

Why Palestine Matters

The Struggle To End Colonialism

Tips for Offering a Course

1. Remember that everyone in the class brings a point of view, opinions, facts, and emotions on this issue. This course offers a fresh lens. As facilitator, your job is to create a safe space to read and discuss *Why Palestine Matters*, and to facilitate collaborative learning and advocacy.
2. Please begin to prepare by reading the Discussion Guide in the book on pages 98-101.
3. Decide how many weeks your course will be. On the web site dedicated to the book, Go to the “Discussion Guide” tab in the menu and familiarize yourself with the various options. Reading this carefully will help you understand the choices.
4. Gather 3-4 people from your group or allies to form the core teaching team.
5. Begin consultation with local groups who are or may potentially be interested in planning to hold a course.
6. When you have a commitment from a group or groups to proceed, decide together what content would be most appealing for the participants.
7. Coordinate with your team on calendar and course location logistics.
8. Simultaneously assign some members of the planning group the task of advertising the course and outreach to key allies, while the teaching team designs the weekly course content.
9. As needed, reach out to IPMN members and/or co-editors Noushin Framke, or Susan Landau for support, and with any questions you may have.
10. Copy and assemble handouts, including weekly reading assignments. Confirm that you have whatever audio/video equipment you need, and that all parts are compatible.



Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is this course really about?
 - Palestine being linked to all global justice struggles
 - Settler colonialism
 - Cross-movement organizing
2. Do participants need to have a basic knowledge of the situation in Palestine-Israel?
 - If a participant identifies as strongly pro-Israel, or describes themselves as uninformed on the issue, encourage them to read *Steadfast Hope* and to watch the videos before taking this course. At a minimum, they should watch the episode, Chapter Two, The Big Picture <https://vimeo.com/channels/steadfasthope/103938111>
 - This course has an explicit point of view that Israel is a settler colonial state; Israel is the oppressor and Palestinians are oppressed.
3. Is it necessary that participants attend every session?
 - No, but it is essential that they do all the assigned reading for each week. Make it clear that if they have not done the reading for the week, they can be observers rather than participants in the debate.
4. What is the ideal number of participants for a course?
 - In our experience, 20-25 registered is ideal. There will likely be someone who drops out before the course begins. Taking sickness and schedule conflicts into account, that still leaves about 15 people in each class. Ideally, you can tell participants that their commitment to attend will make everyone's experience richer and more meaningful.
5. Do you charge for the course?
 - We offer the course in complementary spaces, without charge. Factoring in the cost of the book (\$12-\$15), name tags, and a folder with handouts and blank note paper, our customary charge for the course is \$25 per person. If a person already owns a copy of the book, the fee is dropped to \$12-\$13. When it is being offered as part of Adult Ed in a congregational setting, and the books are provided through the budget, encourage participants to find another way of commitment to the course, such as a pledge to attend with an open "head and heart" for learning.

for more informations, please visit:

WhyPalestineMatters.org