution really solve the issue?
- If so, why can't they just agree and get on with it?
- If not, is there any solution? What would it look like? Could it happen?