



## Contemporary Israeli Literature

Dr. Miriam Sivan

### Course Description:

Since receiving the Torah at Sinai, the Jewish people have been text oriented and identified. This is no different today. In Israel, where the Hebrew language has experienced a rich renaissance, its literature reflects this historical connection and ongoing metamorphosis. In this course we will read poems, stories, and excerpts from novels by a number of Israel (both Jewish and Palestinian) authors which will provide us with an opportunity to not only examine their literary, aesthetic qualities, but as importantly, will help us to gain insight into the cultural contexts in which these works have been created.

### Course Requirements:

- Weekly Reading Assignments
- Weekly Writing Assignments
- Class Participation
- Mid-Term Exam
- Term Paper

### Final Grade:

Writing Assignments	5%
Mid-Term Exam	45%
Term Paper	50%

### Course Outline and Reading List

Week 1: Introduction and read selected poems (hand-out)

Week 2: Sobol, *The Night of the Twentieth*

Week 3: Yehoshua, "A Poet's Continuing Silence"  
Castell-Bloom, "Ummi Fi Shurl"

Week 4: Kahana-Carmon, "Bridal Veil"  
Liebrecht, "Apples from the Desert"  
Wallach, poems

Week 5: Oz, "The Hill of Evil Counsel"  
Almog, "Dora's Secret"



Week 6: Grossman, excerpt from *See: Under Love*  
Semel, "A Hat of Glass"

Week 7: Kaniuk, "The Vultures"  
Keret, "Cocked and Locked"

### **MIDTERM EXAM HANDED OUT**

Week 8: Shabtai, "Departure"  
Hareven, "Prophet"

### **MIDTERM EXAM HANDED IN**

Week 9: Shalev, *The Blue Mountain*

Week 10: Shalev, *The Blue Mountain*

Week 11: Matalon, "Little Brother"  
Poems by Darweesh, Ali

Week 12: Katzir, "Fellini's Shoes"  
Rubin, "Monologue of a Life Model"