

The University of Florida

The Alexander Grass Chair in Jewish Studies; Center for Global Islamic Studies
University of Florida International Center; Isser and Rae Price Library of Judaica
Center for Gender, Sexualities, and Women's Studies Research
Department of Sociology and Criminology & Law

Culture and Conflict in Palestine/Israel

February 1-3, 2020

As diplomatic and military efforts to establish justice and peace in Palestine/Israel have reached a stalemate, we call for a closer look into the cultural sphere – not as a form of escapism but rather as a sphere that might generate potential transformative energies and affect other spheres. The conference brings together scholars of Israel/Palestine from diverse disciplines (including anthropology, architecture, history, literature, sociology, and political science) who share the view that the cultural sphere is a contested terrain, where actions and discourses promote various political goals. They will discuss how architecture, cartoons, cinema, collective calendars, cuisine, dress codes, nightclubs, poetry, popular music, and video art shape and are shaped by political processes.

Program:

Saturday, February 1 (Reitz Union)

5:00 – 7:30 Movie Screening: *Naila and the Uprising*

The movie chronicles the remarkable journey of Naila Ayesh and a fierce community of women at the frontlines, whose stories weave through the most vibrant, nonviolent mobilization in Palestinian history – the First Intifada in the late 1980s.

The movie will be followed by a discussion about cinema as a political tool with the impact producer, Emma Alpert.

Sunday, February 2

9:00 – 10:20: Sounds of Conflict (Ustler Hall Atrium)

Songs of Subordinate Integration: Music Education and the Palestinian-Arab Citizens of Israel, 1948-1980

Oded Erez, Bar Ilan University

Arnon Degani, Ben Gurion University

The Impossible Quest of Nasrin Qadri to Claim Colonial Privilege in Israel

Nadeem Karkebi, University of Haifa

10:30 – 11:50: Gaza – territory and ex-territory (Ustler Hall Atrium)

Reclaiming Gaza's Architectural History in Conflict 1972-1982

Fatima Abreek-Zubiedat, ETH, Zurich

Image Blockade: Approaching the Israeli Palestinian Conflict from an Extraterritorial Prism

Maayan Amir, Ben-Gurion University

12:00 – 13:20: Women's Struggles (Ustler Hall Atrium)

Hijab and Politics? The Muslim Woman's Use of the Veil as a Form of Empowerment during Political Upheaval in the Palestinian Territories and East Jerusalem

Lana Shehadeh, Florida International University

Samira Alayan, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Conditional Empowerment: Palestinian Women Filmmakers in Israel

Amal Jamal, Tel Aviv University

Noa Lavie, The Academic College of Tel Aviv-Yaffa and an Israel Institute visiting scholar at the University of Chicago

2:30 – 3:50: Before 1948 (Judaica Suite)

Commemorating and Constructing "Firsts": Anniversary Celebrations in the Early European Jewish Agricultural Colonies in Palestine

Liora R. Halperin, University of Washington

"Art or Media? Cartoons and the Resistance Aesthetic in Palestine

Jeff Barnes, University of Akron

4:00 – 5:20 Forms of resistance (Judaica Suite)

The Contributions, Opportunities, and Limits of East Jerusalem Cultural Organizations in Palestinian Social Movements and Protests

Hannah Early Bagdanov, University of Notre Dame

“Put that Poem in Prison!": Palestinian Poetry in the Hands of Israeli Politicians

Sheera Talpaz, Oberlin College

Monday, February 3

9:00 – 10:30: Between cooperation and oppression (Judaica Suite)

Palestinian and Jewish Women’s Peace and Interfaith Coexistence: From Formal Workshops to Cooking Kitchens

Patricia Sohn, University of Florida

Political Hipsters: Binational Eros and Cultural Performance in Anna Loulou, Jaffa

Merav Kaddar (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

Daniel Monterescu (Central European University)

10:45 -12:00: Concluding Panel (Judaica Suite)