

Prof. Yonatan Mendel



Prof. Yonatan Mendel is an Associate Professor in the Department of Middle East Studies at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev and the head of the Arabic Language and Culture Division. He graduated from Cambridge University in 2012 and joined BGU in 2018. His main research interests are the position, status, and teaching of Arabic in Israel; Jewish-Arab relations and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict; and the sociology, politics, and practice of translation from Arabic into Hebrew. In the university he teaches a course on Arabic newspapers during the British Mandate; on Language Policy in the Middle East; and a course on the Gaza Strip (history, politics and conflict) which has been taught since 2019 and is the only one on this topic in Israeli academia. Mendel is also a translator and serves as the Associate Editor of Maktoob, a unique book series dedicated to the translation of Arabic literature into Hebrew. He has written extensively about Israeli society and politics and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and his articles appeared among others in Haaretz, The London Review of Books, Le Monde diplomatique, and more.