

Israel & Palestine: An Applied Workshop in Civil Society, Politics and Conflict Resolution Sample Itinerary and Agenda

Academic Director: Dr. Yehuda Lukacs

Important Note: This document is a sample of the types of meetings, lectures, site visits and dates for the George Mason University Israel and Palestine Internship. Participants will receive an updated itinerary and agenda for their program. The final itinerary is likely to be modified, however it will closely resemble the content featured below.

Day One Jerusalem

Arrival in Israel; transfer to Hotel in Jerusalem

Dinner: 7:00 pm

Day Two Jerusalem

8:30 am – 6:00: Tour of Jerusalem and Old City

Part One: Multiple faces of Jerusalem in the Old City - During this part of the day, we will concentrate on understanding Jerusalem as a city of rich history, and of diverse faiths and cultures, as reflected in the Old City. Temple Mount: Focal point of Sanctity – layers of religious belief. The Moslem quarter; The Jewish quarter; Via Dolorosa and the Christian Quarter. Jaffa Gate and surroundings: the Market, Armenian Quarter and the Citadel.

Part Two: Contemporary Concerns - This part of the tour will focus on various developments following the expansion of Israeli Jerusalem after the Six Day War, in 1967. The tour will outline the complexity of the conflict in today's Jerusalem. "East Jerusalem": villages as neighborhoods, new neighborhoods, the Separation Wall/ Security Fence - Abu Dis, Jabel Mukabar, East Talpiot and Gilo.

8:00 pm: Dinner

Day Three Ramallah

9:00 am: Departure from hotel

10 am: Meeting with Chief Palestinian Negotiator

11:15 am: Presentation by the Negotiation Support Unit on settlements, the Wall, and Jerusalem.

12:30 pm: Visit Al-Amari Refugee camp

3:00 pm: Meeting with Member of Palestinian Legislative Council.

7:00 pm: Dinner

8:00 pm: Lecture at Society for Democracy and Community Development -- Palestinian perspectives on the peace process

Day Four Jerusalem

8:00 am: Depart Hotel; business casual dress

9:30 am: Visit Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs, briefings by Communication Advisor to the Prime Minister and Deputy Spokesman, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

1:00 pm: -Yad Vashem- Holocaust Museum and Memorial. Guided tour of Yad Vashem followed by a lecture: "Relevance of the Holocaust to Contemporary Israeli Society."

7:00 pm: dinner at the hotel

8:00 pm: Briefing by former deputy State Attorney, author of a highly controversial report on the illegal outposts.

Day Five West Bank Settlements

Tour with the Yesha Council - Council of Settlements in Judea & Samaria beyond the green line and meeting with settlers.

7:45 am: Departure from hotel

8:30-9:30: Nachalat Binyamin visitors center, Psagot. Coffee & cake
Light & Sound presentation about the establishment of Judea & Samaria settlements

9:45-10:45: Ofra, Tour of the community, meet with residents

11:15-12:15 Ancient Shiloh, Guided tour through the ancient capital of the Israelite Kingdom

12:15-12:45: Lunch

13:15-14:15: Visit the University of Ariel

15:30: Return to Jerusalem

The Yesha Council is an umbrella organization of municipal councils of Jewish settlements in the West Bank. In addition to municipal and security issues, the Council serves as the political arm of the Jewish residents of Yesha. The Council lobbies for their interests with the Knesset and the government. The Council carries on public relations campaigns for the settlements and has organized several large public protests. <http://www.myesha.org.il/>

4:00 pm: Briefing at the US Consulate - the United States and the Palestine Question

8:00 – 10:00 pm: Debate over ideological Divisions in Israel regarding the Palestinian question with a former Editor-in-Chief, Ha'aretz newspaper and a former Minister for Congressional Affairs, Israeli Embassy, Washington, DC

Day Six Tel Aviv

7:45 am: Depart hotel

10: 00 am: Lecture by a former Editor-in-Chief, Ha'aretz, "Overview of Israeli Foreign Policy."

11:00 am: Tour of the Yitzhak Rabin Museum and workshop on social, political, and religious cleavages in Israeli society.

The Yitzhak Rabin Center is the national institute established by the Knesset that advances the legacy of the late Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, a path-breaking, visionary leader whose life was cut short in a devastating assassination. The Center presents Yitzhak Rabin's remarkable life and tragic death, pivotal elements of the history of Israel, whose impact must not be ignored or forgotten lest risk the recurrence of such shattering events. The Center's mission is to ensure that the vital lessons from this story are actively remembered and used to shape an Israeli society and leadership dedicated to open dialogue, democratic value, Zionism and social cohesion. The Center promotes activities and programs that inspire cultured, engaged and civil exchanges among the different sectors that make up the complex mosaic of Israeli society. More information: <http://www.rabincenter.org.il/>

14:00 pm: Visit the Interdisciplinary Center, Herzliya, our host University

14:00 – 14:45: Lunch (option for a tour at the campus)

15:00 – 15:45: Meeting with Professor of International Relations

15:45 – 16:30: Meeting with students

5:00 pm: Dinner on your own at Tel Aviv Port

8:00 pm: Return to Jerusalem

Day Seven Jerusalem

9:30 am: Tour of settlements, led by a former employee of Peace Now's Settlement Watch

1:30 pm: Lunch at hotel

2:30 pm – Checkout and transfer to the various internship locations

End of seminar week. Internships Begin.

Friday/Saturday, July TBD

Trip to northern Israel. Stay overnight in Achziv – a very rustic beach village community and a hostel near the Lebanese border. BBQ on the beach. Travel on Saturday to the Golan Heights.

Tel Aviv, mid-August

All students arrive by 11:00 am to **hotel in Tel Aviv**

12:00 – 6:00 pm – Student presentations and summation

8:00 pm: Dinner

Checkout and departure from hotel. Travel to the US and other destinations.
WELCOME HOME