

Challenges in the Mediterranean Sea – 2 credits

Course Number: 227.4068

Lecturers: Dr. Igal Berenstein, Dr. Yoav Lehahn

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Course Type: Lectures/Debates

Course Level: MSc/ PhD

Prerequisites: No

Course Description:

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:

1. Participation in the lectures is mandatory (The course is frontal, and the lecturers expect all the students to be in person in the class. If someone is abroad or unavailable, please contact the lecturers directly).
2. Reading assignments (20% of the grade).
3. Written projects (40% of the grade).
4. Debate (40% of the grade).
5. The students are welcome to present the course speakers (3 min). A bonus of 5% to the Reading assignments will be given. The students will need to send the lecturers an email with their names and the speaker they would like to present. The first students to send the email will be chosen.

Reading for every lecture:

The lecturers will send the students' questions to the speaker. Therefore, all reading assignments need to be submitted on before the lectures.

Written assignment:

1. 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.
2. The students' opinion report may take a side, but the students 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. The essay needs to be clear and well

understood by nonprofessional people so they can use the document to promote solutions.

3. 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 below (or a different chosen topic, approved by the lecturers). There will be two groups working on a certain topic (or motion), one as a proposition and one as opposition.

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 on the Israeli continental shelf.
4. The Israeli fishing reform of 2016.
5. Damming the Mediterranean to mitigate climate change.

Debate format:

1. Each team presents the other team.
2. Proposition opening statement (3 minutes).
3. Opposition opening statement (3 minutes).
4. Proposition Rebuttal/ continuing argument (5 minutes).
5. Opposition Rebuttal/ continuing argument (5 minutes).
6. Proposition Closing argument (2 minutes).
7. Opposition Closing argument (2 minutes).