

# Israel Ambassadors at UCI

## Student Testimonials

2017 - 18

### Jason Pollock



I feel like this class has expanded my mind on the topic of Israel. Also this class gave a new understanding for me on the only Jewish state in the world. It was great.

### Paulina Rubin



I am a very passionate person, so sometimes that leads to me not being very pragmatic. Before taking this class I was only able to express my political through my love and passion for Israel, but now I have the concrete knowledge to use to prove my points. I get less flustered when speaking because I know I have facts on my side.

### Robin Goharchin



I gained a deeper appreciation and passion for Israel advocacy. I think it is incredibly important to learn more about the conflict and be able to communicate the facts about what

### Yehuda Rousso



I grew up as an orthodox Jew and as I went through middle and high school I became less and less observant and stopped caring about issues about Israel. However since I joined Israel Ambassadors I have been much more interested in learning about the issues Israel faces and understanding that the world needs to learn too.

### Noah Stein



I am a Mechanical Engineering student. Last year, I was harassed for wearing a Birthright shirt after one of my engineering lectures by a fellow student. From that incident, I felt I needed to learn more about why a student (who admitted being Palestinian) would approach me. This program introduced me to the timeline of Israel - how we got to this point - as well as many of the events along the way that continue to play a role. This program inspired me to pursue another opportunity in Israel called iEngage (Shalom Hartman Institute). I credit this program with giving me the essential base to build on in learning about Israel, otherwise I would've been initially unaware of many of the topics iEngage discussed.

### Gabriel Blanks



I feel more prepared now to defend Israel's existence, and expose the lies that are prevailing among college campuses. I've also come to understand my responsibility in being proactive and vocal about this subject, because it really is a life and death issue.

### Spencer Wroobel



I was born into a Jewish family that didn't really practice Judaism. Since coming to UCI, I've begun to involve myself in Jewish culture. I feel I benefited from this program by learning more about Israel.



**Lev Vinogradov**

I benefited from this program by learning outside perspectives on Israel from people who do not have to care about it as much as I do. I learned a few ways how to make supporting Israel a cause that anyone be interested in, even if they're not Jewish. I learned a few ways how to make supporting Israel a cause that anyone be interested in, even if they're not



**Liora Wolder**

I always wanted to know about Israel and when ever I was exposed to people with opposite beliefs, I wanted to partake in a conversation about it but never knew the facts to do so. After taking the class I now feel comfortable to stand up for what I believe in and try educate others about this issue.



**Eliana Meyer**

Through this program I was able to amass both new and familiar knowledge, and instructed on the best ways to approach those who are antagonistic towards Israel and her supporters.



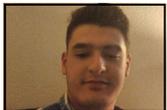
**Ariel Berdugo**

it was important to me to learn the history of the conflict so that i could have a better grasp of the issue. I plan on using my knowledgw to advocate for israel on campus and elsewhere.



**Emelie Mendelsohn**

I have already used many of the facts I learned in this class when approached about the topic.



**Adam Liberman**

This class has allowed me to understand the facts about the plight Israel is in and ways to engage in conversations against people fighting against israle.



**Yasmin Malekzadeh**

It was interesting to gain knowledge about Israel and to be able to discuss topics in this class with the other students. It was eye opening and I really enjoyed it.



**Pele Schramm**

I frequently get asked about Israel, and often about my thoughts and knowledge on the conflict. While I've done a lot of research on the matter independently I gained additional knowledge from this program and a new perspective on how to talk about the topic.



**Maya Lyubomirsky**

I am half Israeli, fully Jewish, and pretty liberal. Before this program I was hesitant about advocating for Israel because I had heard so many awful things that Israel did, and I believed the Palestinians were victims. Yet I still wanted to advocate for Israel's existence. Now I feel comfortable doing so.



**Mahta Reihani**

I am a girl in the Jewish community, that did not know much about Israel's past, but these lessons have helped me get a better understanding of where Israel came from, what are the threats towards Israel, and much more.



**Kevin Brum**

I gained more knowledge about Israel and particularly how to combat some of the more common talking points. I learned more about the history of Israel, the conflict in Israel, and the reality on the ground in Israel.