

Palestine Seminar (2024-2025)

Organizers: Youssef El Alaoui (History student), Nicola Brarda (former LILA student), Céline Casali (former Biology student), Neela Cathelain (former LILA student), Bilal Choho (PSE student), Damien Leprince (PSL student), and Lorenzo Zolfanelli (SPCI student)

S1 and S2, 18h-20h (ENS Ulm and Jourdan)

Organized by students and former students of ENS-PSL, this seminar includes about twenty sessions throughout the year.



Rehaf Al Batniji, *Gaza Fisherman*, 2017 (photographer's donation)

Presentation

The Palestine seminar is a continuation of the *Thinking with Palestine* seminar created last year. The seminar is imagined as a response to current events, and to the urgent need to “give the right to a space for reflection and construction, to think about what can be described, in the words of Günther Anders, as supraliminal events, meaning events situated beyond the threshold where human beings are able to conceptualize, or even represent to themselves, the effects induced by the use of tools of destruction”.

Our seminar has a double requirement: that of thinking with Palestine in its History and its current state, while recognizing that Palestine acts as a catalyst for transdisciplinary reflection on international law, geopolitics, economics, art, and on our humanity as such.

This reflective seminar must lead to an understanding, within each proposed theme, of the life of Palestinians, within Palestine and in exile, in the political context of the past and of the present. Furthermore, as members of an academic community, it seems essential to us to understand the realities of higher education in Palestine, the lives of students, and the working conditions of teacher-researchers.

The various sessions will give us the opportunity to present the work of researchers working on Palestine, and in particular that of Palestinian colleagues. Their intellectual and scientific production is all the more valuable as it remains hampered, and sometimes made invisible, by the daily realities of the order imposed by the Israeli state on Palestinians in Palestine.

Finally, the seminar is thought of as a methodological toolbox. The contributions of specialists from a variety of different fields will allow us to work with a plurality of methodological approaches: archival studies, field surveys, participant observations, interviews, literary analyses.

In conclusion, we hope with this seminar to understand Palestine, the world, and us.

This transdisciplinary seminar is supported by four departments of the ENS (the departments of Geography, History, Philosophy and Cognitive Studies) and its sessions reflect the diversity of the disciplines taught there.

First semester program:

Monday, September 16th

Cohen Amphitheater (Jourdan Campus)

“Naqba” theme, and seminar inauguration

Sbeih Sbeih (IREMAM-CNRS), *La condition coloniale en Palestine*.

With **Leïla Vignal** (ENS).

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Monday, September 23rd

Cohen Amphitheater (Jourdan Campus)

Theme: “Intellectuals’ Commitment to Palestine”

Ziad Majed (American University in Paris), *La Palestine, le monde et nous*.

With **Fatiha Kaouès** (EPHE).

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Monday, September 30th

Cohen Amphitheater (Jourdan Campus)

Theme: “International Law”

Ardi Imseis (Queen’s University), *The United Nations and the Question of Palestine: Rule by Law and the Structure of International Legal Subalternity*.

With Professor **Camille Mansour**.

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Tuesday, October 1st

Jaurès Amphitheater (Ulm Campus)

Theme: “International Law”

Ardi Imseis (Queen’s University), *Analysis on the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the illegality of Israel’s occupation, rendered on 19 July 2024*.

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Monday, October 14th

Cohen Amphitheater (Jourdan Campus)

Theme: “Economy and Industry”

Walid Habbas (Palestinian Forum for Israeli Studies), *The Israeli colonial regime in the occupied territories since 1967- An overview*.

Ismat Quzmar (Palestine Economic Policy Research Institute), *The Palestinian economy under Israeli Occupation: economic dependency or colonial subjugation?*

With **Bernard Caillaud** (PSE).

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Monday, October 21st

Dussane Room (Ulm Campus)

Theme: “International Law”

Susan Akram (Boston University), **Ahmed Aboufoul** (Al-Haq Organization), **Omar Kamel**

(Sciences-Po), and Michael Lynk (Western University), *The Implications of the Cases from the International Courts in the Palestine-Israel conflict: a roundtable with experts.*

Monday, November 4th

Cohen Amphitheater (Jourdan Campus)

Theme: “Naqba”

Arlette Khoury-Tadié, *Une enfance à Gaza.*

Friday, November 15th- Postponed in January

Jaurès Amphitheater (Ulm Campus)

Theme: “Historiography”

Ilan Pappé (Oxford), *Title TBC.*

Monday, November 18th

Cohen Amphitheater (Jourdan Campus)

Theme: “Bioethics and Bio-power”

Samirah Jarrar (Aix-Marseille Université), *“Des organes en conflit ? Les transplantations d’organes entre Israël et Palestine.”*

Monday, December 2nd

Cohen Amphitheater (Jourdan Campus)

Theme: “Education and Research”

Maya Wind (UBC), *How Israeli Universities Deny Palestinian Freedom*

Monday, December 16th

Cohen Amphitheater (Jourdan Campus)

Theme: “Intellectuals’ Commitment to Palestine”

Mjriam Abu Samra (Oxford), *Palestinian Youth Revolt: Any Role for Political Parties?*

Second semester program:

Monday, January 20th

Cohen Amphitheater (Jourdan Campus)

Theme: “Arts and Literature”

Sadia Aqsous-Bienstein, “*Arab intellectuals and the Shoah*”. With Emmanuel Szurek (EHESS)

Monday, February 3rd

Cohen Amphitheater (Jourdan Campus)

Theme: “Palestine in the Media”

Pierre Haski and Benjamin Ferron (Université Paris Est Créteil), *Le traitement médiatique de la question palestinienne*.

Monday, February 17th

Cohen Amphitheater (Jourdan Campus)

Theme: “Education and Research”

Ibrahim S. Rabaia and Lourdes Habash (Birzeit University), *The Hidden War on Higher Education: Unmasking the Educide in Palestine*.

Monday, March 3rd

Jaurès Amphitheater (Ulm Campus)

Theme: “Bioethics and Bio-power”

Stephanie Latte-Abdallah (EHESS). *Title TBC*

Monday, March 17th

Cohen Amphitheater (Jourdan Campus)

Theme: “International Law”

Lara Elborn and Emilio Dabed, *The challenges and implications of recognizing the State of Palestine, with the case of France*.

Monday, March 31st

Cohen Amphitheater (Jourdan Campus)

Theme: “Palestine in the Media”

Sami Khatib (American University of Beirut), “*The Ends of the Human Rights Discourse*”: *A Study of the Book After Evil: A Politics of Human Rights (2011) by Robert Meister*.

Monday, April 7th

Jaurès Amphitheater (Ulm Campus)

Theme: “Arts and Literature”

Najla Nakhlé-Cerruti (IREMAM-CNRS), *Faire du théâtre dans la Palestine contemporaine.*

Monday, April 28th

Cohen Amphitheater (Jourdan Campus)

Theme: “Environment”

Mazin Qumsiyeh (Bethlehem University), *Ecocide versus sustainability of human and natural communities: Palestine and beyond.*

Monday, May 12th

Cohen Amphitheater (Jourdan Campus)

Theme: « Environment »

Taher Labadi (Ifpo) and Fadia Panosetti (CECID-ULB), *L’agriculture palestinienne en contexte colonial.*

Monday, May 26th

Cohen Amphitheater (Jourdan Campus)

Theme: « Environment »

Shela Sheikh (University of London), *Mechanisms for conceptualizing and prosecuting ecocide, and giving an overview of work done from Palestine.*

Monday, June 9th

Dussane Room (Ulm Campus)

Chloé Rosner (Centre de recherche français à Jérusalem), *Title TBC*

Clémence Vendryes (IREMAM, Université d’Aix-Marseille), *La fabrique coloniale des espaces funéraires palestiniens.*

With Fabrice Virgili (UMR SIRICE-CNRS)

Monday, June 23rd

Dussane Room (Ulm Campus)

Sobhi Boustani (INALCO), *Ghassan Kanafani et la littérature palestinienne.*