

Zionism & Peace in Israeli Cinema

Instructor: Rami Kimchi
LTWL 180
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Israeli Cinema is currently in the midst of a creative and commercial boom. Acclaimed films such as *Walk on Water* (2004) and *The Band's Visit* (2007) have won awards at festivals all over the world. *Beaufort* (2007), *Ajami* (2010) and *Footnote* (2011) were nominated for the Oscar in the best foreign film category, and *Waltz with Bashir* (2008) was awarded the Golden Globe. Taking into consideration the fact that the Israeli film industry produces only 22 films per a year on average, this is a notable record of success.

What are the reasons for this success?

Starting from the origins of Israeli Cinema, the Course provides a basic introduction to the subject, focusing on the history, ethos, and ideological and artistic advancements in the field, through lectures, readings and discussion.

Some recently produced feature-lengths Israeli films will be screened in full and analyzed .

About the Course Instructor: Dr. Rami Kimchi

Dr. Rami Kimchi is an Israeli culture critic and filmmaker. His films include *Galia's Wedding* (1986), *Travels with My Brother* (1997), *Cinema Egypt* (2001), and *Father Language* (2006), *The Night of Fools* (2014).

His main research interests are Israeli cinema, modern Hebrew literature, Yiddish literature, Palestinian cinema, and Near Eastern cinema. He has published a book - *The Israeli Shtetls – Bourekas Films and Yiddish Literature* (2012, Resling) - and articles in *Shofar*, *Reeh*, *Balshanoot Ivrit*, *Dapim*, *Moreshet Israel* and *Hakivon Mizrach*.

Rami received his PhD in Near Eastern Studies from the University of Michigan, his DEA in Jewish Civilization from Paris University, his MA in Hebrew Literature and his BA in Film Television from Tel Aviv University.

Rami was the winner of the Dov Sadan Prize for Hebrew Literature in 1993 and won prizes for his film *Galia's Wedding* at the International Film Festival in Jerusalem in 1987 (best short film) and the Munich International Film Festival in 1986.

