Public Corruption in Israel Seminar

Season of Choice

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Office Hours: Wednesdays, by appointment only

General

Public corruption is an inappropriate use of public power to promote the private interests of one in power. The purpose of the seminar is to explore the interfaces between politics, law and public ethics through exploring all aspects of public corruption and the fight against it. In this course we will learn what is public corruption and what causes it; how to fight public corruption; the politics of public corruption and the politics behind the fight against public corruption. In addition, we will address the question of what public ethics is and whether it is fundamentally different from private ethics. The course will include six sessions.

1. Objectives
2. To examine what is public corruption
3. To characterize public corruption in Israel and investigate its development
4. To critically examine several corruption cases that occurred in Israel in recent decades and their impact on society and politics.
5. To discuss matters of public ethics and to what extent can one serve the public without “getting their hands dirty”
6. Score
7. Attendance in class (10%)
8. Active participation in team assignment (10%)
9. Writing assignment (80%)
10. Course Syllabus

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| Lesson  | Date | Topic |
| 1 | 26/2/20/ | Introduction and basic terminology; critical approaches to corruption as well as academic and public attention towards corruption  |
| 2 | 4/3/20 | The fight against corruption and criminal law: conflict of interests; breach of trust and bribery |
| 3 | 11/3/20 | Media and Civic Perspective  |
| 4 | 18/3/20 | The “Defense Argument “ |
| 5 | 25/3/20 | Investigation and legal management of government corruption |
| 6 | 1/4/20 | Summary: The development of the fight against corruption in Israel  |

1. Reading Materials: TBA
2. Writing Assignment:
3. Each participant will be required to write at least one analysis of a case that was handled by law enforcement and to discuss the question of to what extent was the behavior severe; corrupt; criminal. Another question that will be discussed at the seminar is what are the factors that acted to punish those involved in the case and what was their motivation.
4. The assignment will be submitted via the coordinator by April 30th, 2020.
5. Guidelines: Between 6,000-8,000 words; David 14 font, 1.5 spacing. Any exceptions must be coordinated with Dr. Navot or BG Kamin.