

New Directions in Palestinian Studies (NDPS) promotes innovative knowledge production about the Palestinians in and beyond Palestine. Founded in 2013 and housed at the Center for Middle East Studies at Brown University, it is dedicated to supporting emerging and engaged scholars across the humanities and the social sciences who center Palestinians in their research projects.

NDPS hosts annual thematic workshops that showcase research by emerging scholars in a small discussion-driven seminar setting, and that promote the publication of this research in special issues of peer-reviewed journals. The hundreds of workshop participants now constitute a global network of scholars whose work is contributes to decolonizing and globalizing this field of study.

NDPS is supported by an **endowed professorship** (Mahmoud Darwish Chair in Palestinian Studies) and an **endowed post-doctoral fellowship**. The first of their kind in a major research university, these appointments offer undergraduate courses and organize programming around a variety of topics on Palestine and the Palestinians.

NPDS publishes a book series through the University of California Press' open access platform, Luminos. Books in the series, the first dedicated to Palestinians studies, are made available as free e-books as well as in affordable paperback editions.



NEW DIRECTIONS IN PALESTINIAN STUDIES



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2014 Political Economy and the Economy of the Political

Political economy, broadly construed to include a range of approaches from social history to discursive constructions of “economy,” constitutes an enduring perspective that resists the hyper-focus on politics and identity.



2015 Political Cultures and Cultures of Politics

Setting out to fill major gaps in understanding the political experiences of ordinary Palestinians and their mediation by cultural practices, this workshop pushed the “political” beyond its conventional boundaries through both materialist and discursive analyses.



2016 Approaches to Research on Palestine and the Palestinians

This workshop reflected on emerging lines of inquiry on Palestine and the Palestinians, considering the past, present and future of Palestinian Studies as a field—and NDPS as an initiative—and addressing the larger intellectual and political stakes of particular topics, methodologies and paradigms.



2017 The Politics of Archives and the Practices of Memory

This workshop considered Palestinian archival and memorial practices under conditions of colonization and displacement, viewing archives as sites of both appropriation and struggle.



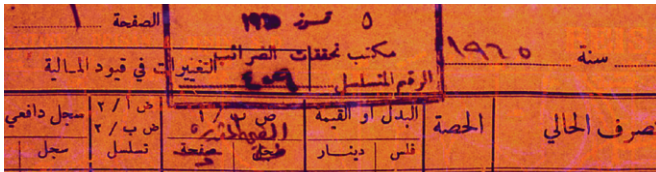
2018 The Shadow Years: Material Histories of Everyday Life

At a time of grim anniversaries—100 years since Balfour, 70 years since 1948, 50 years since 1967—this workshop considered the monumental impact and shadows these events cast over Palestinian history.



2019 Palestinian Homes and Houses

Home is the engine room of Palestinian subjectivities: a site of social relations and emotional investments. Houses are sites of capital investment, the core of the built environment, embedded in property and planning regimes. This workshop examined houses and homes and the relationship between the two.



2020 Who Owns Palestine?

This workshop considered different ways of understanding, claiming, representing and mobilizing ownership in and of Palestine in relation to indigenous practices and contemporary realities.



2023 The Palestinian Revolutionary Tradition and Global Anti-Colonialism

This workshop explored the historic and contemporary manifestations of Palestine’s vibrant anti-colonial revolutionary tradition in its regional and global contexts.



2024 Palestine and the Palestinians after October 7

Three generations (emerging, established, senior) of engaged scholars envisioned how to move forward conceptually and practically as a community. Attendees discussed twelve short think pieces focused on the internal landscape of the Palestinian body politic within regional and global contexts.



2025 (Re)building Lives, Forging Futures

Reclamation, reconstitution, revitalization, regeneration, and resistance in the face of erasure are inherent to the modern Palestinian condition. This workshop examines how Palestinians adapt, survive, and reconstitute themselves in the shadows of events of blinding historic scale.