

Comparative Constitutional Law: The Case of Israel (LEGAL STUDIES 174)

Taught by Professor Avishai Benish

The Rosalinde and Arthur Gilbert Foundation Visiting Professor of Israeli Law and Society,
Assistant Professor at the Paul Baerwald School of Social Work and Social Welfare,
Hebrew University of Jerusalem



**TuTh 330-5P, 106 WHEELER
CCN 51671 (4 Units)**

The course will provide an introduction to the comparative study of constitutional law through the lens of Israeli constitutional jurisprudence – a jurisprudence that offers an exceptional case for the role of constitutionalism in in state-building and mediating human rights, security concerns and social tensions. Students will learn constitutional theory and explore major constitutional debates in Israeli contemporary law in a comparative perspective.

Among the constitutional debates that the class will explore are topics such as judicial review, state neutrality and Israel’s identity as a “Jewish and Democratic State”, and the challenges of promoting human freedoms, social and minority rights.

**This course is approved as an elective for the Political Science Major
This course can be an elective for the Jewish Studies Minor and the Middle Eastern Studies
Major and Minor with advisor’s approval**