

1. Background

The PASSIA academic course on *History, Religion, and Politics in the Palestine-Israel Conflict* was developed upon the request of the St. Olaf College, Minnesota, to provide a comprehensive seminar for their Mediterranean Semester group during the period of 11 November-17 December 2014. PASSIA consulted with colleagues and experts - both locally and internationally - in order to plan and implement such a course, which was to focus on ancient-historical and religious aspects of Jerusalem but also cover the various dimensions of the (contemporary) Palestine-Israel conflict and give an inside look into the political situation on the ground. PASSIA organized a six-week lecture and excursion program accordingly (see below), put together a comprehensive reading package as well as a list of further research material, and served as point of contact and guidance throughout the course program.

2. Participants (St. Olaf College)

Mimi Ansel major in Philosophy and Economics with a concentration in Middle Eastern Studies.

Josefine Brekke major in Political Science.

Kathryn Brunstein major in Mathematics and Education.

David Carpenter major in History and Psychology with concentrations in Middle Eastern Studies and Neuroscience.

Mckenzie Hartman-Mattson major in Exercise Science with a concentration in Middle Eastern Studies.

Dani Larson major in Social Science.

Anna Lund major in History, Race and Ethnic Studies, Middle Eastern Studies, and Education.

Marcus Newton major in Theater with concentrations in Educational Studies, Management Studies and Middle Eastern Studies.

Keren Timara Permel major in Political Science with concentrations in Middle Eastern Studies, Latin American Studies and Linguistics.

Magill Schumm major in Biology.

Reinah Thom major in Sociology/Anthropology, History with a concentration in Middle Eastern Studies.

Amie Tunheim major in Political Science with concentrations in Management Studies, Nordic Studies, and Middle Eastern Studies.

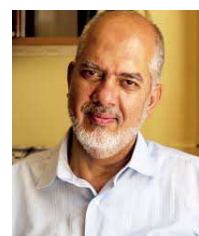
Bailey Williams major in Sociology/Anthropology with concentration in Middle Eastern Studies.

3. Lecture Program

NOVEMBER 2014

Day	Date	Time	Program
Tue	11.		Arrival – Overnight in Tel Aviv
Wed	12.		<i>To Jerusalem</i>

	12.00	Welcoming and Introduction with Dr. Mahdi Abdul Hadi , <i>Chairman of PASSIA</i> , and Deniz Altayli , <i>PASSIA Program Director</i>	
Thurs	13.	10.00	Jerusalem: the three theologies
		a)	Judaism and its relations to the land Rabbi David Rosen , <i>International Director of Interreligious Affairs for the America Jewish Committee, Jerusalem</i>
		10.45	b) Christianity and its relations to the land Rev. Rafiq Khoury , <i>Lecturer at the Latin Seminary, Beit Jala</i>
		11.30	c) Islam and its relations to the land Dr. Mustafa Abu Sway , <i>The Integral Chair for the Study of Imam Al Ghazali's Work at the Holy Al-Aqsa Mosque and Professor of Islamic Philosophy, Al-Quds University.</i>
Fri	14.	10.00	Historical Geography: land, people, natural resources, major historical outline. Dr. Nazmi Jubeh , <i>Professor of History and Archaeology, Birzeit University, Birzeit</i>
Sat	15.	10.00	Jerusalem: From Byzantine times to the Islamic period Dr. Nazmi Jubeh , <i>Professor of History & Archaeology, Birzeit University</i>
		12.00	Visit to the Palestine Heritage Museum (Dar Al-Tifl) with Dr. Khaled Khatib , <i>Museum Director</i>



Mon 17. Visit to the Islamic Waqf Council, Old City
With **Sheikh Azzam Al-Khatib**, General Director, Islamic Waqf, and **Yousef Natsheh**, Director of Islamic Museum and Monuments at Al-Aqsa Mosque



Tue 18. 10.00 Israeli society
Dr. Menachem Klein, Professor, Department of Political Science, Bar Ilan University, Ramat Gan



Wed 19. 10.00 Islamic Period:
a) Omar Bin Al-Khatib and Patriarch Sophronius, the Holy Sepulcher, Al-Aqsa Mosque, Mosque of Omar.
b) The Umayyad period
c) The Abbasid period.
Dr. Yousef Natsheh, Director of Islamic Museum and Monuments at Al-Aqsa Mosque



12.00 The Ottomans in Palestine
Dr. Adel Manna, Senior Research Fellow, The Van Leer Institute Jerusalem



Thur 20. 10.00 Muslim and Christian Holy Places Today
Dr. Mahdi Abdul Hadi, Chairman of PASSIA, and **Rev. Rafiq Khoury**, Lecturer at the Latin Seminary, Beit Jala



Mon 24. 10.00 Geopolitics in Jerusalem and the Implications for the Two-State Solution
Daniel Seideman, Israeli Attorney, Expert on Geo-Political Jerusalem
Followed by: Tour of the Separation Wall and Israeli settlements



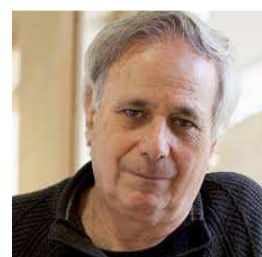
Tue 25. 9.30 Visit to Silwan/City of David Tour with **Yonatan Mizrahi**, Emek Shaveh
Starting/Meeting point: Dung Gate, Old City



Wed 26. 9.30 The Crusades and the 'Latin Kingdom of Jerusalem' (1099-1291)
Dr. Mahmoud Hawari, Research Associate, The Khalili Research Centre for the Art and Material Culture of the Middle East, University of Oxford, UK
11.00 The 'Golden Age' of Islamic culture, art and architecture in Jerusalem: the Ayyubid and Mamluk periods (1187-1516).
Dr. Mahmoud Hawari, Research Associate, The Khalili Research Centre for the Art and Material Culture of the Middle East, University of Oxford, UK
13.00 Selected Crusader, Ayyubid and Mamluk monuments in the Old City
Tour with **Dr. Mahmoud Hawari**



Thur 27. 12.00 The Palestinian Refugee Question
Dr. Ilan Pappé, Professor with the College of Social Sciences and International Studies, University of Exeter, UK, Director of the University's European Centre for Palestine Studies, and Co-Director of the Exeter Centre for Ethno-Political Studies



Sat 29. 10.00 The Western Powers in Palestine: from the Greeks to the British Mandate
Dr. Nazmi Jubeh, Professor of History and Archaeology, Birzeit University, Birzeit



12.00 The role of the Western Powers during the War of 1948 (Nakba) and the War of 1967 (Naksa)
Dr. Mahdi Abdul Hadi, Head of PASSIA



DECEMBER

Day	Date	Time	Program
Mon	1.	12.00	Visit to Al-Aqsa Mosque Compound <i>With Dr. Yousef Natsheh, Director of Islamic Museum and Monuments at Al-Aqsa Mosque</i>
		12.00	The Palestinian National Movement and Zionism (1882-1948) <i>Dr. Mahdi Abdul Hadi, Chairman of PASSIA, Jerusalem</i>
Tues	2.	10.00	Palestinian society <i>Dr. Bernard Sabella, Professor of Sociology at Bethlehem University</i>
Mon	8.	10.00	Tour of the Remains of the Palestinian village of Lifta <i>With Yacoub Odeh, former Lifta resident, activist and member of the Lifta Committee</i>
		15.00	The current situation in Jerusalem (Israeli laws, policies, and practices – the “chronic cases”) and perspectives for the future <i>Dr. Mahdi Abdul Hadi</i>



Tue 9. 10.00 Third Party Involvement: helping to solve or prolonging the Israel-Palestine conflict?

Nathan Stock, Director, Carter Center, Ramallah

11.30 Gaza

Nathan Stock, Director, Carter Center, Ramallah



Wed 10. 10.00 The Current Situation in Palestine/Israel and Prospects for the Future

Discussion with: **Akiva Elder**, Israeli columnist and former editorial writer for *Haaretz*, **Nathan Stock**, Director, Carter Center, Ramallah and **Dr. Mahdi Abdul Hadi**



Sat 13. 10.00 Palestinians and Israel Since 1948


Dr. Asad Ghanem, Professor of Political Science, School of Political Science, University of Haifa

12.00 Political movements: national and religious (I)

Israeli political movements and parties

Dr. Asad Ghanem, Professor of Political Science, School of Political Science, University of Haifa



Sun	14.	14.00	Implications of regional turmoil and power battles on the Israel-Palestine conflict Dr. Husam Zomlot , Fatah Foreign Relations Commission.	
Mon	15.	9.30-11.30	Wrap Up with Dr. Mahdi Abdul Hadi , Chairman of PASSIA, and Deniz Altayli , PASSIA Program Director	