



2013 Albert & Liese Eckstein Scholar-in-Residence
Dr. Zvi Gitelman, University of Michigan

Can Israel be both a **Democratic** and **Jewish State**?

Monday, February 25, 2013 | 7 p.m.

The Center for Jewish Studies presents the 2013 Albert & Liese Eckstein Scholar-in-Residence lecture. Free and open to all.

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Cutler Plotkin Jewish Heritage Center

Arizona Jewish Historical Society | 122 East Culver Street, Phoenix

[reception following lecture](#)

Prime Minister Netanyahu demands the Palestinians recognize Israel as a Jewish state and outgoing Foreign Minister Lieberman wants Israeli Arabs to take a loyalty oath. With 1.25 million Arab citizens and several hundred thousand other non-Jews, can Israel claim to be both a democracy, meaning all citizens are equal, and a “Jewish state”—a state for and by Jews? Does Israel treat its Arab minority as equal citizens? If not, can it claim to be a democracy? On the other hand, if there is no distinction between Jews and others, in what sense would Israel be a “Jewish” state?

[guest reply requested](#) | jewishstudies.asu.edu/rsvp | 480-727-5151



Dr. Zvi Gitelman is Preston R. Tisch Professor of Judaic Studies at the University of Michigan. He received his doctorate at Columbia University, and his current research focuses on ethnicity and politics, especially in former Communist countries, Israeli politics, East European politics, and Jewish political thought and behavior. Gitelman's most recent book is *Jewish Identities in Postcommunist Russia and Ukraine: An Uncertain Ethnicity* (2012). He is currently working on a project on ethnic relations in the Soviet armed forces during the war and Soviet policy regarding the Holocaust, based on hundreds of oral testimonies of Soviet Jewish veterans of World War Two, and on Soviet archives.

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[map and additional information: jewishstudies.asu.edu/eckstein](#)



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