*Israeli Politics and Society*

**Course Description**

Israel has been one of the few “success stories” in the Middle East. Facing constant challenges and a hostile regional environment, Israel has managed not only to survive but also to build a western parliamentary system, a flourishing economy and a vibrant society. The course provides students with a basic understanding of modern Israeli history, politics and identity, examining major events, like the formation of the Zionist movement and of the Yishuv in British Palestine and the course of Israeli politics following the establishment of the state of Israel in 1948. The effect of the Arab-Israeli conflict and Israel's changing social, religious and ideological profile upon Israeli politics is also examined together with selective issues concerning Israeli foreign policy and its bilateral relations, including Greek-Israeli ones.