NYU TEL AVIV
JOUR-UA 9204
Reporting Armed Conflict
[In-Person / Blended]
IDT Time Zone (UTC+3)

Fall 2020
We know that you may be taking courses at multiple locations this semester. If you are enrolled in this course 100% remotely and are not a Go Local student for this course site, please make sure that you’ve completed the online academic orientation via NYU Classes so you are aware of site specific support structure, policies and procedures. Please contact Dr. Edan Raviv, Assistant Director for Academics (edr248@nyu.edu) if you have trouble accessing the NYU Classes site.

If you are attending this course in person, you will be assigned a seat on the first day and are expected to use that seat for the entire semester due to NYU COVID-19 safety protocol. Please note that you are expected to attend every class meeting in-person; however, this may change at any point during the semester if NYU or local COVID-19 regulations require additional physical distancing.

Instructor Information
- Linda Gradstein
- Office Hours: by appointment

Course Information
- JOUR-UA 9204
- Reporting Armed Conflict
- Prerequisites: None
- Mondays, 1:00-4:00pm (IDT Time Zone; UTC+3)
- NYUTA Academic Center, 17 Brandeis Street, Innovation Studio, 2nd floor
- NYUTA Fall 2020 Academic Calendar
Course Overview and Goals

The course focuses on the objectives, methods and consequences of media involvement in armed conflicts and the importance of armed conflict for the media, in both historical and contemporary perspectives. The aim of the course is to provide tools to analyze and understand different cultural, social and technical aspects of the relationship between the media and armed conflicts, while also maintaining strong practical components – key journalistic skills including developing sources, interviewing techniques and writing. This course includes multiple field visits and interviews with those involved in the local context of Israel/Palestine.

Upon Completion of this Course, students will be able to:

- Create and develop key journalistic skills in interviewing, narrative accounts, personality profiling and policy stories through the lens of conflict in the Middle East.
- Develop an understanding of the challenges, opportunities and unique sense of perspective that reporting from conflict zones provides journalists – and both the rights and responsibilities this comes with.
- Curate a greater understanding of the emergence, operationalization and ending of war through investigation and analysis of a series of Middle Eastern conflict examples.

Course Requirements

Class Participation

Students are expected to attend class regularly and arrive on time -- in person or remote synchronously. Students must complete all assigned readings before the class meeting and be prepared to participate actively in discussions of the readings and current events.

Weekly Study Questions

Each week, a set of study questions pertaining to that week’s readings are posed. These questions are designed to assist students with the weekly reading assignments. Students are required to submit short answers to these questions 8-10 times throughout the semester.

Two Critical Response Papers

Students will compare and contrast two readings on the same topic looking at sources used and arguments made.

Final Paper

Students will write a 1500 – 2000 word feature story featuring at least 4 interviews and 3 photos.
Grading of Assignments

The grade for this course will be determined according to the following formula:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignments/Activities</th>
<th>% of Final Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly study questions</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two critical response papers</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final paper</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Letter Grades

Letter grades for the entire course will be assigned as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>94-100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90-93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87-89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>84-86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80-83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77-79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>74-76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>70-73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>67-69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>65-66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>below 65%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Course Schedule

Zoom links for each class meeting will be available on NYU Classes (only for students approved to participate remotely).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week/Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Assignment Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Topic</td>
<td>Reading Material</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Nov. 9    | Reporting from Afar: Syria                       | Al-Masri, Karam. (2016). *Covering Syria through tragedy and hardship.*  
Kovanen, Inka. (2014). *Syria from afar.*  
<p>|           | Transcript of First Interview Due               |                                                                                   |
|           | Independent Reporting Three Due                  |                                                                                   |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>References</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Course Materials**

All course readings are available on NYU Classes or through links in the syllabus.

**Resources:**

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• Access your course materials: NYU Classes (nyu.edu/its/classes)
• Databases, journal articles, and more: Bobst Library (library.nyu.edu)
• Assistance with strengthening your writing: NYU Writing Center (nyu.mywconline.com)
• Obtain 24/7 technology assistance: IT Help Desk (nyu.edu/it/servicedesk)

Course Policies

Hygiene/Physical Distancing policies
Students will be assigned/choose a seat on the first day of class. For NYU COVID-19 Safety protocols, please use the same seat for the duration of the semester.

Attendance and Tardiness

Studying at Global Academic Centers is an academically intensive and immersive experience, in which students from a wide range of backgrounds exchange ideas in discussion-based seminars. Learning in such an environment depends on the active participation of all students. And since classes typically meet once or twice a week, even a single absence can cause a student to miss a significant portion of a course. To ensure the integrity of this academic experience, class attendance at the centers or online through NYU Classes if the course is remote synchronous/blended, is expected promptly when class begins. Unexcused absences will affect students' semester participation grade. If you have scheduled a remote course immediately preceding/following an in-person class, you may want to discuss where at the Academic Center the remote course can be taken. Students are responsible for making up any work missed due to absence. This means they should initiate email and/or office hour discussions with their instructor in order to address any missed lectures and assignments and arrange a timeline for submitting missed work. Repeated absences in a course may result in failure.

Classroom Etiquette/Expectations

Things to consider:
• Please be mindful of your microphone and video display during synchronous class meetings. Ambient noise and some visual images may disrupt class time for you and your peers.
• If you are not using your cell phone to follow the lesson, cell phones should be turned off or in silent mode during class time.
• Make sure to let your classmates finish speaking before you do.
• Please do not eat during class and minimize any other distracting noises (e.g. rustling of papers and leaving the classroom before the break, unless absolutely necessary)
• If deemed necessary by the study away site (i.e. COVID-19 related need), synchronous class sessions may be recorded and archived for other students to view. This will be announced at the beginning of class time.
• Students should be respectful and courteous at all times to all participants in class. Consider using the chat function or “raise hand” function in order to add your voice to class discussions especially if leaving the video on presents challenges.

Incomplete Grade Policy

An “incomplete” is a temporary grade that indicates that the student has, for good reason, not completed all of the course work. This grade is not awarded automatically nor is it guaranteed; rather, the student must ask the instructor for a grade of “incomplete,” present documented evidence of illness, an emergency, or other compelling circumstances, and clarify the remaining course requirements with the instructor.

In order for a grade of “incomplete” to be registered on the transcript, the student must fill out a form, in collaboration with the course instructor and the academic administration at NYU Tel Aviv. The submitted form must include a deadline by which the missing work will be completed. This deadline may not be later than the end of the following semester.

Academic Honesty/Plagiarism

As the University's policy on "Academic Integrity for Students at NYU" states: "At NYU, a commitment to excellence, fairness, honesty, and respect within and outside the classroom is essential to maintaining the integrity of our community. By accepting membership in this community, students take responsibility for demonstrating these values in their own conduct and for recognizing and supporting these values in others." Students at Global Academic Centers must follow the University and school policies.

The presentation of another person’s words, ideas, judgment, images, or data as though they were your own, whether intentionally or unintentionally, constitutes an act of plagiarism.

NYU Tel Aviv takes plagiarism very seriously; penalties follow and may exceed those set out by your home school. All your written work must be submitted as a hard copy AND in electronic form to the lecturer. Your lecturer may ask you to sign a declaration of authorship form.

It is also an offense to submit work for assignments from two different courses that is substantially the same (be it oral presentations or written work). If there is an overlap of the subject of your assignment with one that you produced for another course (either in the current or any previous semester), you MUST inform your professor.

For guidelines on academic honesty, clarification of the definition of plagiarism, examples of procedures and sanctions, and resources to support proper citation, please see:

NYU Academic Integrity Policies and Guidelines
NYU Library Guides

Religious Observances
Students observing a religious holiday during regularly scheduled class time are entitled to miss class without any penalty to their grade. This is for the holiday only and does not include the days of travel that may come before and/or after the holiday.

Students must notify their professor and the local Academics team in writing via email at least 7 days before being absent for this purpose.

**Inclusion, Diversity, Belonging and Equity**

NYU is committed to building a culture that respects and embraces diversity, inclusion, and equity, believing that these values – in all their facets – are, as President Andrew Hamilton has said, “…not only important to cherish for their own sake, but because they are also vital for advancing knowledge, sparking innovation, and creating sustainable communities.” At NYU Tel Aviv, we are committed to creating a learning environment that fosters intellectual inquiry, research, and artistic practices that respectfully and rigorously take account of a wide range of opinions, perspectives, and experiences; and promotes an inclusive community in which diversity is valued and every member feels they have a rightful place, is welcome and respected, and is supported in their endeavours.

**Moses Accommodations Statement**

Academic accommodations are available for students with documented and registered disabilities. Please contact the Moses Center for Student Accessibility (+1 212-998-4980 or mosescsd@nyu.edu) for further information. Students who are requesting academic accommodations are advised to reach out to the Moses Center as early as possible in the semester for assistance. Accommodations for this course are managed through the site sponsoring the class once you request it.

**Instructor Bio**

Linda Gradstein is Bureau Chief for The Media Line news agency. Previously, she served as Jerusalem correspondent for America’s National Public Radio (NPR) for more than 20 years. She is the recipient of international awards for her work, including the Overseas Press Club Award for her coverage of the assassination of former Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. She was part of a team that won the Alfred I DuPont Award for Excellence in Broadcast Journalism for their coverage of the Gulf War.

Linda holds a BS in Foreign Service and a Masters in Arab Studies from Georgetown University and was a Knight Fellow in Journalism at Stanford University in 1999. Linda speaks both Hebrew and Arabic fluently.