



Israel National Defense College
45th Class, 2017-2018

Course Outline

Foreign Policy, Diplomacy and International Relations

Academic Instructor: Dr. Eran Lerman

Instructor in Charge: Mr. Haim Waxman

The Political Axis

The goal of the political axis is to develop political thinking from a broad perspective and to instill awareness of the roles of political tools in the integrated campaign for the security of Israel. The axis is spread over the academic year and its main components are the course "Foreign Policy, Diplomacy and International Relations," the diplomatic-security simulation (in conjunction with the strategy axis), the NATO and EU tour, the "East" tour and the US tour. In addition, the curriculum includes supportive content, such as a course in the Middle East (in cooperation with the defense axis), a negotiation workshop and lectures by senior Israeli and foreign officials.

While the basic course of Diplomacy and Foreign Policy will deal mainly with getting acquainted with the Israeli political system and its perspective, the tours abroad will allow for an in-depth strategic perception of nations and other central players in the international arena, and an understanding of their strategic "otherness", which will also allow for a new way of understanding the Israeli system.

Course Purposes

- a) The introduction of basic concepts regarding historical patterns, the structure of the international system, the development of inter-state relations and the development of today's diplomatic practice.
- b) Familiarization with the sources and characteristics of Israel's foreign policy (and before that – the diplomatic activity of the Zionist movement) and the identification of the main political challenges Israel faces these days.
- c) Deepening the understandings of the mechanisms used to design the policy of the state of Israel and the relationship between the relevant governmental bodies, both in decision making and implementation.

- d) Introducing modern practical diplomacy and the challenges faced by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- e) Inspection of concrete policy issues, for example the interactions between diplomacy and war, and the question of exit mechanisms at times of crisis.

General Instructions

- A. This is a mandatory course for the Master's degree, and it entitles academic credentials (4 hours per week);
- B. The course is based on lectures by Dr. Eran Lerman and guest lecturers. Additional relevant lectures will be presented within the framework of trips abroad and the preparatory meetings, in the course of the visit of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and during preparations for the political-military simulation.

Course Requirements

- A. Your presence and your active participation during the classes.
- B. Submission of a final paper (which meets academic standards), formatted as a 'preparatory paper for a senior decision-maker' on the topic of a selected political issue.

Course and Tour of National Security in the U.S

The bond between Israel and the U.S constitutes a cornerstone within the concept of Israel's National Security. In order to recognize Israel's most significant ally, a course will be held which includes preparatory meetings and a visit to the U.S.

This course will teach us about the U.S and its state apparatus and the main National Security challenges faced by decision-makers.

In addition we will deal with the US-Israel relations, the American Jewish Community, and American social and economic issues, legacy and history.

Furthermore, we will learn about International institutions and organizations which are located in the United States.

Course Requirements

- A. Active participation in lectures prior to trips and tours.
- B. Reading preparatory material.
- C. Writing group summaries of the tour.

Course and Tour of National Security in the "East"

The Goal is to familiarize ourselves with National Security policy in countries that have great importance in the international arena, and great influence on Israel's National Security. It will result in deeper strategic understanding of what characterizes strategic thinking in those countries, and their relations with Israel. This year four educational visits abroad shall take place: Russia, China, India and South Korea. Prior to the visit a comprehensive investigation will be conducted within a team framework.

Course Requirements

- A. The participation in a comprehensive team investigation providing preparation for the tour.
- B. Writing group summaries for the visit.
- C. Writing group summaries for the educational process and tour.

Academic Instructor: Dr. Eran Lerman

A Master's degree course, which credits academic credentials (3 hours per week)

Division of Classes for:
The Foreign Policy, Diplomacy and International Relations Course

Number	Date	Hour	Class	Lecturers
1	7.12.17	08:30 – 10:00	Introduction to Diplomacy - The Historical Aspects	Dr. Eran Lerman
2		10:30 – 12:00	Introduction to Diplomacy - What Changed?	
3	12.12.17	13:00 – 14:15	Preparations for the Visit at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs	
4	27.12.17	08:00 – 17:00	Visit to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs	
5	28.12.17	08:30 – 12:00	Jewish and Zionist Diplomacy	Dr. Eran Lerman
6	4.1.18	13:00 – 14:15	Political Negotiations	Mr. Shalom Turjeman
7		14:45 – 16:00	Modern Israeli Diplomacy	Mr. Ron Prossor
8	18.1.18	08:30 – 10:00	The Political Campaign Against the Iranian Nuclear Program	Mr. Benji Krishna
9		10:30 – 12:00	Introduction to Public Diplomacy	Mr. Noam Katz
10	25.1.8	08:30 – 10:00	Design Mechanisms of Foreign Policy and Decision Making	Mrs. Orna Mizrachi
11		10:30 – 12:00	Course Summary and Preparation for the Final Assignment	Dr. Eran Lerman

Reading Material According to the Davison of Classes:

Lesson 1: Introduction to Diplomacy – Historical Aspects of the World Order

Reading Material:

Mandatory:

- Kissinger Henry (2014), **World Order**, New York: Penguin Press, pp. 49-91.

Optional:

- Ross Dennis (2007), **Statecraft**, New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, pp. 21-28.

Lesson 2: Introduction to Diplomacy – What has changed?

Reading Material:

Mandatory:

- Anton Michael (2017), "**America and the Liberal International Order**", *American Affairs Journal*. Retrieved from <https://americanaffairsjournal.org/2017/02/america-liberal-international-order>

Optional:

- Hocking Brian (2012), Executive Summary, in: **Futures for Diplomacy**, Netherland Institute of International Relations 'Clingendael', pp. 5-14.
https://www.clingendael.nl/sites/default/files/20121030_research_melissen.pdf

Lesson 3: Preparation for the Visit at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Reading material will be handed out separately.

Lesson 4: Visit to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Reading material will be handed out separately.

Lesson 5: Introduction to Jewish and Zionist Diplomacy

- Morris Benny (2008), **1948: A History of the First Arab-Israeli War**, "The United Nations Steps In: UNSCOP and the Partition Resolution", Yale University Press, pp. 37-74.

Lesson 6: Political Negotiations

Reading material will be handed out separately.

Lesson 7: Iran as a Political Rival: Israel's Contribution to the Strategic Struggle

Reading Material:

- Mandelker Sigal (2017, November 8), **Testimony of Sigal Mandelker**, Subcommittee on Terrorism and Illicit Finance.
- Mohammed Arshad, Pawlak Justyna, Strobel Warren (2012), **Special Report: Inside the West's economic war with Iran**, *Reuters*. Retrieved from <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-iran-sanctions/special-report-inside-the-wests-economic-war-with-iran-idUSBRE8BR04620121228>

Lesson 8: Current Israeli Diplomacy

Reading Material:

- Gerstman David (2016), "Israeli Diplomacy: Finding Friends in Improbable places", **The Tower**, 5.6.2016.
<http://www.thetower.org/3332-israeli-diplomacy-finding-friends-in-improbable-places/>
- Danin Robert (2016), Israel among the Nations, **Foreign Affairs**, Vol. 95 No. 4.
<https://ssl.haifa.ac.il/ehost/pdfviewer/,DanaInfo=web.b.ebscohost.com+pdfviewer?vid=1&sid=4f0ca7df-06bc-46d0-8b0b-4ed5d269e5c5%40sessionmgr102&hid=128>

Lesson 9: Public Diplomacy and its Future in the Online Age

Reading Material:

- Christopher Ross, "**Public Diplomacy Comes of Age**," *The Washington Quarterly*, Vol. 25.2, (2010), pp. 73-83.
- Joseph S. Nye, "**Public Diplomacy and Soft Power**," *The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, Vol. 616.1, (2008), pp. 94-109.

Lesson 10: Decision Making Mechanisms in Israel

Reading Material:

- Freilich D. Charles (2006), **National Security Decision-Making in Israel: Processes, Pathologies, and Strengths**, Middle East Institute, pp. 635-663.