M.A. Cluster Courses:
Policy challenges of the 21ˢᵗ century: People, politics, and power

Fall 2021

From climate change to growing reliance on automation and artificial intelligence, from the changing nature of conflict to diminishing trust in institutions of democratic governance, humanity is facing great challenges that require sophisticated and innovative policy solutions. At the core of these globally interdependent, but often locally regulated issues, are complexities and dynamics of human behavior, national and international politics, and ultimately power.

Anchored in the Faculty of Social Sciences, this cluster of courses provides Israeli and international students with an in-depth dive into the study of a series of such challenges, granting them tools for thinking through and ultimately tackling those challenges in their future careers.

Drawing on the strengths of our faculty and the unique setting of Israel as a hub of relevant innovation, the cluster offers students an in-depth, robust, engagement with cutting-edge major policy challenges.

List of courses

Critical approaches to security studies
Dr. Yehonatan Abramson, Department of International Relations

The economics of terrorism
Prof. Claude Berrebi, The Federmann School of Public Policy and Government

Can the internet be tamed? An introduction to internet governance
Dr. Dmitry Epstein,
The Federmann School of Public Policy and Government and Department of Communication & Journalism

Deep state? The tension between politicians and bureaucrats in modern democracies
Prof. Sharon Gilad, The Federmann School of Public Policy and Government and Department of Political Science

The complexities of contemporary civil wars: Outbreak, duration and termination
Prof. Dan Miodownik, Department of International Relations and Department of Political Science

Birds of conflict: Politics and environment
Prof. Piki Ish-Shalom, Department of International Relations

Public Opinion: Understanding biases in the era of post-truth
Prof. Lilach Nir, Department of Political Science and Department of Communication & Journalism

What makes us tick? Behavioral economics in public policy
Dr. Eyal Peer, The Federmann School of Public Policy and Government

Decision Making: Psychology for Policy Analysis and Implementation
Dr. Roni Porat, Department of Political Science and Department of International Relations