Jerusalem Since 1850:
Religion, Politics, Cultural Heritage

Prof. Katharina Galor

Course description:
This seminar surveys the transition of an ancient city into an urban metropolis, in which cultural heritage has been entangled with power and conflict. It studies the history of archaeological exploration, discovery, and interpretation in Jerusalem in the contexts of social, political, and religious debates from the mid-nineteenth century to the present, with an emphasis on the post-1967 period. It examines the legal settings and ethical precepts of archaeological activity, the developing discourse of cultural heritage, as well as archaeology’s place in the various educational systems and institutions in the city. It analyzes the ongoing struggle to discover and define the city’s past, to expose its physical and historical legacy, and to advance claims of scientific validity and objectivity against the challenges of religious zeal and political partisanship, the latter both intimately related though not necessarily limited to the ongoing Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Grades and evaluation:
1) Reading assignments: The selected weekly reading assignments are an essential component of this class. Students will be expected to read regularly and be able to comment critically on the contents.
2) Course assignments: 25% class participation (attendance is mandatory); 20% midterm paper; 30% class presentations; 25% final paper
3) Course commitments: Over the course of the semester students will spend 3 hours weekly in class (39 hours); approximately 5 hours weekly on reading assignments and 2 hours weekly on class presentations (91 hours); about 20 hours on research and writing for the midterm and 30 hours on research and writing for the final paper (50 hours).

Objectives:
1) Understand the complex socio-religious and political landscape of Jerusalem in the context of the larger regional conflict from the late Ottoman period through the present
2) Ability to evaluate the relation between cultural heritage and religion in other urban areas of political conflict
3) Familiarity with the recent literature on the subject and ability to navigate the library and other research tools to access to most critical and up-to-date research on related topics
4) Develop the analytical skills to evaluate the readings and develop the communication skills to share the information critically in presentations, papers, and discussions.

5) Ability to read maps, diagrams, plans, sections, 3D models and reconstructions, as well as other visual tools necessary to examine urban landscapes, archaeological sites, and excavations reports.

Inclusion:

Understand Brown University is committed to full inclusion of all students. Please inform me early in the term if you have a disability or other conditions that might require accommodations or modification of any of these course procedures. You may speak with me after class or during office hours. For more information, please contact Student and Employee Accessibility Services at 401-863-9588 or SEAS@brown.edu. Students in need of short-term academic advice or support can contact one of the deans in the Dean of the College office.

Introduction

Tuesday, September 10

Readings:


City Limits and Borders

Tuesday, September 17

Readings and Presentations:


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### History of Archaeological Exploration

**Tuesday, September 24**

**Readings and Presentations:**


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### Educational Establishments and Research Institutes

**Tuesday, October 1**

**Readings and Presentations:**


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### Cultural Heritage
Tuesday, October 8

Readings and Presentations:


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Public Presentation of Sites, Monuments and Artifacts

Tuesday, October 15

Term paper topics due (title and bibliography)

Readings and Presentations:


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Consecration and Desecration of Tombs

Tuesday, October 22

Readings and Presentations:


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Antiquities Trade

Tuesday, October 29

Term paper proposals due (1 page outline)

Readings and Presentations:


Stephany and Bill

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The City of David / Silwan Controversy

Tuesday, November 5

Readings and Presentations:


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The Church of the Holy Sepulchre Controversy

Tuesday, November 12

Readings and Presentations:


The Temple Mount / Haram al-Sharif Controversy

Tuesday, November 19

Readings and Presentations:


Current Affairs

Tuesday, November 26

Readings and Presentations:

Various articles, books and media coverage published during the course of the semester.

Term Paper Presentations

Tuesday, December 3

Term papers due