

Challenges in the Mediterranean Sea

Mondays, 9:15-11:00; Room 2014 Ha'Madrega Building

Dr. Igal Berenshtein, Dr. Yoav Lahahn

"Challenges in the Mediterranean" course will discuss current topics relating to the Mediterranean, from natural sciences, through the humanities and social sciences, to politics and current-day policies. We will discuss ports, marine transportation, Environmental Challenges and gas and oil exploration. Each lecture will be given by an expert in the field and will be accompanied by required reading material.

Assignments and grade composition:

- Participation in the lectures is mandatory*
- Reading assignments (20% of the grade)**.
- Written projects (40% of the grade)
- Debate (40% of the grade)

*The course is frontal, and we expect you all to be in person in the class. If someone is still abroad or unavailable, please contact us directly.

Program updates, announcements, reading material, presentation will be through the **Moodle**.

Date	Title	Lecturer
1.1.2024	Opening lecture	Welcome and introduction to the school by Dr. Yoav Lahahn Marine Geosciences, The Charney School of Marine Sciences University of Haifa Dr. Igal Berenshtein Marine Biology, he Charney School of Marine Sciences, University of Haifa
8.1.2024	Marine Protected Areas connectivity in the eastern Mediterranean, and its potential interaction with natural and anthropogenic stressors.	Dr. Igal Berenshtein Marine Biology, he Charney School of Marine Sciences, University of Haifa
15.1.2024	Following the Phoenicians and undersea archaeological exploration -	Visit in the Hecht Museum

22.1.2024	Gas and oil exploration in the Eastern Mediterranean	Prof. Yizhaq Makovsky Marine Geosciences, The Charney School of Marine Science, University of Haifa
29.1.2024	Renewable energy at sea	Dr. Olga Zlatkin Environment Division, Natural Resources Administration, Ministry of Energy
5.2.2024	TBD	Eyal Rahav
12.2.2024	Energy Developments in Israel & the Resource Curse	Adv. Orin Shefler
19.2.2024	Maritime pollution	Capitan Alex Gerson
26.2.2024	The Politics of Oil and Gas in the Mediterranean Sea	Dr. Elai Rettig
4.3.2024	Potential environmental effects and regulation of the natural gas industry	Dr. Eran Brokovich
11.3.2024	Debates	Yoav + Igal

Reading for every lecture

We will send your questions to the speaker. Therefore, all reading assignments need to be submitted on Thursday's noon before the lectures.

Written assignment

The written assignment will be done in a form of an **expert opinion** intended for a government office, company or any other association on a chosen topic they are interested in promoting in a professional manner.

Your opinion report may take a side, but you need to describe the complexity of the subject by presenting other opinions as well. Ideas from the various lectures should be incorporated in the report. Your essay needs to be clear and well understood by nonprofessional people so they can use the document to promote solutions.

The assignment will be done as a teamwork in groups of up to three students as long as the students are from different departments. The final report should be 3 pages long (not including references) using Times New Roman font, size 12, line space 1.5, and margins of 2 cm. A one-page abstract should be delivered in the middle of the semester.

Debate:

The debate will be based on the written report, which includes a proposition or opposition stand with respect to one of the topics above (or a different chosen topic, approved by the lecturers). There will two groups working on a certain topic (or motion), one as proposition and one as opposition.

Debate format

- Each team presents the other team.
- Proposition opening statement (3 minutes):
- Opposition opening statement (3 minutes):
- Proposition Rebuttal/ continuing argument (5 minutes):
- Opposition Rebuttal/ continuing argument (5 minutes):
- Proposition Closing argument (2 minutes):
- Opposition Closing argument (2 minutes):

Timetable:

22.01.2024- The groups need to send their chosen topic.

05.02.2024- A draft of one page with the main topics should be submitted.

04.03.2024- Submission of the final project.

11.03.2024- Debate.

Topics (all should be related to the Mediterranean Sea):

1. The construction of the Leviathan gas rig.
2. The input of treated water to the sea.
3. The construction of massive fish cages in the Israeli continental shelf.
4. The Israeli fishing reform of 2016.
5. Damming the Mediterranean to mitigate climate change.

** You are welcome to present our speakers (3 min). A bonus of 5% to the Reading assignments will be given. Please send us an email with your name and who would you like to present. The first students to send the email will be chosen.
