

**The University of Haifa: Ruderman Program**  
**A HISTORY OF AMERICAN JEWRY-ISRAEL RELATIONS**  
**Fall 2016: UPDATED READING LIST**  
**Prof. Gil Troy**

**Email:** [giltroy@gmail.com](mailto:giltroy@gmail.com)

**Office Hours:** Tuesdays 11-12:00 (before class) – and by appointment  
**Tuesdays, 12:15-15:45**

(please note: “excerpts” will be posted in the Dropbox because they are not available online)

(H)=available in Hebrew

(L)=available in the library

**Week 1: November 1, 2016: Fundamentals of Foreign Policy: American Isolationism and Interventionism, the Ongoing Tug of War in Historical Perspective**

Robert Kagan, “[President Obama’s foreign policy paradox](#),” *Washington Post*, March 26, 2014  
Joseph S. Nye, “[The Future of American Power](#),” *Foreign Policy*, November/December 2010  
George Washington, [Farewell Address](#), *September 19, 1796*  
James Monroe, [Seventh Annual Message \(Monroe Doctrine\)](#), *December 2, 1823*

**Week 2: November 8, 2016 #1: Fundamentals of Foreign Policy (continued): American Isolationism and Interventionism: The Interventionist 20<sup>th</sup> Century**

\*\*Bear Braumoeller, “[The Myth of American Isolationism](#),” pp. 1-11 (top, only)  
Woodrow Wilson, [14 Points](#), January 18, 1918  
FDR, [Annual Message to Congress on the State of the Union \(Four Freedoms\)](#) *January 6, 1941*  
John F. Kennedy, [Inaugural Address](#), January 20, 1961  
Barack Obama, [Nobel Lecture](#), December 10, 2009

**Week 2: November 8, 2016 #2: The Ups and Downs of American Zionism: The Dueling Promised Lands**

Solomon Schechter, *Zionism: A Statement (1906)* (excerpts)  
Louis Brandeis, [The Jewish Problem and How to Solve it](#), April 25, 1915  
\*\*Midge Decter, “[The Legacy of Henrietta Szold](#),” *Commentary*, December 1, 1960  
\*\*Jonathan Sarna, “[A Projection of America as it Ought to Be: Zion in the Mind’s Eye of American Jews](#)” 1996.

SUPPLEMENT: Melvin Urofsky, *American Zionism from Herzl to the Holocaust*

**Week 3: November 15, 2016: “I am Cyrus”: Harry Truman, the Founding of Israel, and the Zionization of American Jewry**

- A. CONTEXT: \*\*George Kennan, [Sources of Soviet Conduct](#), 1947  
Harry Truman, [Truman Doctrine](#), May 12, 1947  
\*\*Clark Clifford [Memorandum to Truman](#), November 19, 1947  
[Biltmore Program, 1942](#)  
\*\*Milton Steinberg, “[The Creed of an American Zionist](#),” *The Atlantic*, February, 1945  
Ben Hecht, [Letter to the Terrorists of Palestine](#), May 14, 1947  
[American Council for Judaism Proposal for Palestine](#). 1945  
SUPPLEMENT: George Kennan, *American Foreign Policy*

**B. Harry Truman and the Recognition of Israel**

- \*\*John Judis, “[Seed of Doubt](#),” *The New Republic*, 15 Jan 2014,  
\*\*Ronald Radosh, “[Original Sin](#),” *Jewish Review of Books*, Spring, 2014  
\*\* John Judis, “[What My Critics are Missing](#),” *The New Republic*, Feb 26, 2014  
[Timeline](#)  
[Correspondence](#) between **Truman** and Eddie **Jacobson**: *October 8, 1947*:  
[Truman’s letter to Jacobson](#): February 27, 1948:  
**Draft of “[The Position of the United States with Respect to Palestine](#)”**  
[Memo](#) supporting a Statement by Truman recognizing Israel, May 9, 1948  
SUPPLEMENT: Ronald Radosh: *A Safe Haven*  
John Judis, *Genesis: Truman, American Jews and the Origins of the Arab-Israeli Conflict*

**Week 4: November 22, 2016: Cold War Asset: Eisenhower’s Ambivalence, Kennedy’s Friendship, and American Jewry’s Confusion**

- A. Eisenhower’s Ambivalence: [Miller Center Intro to Foreign Policy](#) of Eisenhower, Rose Halprin, excerpts  
[Eisenhower, American Jewry, and Israel](#) by Isaac Alteras, *American Jewish Archives (1985)*
- B. The pro-Israel turn from Ike to JFK  
[Miller Center Intro to Foreign Policy: of Kennedy](#)  
Jerome Chanes, [For Israel, A Foreign Policy Camelot](#), 11/11/13  
[Kennedy’s speech to Zionists](#), *August 26, 1960*

Supplement: Warren Bass, *Support Any Friend*,

**Week 5: November 29, 2016: A. Israel through the lens of American Jews (Exodus, Cast a Giant Shadow, Munich and other clips)**

**November 29, 2016: B. Six Days of War (Round 1 – in class exercise): managing competing sources: Michael Oren and Primary Sources Building toward War: to be distributed that day**

**Week 6: December 6, 2016: Six Days of War as Game Changer (Round 2): The Rise of a New Zionism and the New Left (Elie Wiesel, Abraham Joshua Heschel, Philip Roth, SNCC Statements)**

**A. Context:** Lyndon Johnson, the Sixties and the Six Day War

[Miller Center Intro to Foreign Policy](#): of Lyndon Johnson

Abba Eban June 6, 1967 [speech](#):

Lyndon Johnson [June 16, 1967 Speech](#)

Michael Oren, "The Revelations of 1967: New Research on the Six Day War and Its Lessons for the Contemporary Middle East," *Israel Studies*, 2005

**Supplement: Michael Oren, *Six Days of War* (H) (L)**

מיכאל אורן /המערכה ששינתה את פני המזרח התיכון :שישה ימים של מלחמה

**B. The IMPACT: The New Zionism**

Chaim Waxman, [Impact of Six Day War on American Jewish Life](#), pp. 212-214, 217-218

Yitz Greenberg on Six Day War: from Excerpts

**Supplements: Philip Roth, *Portnoy's Complaint* (H) (L)**

פיליפ רות /מה מעיק על פורטנוי

Abraham Joshua Heschel, *Israel: An Echo of Eternity* (L)

**Week 7: December 13, 2016: Nixon, Kissinger, Golda, and the Yom Kippur War: Saving Israel and Shuttling for Peace amid Growing Tensions (Nixon, Meir, Kissinger, Halkin)**

**A. Context: Richard Nixon**

[Miller Center Intro to Foreign Policy](#) of Nixon

**B. The Jews' Nixon Dilemma and the Yom Kippur Aftermath**

Seymour Siegel, [A Vote for President Nixon](#), Shma, September 1, 1972

Pianko v. Golub On Support for Nixon, November 30. 1973. Shema, pp. 12-14

Hillel Halkin, *Letters to an American Jewish Friend*, excerpts

SUPPLEMENT: Golda Meir, *My Life* (H) (L)

Hillel Halkin, *Letters to an American Jewish Friend* (L)

**Week 8: December 20, 2016: When Zionism "became" Racism – Daniel Patrick Moynihan and the Fall of the UN**

**A. Context: The buildup** Gil Troy, *Moynihan's Moment*, Excerpts

Yasir Arafat [UN Speech](#) 1974 <http://israelipalestinian.procon.org/sourcefiles/ispaldoc1974.pdf>

B. Moynihan's Moment, The Entebbe Raid, and a Zionist High  
Moynihan [UN Speech](#): November 10, 1975

SUPPLEMENT: Letty Cottin Pogrebin, *Deborah Golda and me* (L)

Letters of Yoni Netanyahu (H) (L)

## **Week 9: December 27, 2016: The Begin Revolution, Camp David, and the Carter Confusion**

A. **Context:** Lawrence Wright, [Thirteen Days in September](#), 3-46, 264-289

B. **The search for Peace and Peace of Mind...**

Sol Stern, [Menachem Begin v. The Jewish Lobby](#), New York Magazine, April 24, 1978

[How are You Thinking about Voting?](#) By *J. David Bleich*

*Eugene Borowitz, October 31, 1980*

*Anne Roiphe, Excerpts*

SUPPLEMENT: Lawrence Wright, *Thirteen Days in September*

## **Week 10: January 3, 2017: The Reagan Years: Strengthened Friendship or Greater Strains - - with the shadow of Pollard thrown in (Avineri)**

A. **Context:** The Reagan Revolution [Miller Center Intro to Foreign Policy](#) of Reagan

B. **The Lebanon and Pollard Cracks...**

Chemi Shalev, Haaretz [column](#), "If Obama treated Israel like Reagan, he'd be impeached,"

Leonard Fein, [Days of Awe](#), Moment, 1982

Shlomo Avineri on American Jews and Pollard, Excerpts

Chicago Tribune "[US Israeli Jews Differences in Sharp Focus](#)"

Martin Peretz, [The Mendacious Movement to free a convicted Spy](#)

## **Week 11: January 10, 2016: Oslo with an American Accent: Bill Clinton and the Peace Processors**

A. **Context** Clinton, Love-love and Oslo [Miller Center Intro to Foreign Policy](#) of George H.W. Bush and Clinton

B. **Israel and the Continuity Question** [American Jews and Israel: Has the Romance Ended?](#) By *Charles S. Liebman, 1999*

C. Kenneth Levin, The Oslo Syndrome, Excerpts

**Week 12: January 17, 2017: Seeking Peace -- in an age of Terrorism and the Distancing Thesis from George W. Bush to Barack Obama (including the Beinart-Cohen-Sasson/Saxe debate and the Bibi speech controversy)**

**A. Context: [Miller Center Intro to Foreign Policy](#) of George W. Bush and Obama**

**B. Distancing – or Not**

**Peter Beinart, [The Failure of the American Jewish Establishment](#)**

**Reaction to Beinart by Sasson and by Ammiel Hirsch in Excerpts**

SUPPLEMENTAL READING: Elliott Abrams, *Tested By Zion*,

Ted Sasson *Toward a New Zionism*

Michael Oren, *Ally* (H) (L)

מייקל אורן / חיי כגשר בין ישראל לארצות הברית: בן ברית

**Week 13: January 24, 2017: Conclusion: Fundamentals of Middle East Policy, American Zionism, and Foreign Policy**

**\*\*Dennis Ross, *Doomed to Succeed* (L)**

Alan Wolfe, *At Home in Exile* (L)

**Submission of final paper**