



AEN Regional Short Course Syllabus
January 7-10, 2020
Hilton DFW Lakes Conference Center
Grapevine, Texas

The Academic Engagement Network's regional short courses are designed to offer AEN members opportunities to learn more about contemporary 21st century Israel, develop strategies related to countering BDS on campus, and network with other interested AEN attendees. The purpose of the course is to assist committed AEN members to become better informed about issues and questions regarding contemporary Israel, in order to enhance their Israel literacy, as well as to bolster the knowledge and skill set of AEN members. Following the course, we hope participants will be empowered to be active as both campus and regional leaders in AEN's efforts to respond to Israel delegitimization and other BDS-related challenges; to counter campaigns calling for the academic boycott of Israel; and to address campus antisemitism when it appears.

Note: Unless otherwise noted below, all events take place in the Ste. Genevieve Room

Tuesday, January 7th

- 4:00-5:45 **Welcome, Overview, Introductions:** Miriam F. Elman and Peter Nelson
- 6:00-7:15 Dinner (Vineyard)
- 7:30-8:45 **Israel and Palestine on Campus:** Miriam F. Elman
Readings:
- Miriam Elman and Asaf Romirowsky, *Postscript: BDS*
 - Blake Flayton, *On the Frontlines of Progressive Anti-Semitism*
- 8:45 Refreshments & Conversation

Wednesday, January 8th

- 7:30-8:30 Breakfast (Windfall Dining Room)
- 8:45-9:45 **How to Meaningfully and Productively Engage Across Difference:** Peter Nelson
- 9:45-10:15 Break (Tribute Foyer)

- 10:30-12:00 **Teaching Israel in the Academy:** Rachel Fish
Readings:
- Rachel Fish, *Bi-Nationalist Visions for the Construction and Dissolution of the State of Israel*
- 12:15-1:15 Lunch (Windfall Dining Room)
- 1:30-3:00 **Israel Politics: Prospects for Peace:** Michael Koplow
Readings:
- Natan Sachs, *Why Israel Waits*
 - Michael Koplow, *What Benny Gantz is Really Signaling*
- 3:00-3:30 Break (Tribute Foyer)
- 3:30-5:00 **Palestinian Politics - Prospects for Peace:** Ghaith al-Omari
Readings:
- Ghaith al-Omari, *Palestinian Succession*
- 5:00-5:45 **Reflections on the day – A Facilitated Conversation:** Miriam F. Elman and Peter Nelson
- 6:00-7:00 Dinner (Vinyard)
- 7:15–9:00 **The Age of Hate: New Left, Old Right, and Islamic Antisemitism**
Keynote: Samuel Edelman (Spicewood)
- 9pm Visit to Grapevine’s historic Main Street – (*Optional*) – Meet in Hotel Lobby at 9:00pm

Thursday, January 9th

- 7:30-8:30 Breakfast (Windfall Dining Room)
- 8:45-9:45 **Discussing Israel Across the Divide:** Michael Koplow (Moderator: Miriam F. Elman)
- 9:45-10:15 Break (Tribute Foyer)
- 10:15-11:30 **Israel Leadership – Historical Perspectives and Contemporary Challenges:**
David Makovsky (via teleconference from Israel)
- 11:45-12:45 Lunch (Windfall Dining Room)
- 1:00-2:30 **How to Teach about Israel and Palestine:** Rachel Harris
Readings:
- Jacob Lassner, *The Path to Genuine Peace?*
 - Rachel Harris, *“Teaching the Arab-Israeli Conflict”*
- 2:30-3:00 Break (Tribute Foyer)

- 3:00-4:30 **Antisemitism and Anti-Zionism:** Ken Waltzer
Readings:
- Kenneth Waltzer with Mark G. Yudof, *Antisemitisms of the Left and Right*
 - Michael Walzer/Joshua Leifer/Michael Walzer, *Anti-Zionism and Anti-Semitism: debate and response*
- 4:45-5:45 **Antisemitism within SJP:** David Patterson and Charles Asher Small
Readings:
- Charles Asher Small, David Patterson, and Glen Feder, *National Students for Justice in Palestine and the Promotion of Hate and Antisemitism on the University Campus* - ISGAP report (short version)
- 6:00-6:45 **Reflections on the Day – A Facilitated Conversation:** Miriam F. Elman and Peter Nelson
- 7:15 Dinner (Austin Ranch-Silver Lake Saloon) – Meet in the lobby at 7:00pm

Friday, January 10th

- 7:30–8:30 Breakfast (Windfall Dining Room)
- 8:45-10:00 **Workshop - Strategies for Responding to the New Realities on Campus:**
 Miriam F. Elman and Peter Nelson
Readings:
- Pamela Paresky and Samantha Harris, *Yes, Anti-Zionism is Anti-Semitic. But It's Still Protected Speech*
 - Bari Weiss, *Antisemites with PhDs Are Harder to Fight*
 - Kenneth Waltzer and Miriam F. Elman, *How Cal Faculty Who Support Israel Boycott Get It Wrong*
- 10:00-10:15 Break (Tribute Foyer)
- 10:15-11:00 **Closing, Reflections on the Short Course & Next Steps - A Facilitated Conversation:**
 Miriam F. Elman and Peter Nelson
- 11:00 **Farewell, distribution of box lunches, and departure**