

Why Palestine Matters

The Struggle To End Colonialism

Grounding Principles for the Course

1. All people have the right to human rights, dignity, and self-determination.
2. All struggles for justice are tied to political, social, and economic structures that define who profits, who is vulnerable, as well as who is on the right or wrong side of the race, gender, religious, class, ethnicity, and nationality line.
3. To dismantle systemic injustice and re-imagine a world where everyone is treated with dignity requires we call out all oppression and connect dots among all justice struggles.
4. Every global struggle to uphold justice, basic human rights and dignity is rooted in and must address systemic economic and structural inequalities. Zionism is a political ideology that is addressed in the book in a global justice context.
5. Violations of Palestinian human rights by Israel are intentional, and a direct consequence of ideological, political, legal, economic, and military systems designed to promote Israel as a Jewish nation state.
6. *Why Palestine Matters* is a curriculum that teaches the politics of colonialism, specifically grounded in settler-colonialism. Historians have shown that Israel is a settler colonial project controlling the lives of the Palestinian population.

Why Palestine Matters follows two previous books and builds on the material in those books:
Steadfast Hope, The Palestinian Quest for Just Peace
Zionism Unsettled, A Congregational Study Guide



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