The course will deal with various issues relating to Israel’s national security. It will touch upon general strategic topics as well as military events, and issues relating to the Israeli-Arab conflict.

The meetings will be based essentially on discussions over articles relevant to the meeting. Each article will be presented by student, and a discussion will follow the presentations. All the material under “discussion in class” will be on the course blackboard’s site. The reading material will be reserved in the library.

In addition to the presentations, each student will write a book review on a book relevant to our course- the book report will not exceed 5 pages.

By the end of the semester each student will submit a paper of no more than 15 pages. The topic of the paper will be decided by the student, in consultation with me.

Deadlines:
- Final assignment: December 10.

The grade for the course will be based on:
1. Participation in class- 30%.
2. The grades on assignments & presentation- 30%
3. The final assignment- 40%.

**September 11. Orientation and introduction**

**September 18. The Foundations of Israel’s National Security Thinking**

Discussion in Class:

**September 25. In Pursuit of Arms**

Discussion in Class:

October 2. Israel and the Nuclear
Discussion in Class:

October 6. Israel’s Foreign Relations
Discussion in Class:

October 20. Israel - US Relations- the Diplomatic Dimension
Discussion in Class:

October 27. Israel’s War of Independence
Discussion in Class:

November 3. The Road to the 1956 War
Discussion in Class:
Motti Golani, “Shall We Go to War? And if We Do, When?” in Efraim Karsh, From War to Peace (London; Frank Cass, 1996), pp. 22-42.


**Discussion in Class:**


**November 17. The War that Changed Everything: the June 1967 War**

**Discussion in Class:**


**November 24. The 1973 War**

**Discussion in Class:**


**December 1. Israel and the Challenge of Counter-Insurgency: the Palestinian Front**

**Discussion in Class:**


**December 8. Military- Civic Relations in Israel**

**Discussion in Class:**


Feel free to call or email (or just bump into me in the corridors) whenever you feel I can help.