

University of Rochester – PSC/IR 267
Fall 2017
Monday/Wednesday 2-3:15pm
Bausch & Lomb 106

Identity, Ethnicity and Nationalism

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Office Hours: Tuesdays 1-3pm and by appointment

Teaching Assistant:

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Course Description

This course explores the concepts of identity, ethnicity and nationalism from a comparative perspective. Drawing upon theories from political science, anthropology, sociology and economics, we will examine how identity is defined and how societies use these constructions for, among other things, nation-building, war, and party competition. Theoretical readings will be supplemented with empirical studies from developed and developing countries across different time periods.

Course Requirements

Students are expected to attend lectures every Monday and Wednesday and keep up with the readings. Lectures will be interspersed with discussions of the readings. Regular, active and informed participation is expected. There is an in-class midterm exam (worth 40% of the grade) and a cumulative final exam (worth 60% of the grade) during final exam period. According to the Registrar's website (<https://www.rochester.edu/registrar/assets/pdf/FinalExams-Fall2017.pdf>), the final exam will tentatively be held Monday, December 18 at 4pm. *However, because exam schedules can change, **DO NOT** arrange to leave for break before the end of the exam period. Barring extraordinary circumstances, there will be no make-up midterm or final exams.*

An optional 5-7 page paper can be written for extra credit. The paper topic will be handed out November 13 and due by noon on November 22 (hard copy only, no email submissions accepted). If interested, please contact Professor Meguid in November.

Readings

In this course, we will read a combination of books, book chapters and journal articles. The books are available for purchase at the Bookstore or, alternatively, are on reserve at Rush Rhees Library. Journal articles and chapters in edited volumes are accessible through Blackboard.

Texts available for purchase at the Bookstore

Brubaker, Rogers. Citizenship and Nationhood in France and Germany. Cambridge: Harvard UP, 1992.

Hutchinson, John and Anthony D. Smith (eds). Ethnicity. Oxford: Oxford UP, 1996
(referred to in the syllabus as the *Ethnicity Reader*)

Hutchinson, John and Anthony D. Smith (eds). Nationalism. Oxford: Oxford UP, 1994
(Referred to in the syllabus as the *Nationalism Reader*)

Novic, Sara. Girl at War. New York: Random House, 2016

Waters, Mary. Ethnic Options. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1990.

Academic Honesty Policy

All assignments and activities associated with this course must be performed in accordance with the University of Rochester's Academic Honesty Policy. More information is available at: www.rochester.edu/college/honesty

August 30: Course Introduction

Ethnicity Reader, Chapter 4 (Eriksen).

NB: No class on Sept 4 (Labor Day)

SECTION I: ETHNICITY**September 6 and 11: What is Ethnicity and Ethnic Identity? Primordialist and Constructivist Approaches to Ethnic Identity**

Ethnicity Reader: Chapter 6 (Geertz), Chapter 12 (Barth), Chapter 7 (Eller and Coughlin) and Chapter 9 (Van den Berghe).

“Cumulative Findings in the Study of Ethnic Politics.” Symposium in APSA-CP, Winter 2001. Essays by Chandra, Wilkinson and Van Evera.

September 13, 18 and 20: Variations on Ethnic Constructivism

Anderson, Benedict, Imagined Communities. London: Verso, 1983. pages 1-65.

Ethnicity Reader, Chapter 15 (Hechter).

Bates, Robert H. “Modernization, Ethnic Competition and the Rationality of Politics in Contemporary Africa.” In State versus Ethnic Claims: African Policy Dilemmas. Eds. Donald Rothchild and Victor Olorunsola. Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 1983. 152-171.

Trevor-Roper, Hugh. “The Invention of Tradition: The Highland Tradition of Scotland.” In The Invention of Tradition. Eds. Eric Hobsbawm and Terence Ranger. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 1983.

September 25 and 27: Variations on Ethnic Constructivism II

Laitin, David. “Hegemony and Religious Conflict.” In Bringing the State Back In. Ed. R.B. Evans, D. Rueschmeyer, and T. Skocpol. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 1985. 285-316.

Posner, Daniel. “The Political Salience of Cultural Difference: Why Chewas and Tumbukas Are Allies in Zambia and Adversaries in Malawi.” American Political Science Review. 98.4 (2004): 529-545.

Waters, Mary. Ethnic Options. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1990. Chapters 1-3.

October 2 and 4: Is Ethnicity a Special Identity?

Htun, Mala. “Is Gender like Ethnicity? The Political Representation of Identity Groups.” Perspectives in Politics. 2.3(2004): 439-458.

NB: no class October 9 (Fall break)

SECTION II: NATIONALISM

October 11: What is Nationalism? How Does it Differ From Ethnic Pride?

Nationalism Reader. Chapter 1 (Renan), Chapter 2 (Lenin), Chapter 3 (Weber)

October 16 and 18: Approaches to Nationalism

Nationalism Reader. Chapter 8 (Kedourie), Chapters 9 and 10 (Gellner), Chapter 11 (Nairn), Chapter 12 (Hobsbawm).

Lenin, V.I. The Right of Nations to Self-Determination: Select Writings. New York: International Publishers, 1951. pp 65-85.

October 23 and 25: Citizenship as a Determinant of Nationalism?

Brubaker, Rogers. Citizenship and Nationhood in France and Germany. Cambridge: Harvard UP, 1992. Entire.

October 30: Review for Midterm

No additional reading

November 1: In-class Midterm.

SECTION III: ETHNICITY AND NATIONALISM AS INDEPENDENT VARIABLES

November 6, 8, 13 and 15: Ethnic War

Glenny, Misha. The Balkans: Nationalism, War, and the Great Powers 1804-2011. London: Penguin, 2012. Map before Introduction (The Balkans, 1945-89, and The Former Yugoslavia, 1999), Chapter 9 (pp. 634-662)

Novic, Sara. Girl at War. New York: Random House, 2016. Entire

November 20, 27 and 29: Nationalist War

Parsons, Michael. The Falklands War. Sutton Publishing, 2000. Entire.

Cutts Dougherty, Katharine, Margaret Eisenhart and Paul Webley. "The Role of Social Representations and National Identities in the Development of Territorial Knowledge: A Study of Political Socialization in Argentina and England." American Educational Research Journal. 29.4(1992): 809-835.

NB: no class Wednesday, November 22

December 4: Governmental Systems and State Structure

Lijphart, Arend. 2004. "Constitutional design for divided societies." *Journal of Democracy* 15(2): 96-109.

Chandra, Kanchan. 2005. "Ethnic parties and democratic stability." *Perspectives on Politics* 3(2): 235-252.

December 6, 11 and 13: Ethnicity, Nationalism and Party Politics

Meguid, Bonnie M. *Party Competition between Unequals: Strategies and Electoral Fortunes in Western Europe*. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2008. Chapters 2, 6 and 7.

****Note: There is a cumulative final exam. See Registrar's website for date and time.**