

University of Rochester – PSC/IR 267
Spring 2022
Monday/Wednesday 2-3:15pm
B and L 106
Zoom link for January: <https://rochester.zoom.us/j/98798504992>

Identity, Ethnicity and Nationalism

Professor Meguid
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Office Hours: Tuesdays 4-6pm via ZOOM and by appointment

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. The Registrar has not yet set the final exam schedule. Therefore, *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 March 30 and due by noon on April 7 (hard copy only, no email submissions accepted). If interested, please contact Professor Meguid in March.

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

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*)

Meguid, Bonnie M. Party Competition between Unequals: Strategies and Electoral Fortunes in Western Europe. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2008.
(available as e-reserve at Rush Rhees).

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

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

This course follows the College credit hour policy for four-credit courses. This course meets twice weekly for 3 academic hours per week. The course also includes independent out-of-class assignments for 50 minutes per week. In this course, students will complete the enriched independent study activities using readings and other class materials. These activities include reading articles about course topics in the newspaper and watching films. Such activities will be listed in the weekly assignments below.

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

In this course, the following additional requirements are in effect:

You are encouraged to discuss course readings and lectures with your fellow students. However, all written work – exams or papers – must be done independently and not in collaboration with another.

Disability Resources

The University of Rochester respects and welcomes students of all backgrounds and abilities. In the event you encounter any barrier(s) to full participation in this course due to the impact of disability, please contact the Office of Disability Resources. The access coordinators in the Office of Disability Resources can meet with you to discuss the barriers you are experiencing and explain the eligibility process for establishing academic accommodations. You can reach the Office of Disability Resources at: <http://disability@rochester.edu>; (585) 276-5075; Taylor Hall.

Pandemic Policies

In light of the challenges posed by the pandemic, I encourage all students to communicate with me as promptly as possible any concerns they have about missing class for illness/quarantine and for meeting class deadlines. The goal of this class is to remain as rigorous and fair as possible, while also allowing for enough flexibility for students to do their best work despite the difficult circumstances.

NB: No class on January 17 (MLK Jr Day)

SECTION I: ETHNICITY**January 12 and 19: Course Introduction and What is Ethnicity and Ethnic Identity? Primordialist and Constructivist Approaches to Ethnic Identity**

Ethnicity Reader: : Chapter 4 (Eriksen), 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.

<https://rochester.box.com/s/80awywireuszt58ejf4rek3a6f43yzxj>

For the independent out-of-class assignment: Read the *NY Times*, *Wall Street Journal* or *Washington Post* for 50 minutes this week, focusing on articles about ethnicity.

January 24 and 26: Variations on Ethnic Constructivism

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

<https://rochester.box.com/s/fyl532yn0vk5yhw4z2ojsi6hf4ly18pw>

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.
<https://rochester.box.com/s/am24p8adyznfz0mf45bj8f1m9rzkr16m>

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.
<https://rochester.box.com/s/if9znorrf0d8iwv7nnllm71kx2ei2on4>

For the independent out-of-class assignment: watch one of the videos in the Blood and Belonging series. More information about the streaming video choices will be handed out this week.

January 31 and February 2: 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.
<https://rochester.box.com/s/t7hs4tnze7rp9q81oyn4o690qsfkuehz>

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.
<https://rochester.box.com/s/ahkdqm5bfsxmusic112ouczm5nugbd83>

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

For the independent out-of-class assignment: Read a non-US newspaper for 50 minutes this week, focusing on articles about ethnicity.

February 7: 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.
<https://rochester.box.com/s/sbla8pll27742xx42zjfwk6qgcn6yv6t>

For the independent out-of-class assignment: Read the *NY Times*, *Wall Street Journal* or *Washington Post* for 50 minutes this week, focusing on articles about gender politics.

SECTION II: NATIONALISM**February 9: What is Nationalism? How Does it Differ From Ethnic Pride?**

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

February 14, 16 and 21: 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.

<https://rochester.box.com/s/2185hz951vivebugcfpzvzyxmvivno2h>

For the independent out-of-class assignment: Read the *NY Times*, *Wall Street Journal* or *Washington Post* for 50 minutes this week, focusing on articles about national identity.

February 23, 28 and March 2: Citizenship as a Determinant of Nationalism?

Shevel, Oxana. "The Politics of Citizenship Policy in New States." *Comparative Politics*. 41.3(2009): 273-91.

<https://rochester.box.com/s/9p6u5dz18ybrj6g92q6azx3bx53gxcdl>

Howard, Marc Morjé "The Impact of the Far Right on Citizenship Policy in Europe." *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*. 36.5(2010): 735-51.

<https://rochester.box.com/s/lwzj2izivkken3o23h3aubg01ymnx082>

Additional Reading TBD

For the independent out-of-class assignment: Choose a country (not the US or a European country) and look up its citizenship and nationalization requirements.

NB: Spring Break: No class March 7 and 9

March 14: Review for Midterm

No additional reading

March 16: In-class Midterm.

SECTION III: ETHNICITY AND NATIONALISM AS INDEPENDENT VARIABLES

March 21, 23 and 28: 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)

<https://rochester.box.com/s/8co8k0u6rlnflrzdknuspbmuk9yefr0a>

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

For the independent out-of-class assignment: Watch the film Hotel Rwanda.

March 30 and April 4 and 6: Nationalist War

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

<https://rochester.box.com/s/bq4oah23hom8wrgd31kdec2oq4p5jj3p>

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.

<https://rochester.box.com/s/gka2hwhh8by4xz6jsyqbs6emq99ikwf6>

For the independent out-of-class assignment: Read articles on the Falklands War and the continuing struggle between the UK and Argentina over this set of islands.

April 11 and 13: Party Politics and Ethnic Parties

Horowitz, Donald L. Ethnic Groups in Conflict. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1985. Chapter 7

<https://rochester.box.com/s/uxbsizvqyljrpjf7dl0t6dptnm8tj9d0>

Meguid, Bonnie M. Party Competition between Unequals: Strategies and Electoral Fortunes in Western Europe. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2008. Chapters 2 and 7. (*e-reserve at Rush Rhees*)

For the independent out-of-class assignment: Read the *NY Times*, *Wall Street Journal* or *Washington Post* for 50 minutes this week, focusing on articles about ethnic parties.

NB: No class on April 20

April 18 and 25: Party Politics and “Nationalist Parties”

Norris, Pippa and Ronald Inglehart. Cultural Backlash. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2019. Chapter 4.

<https://rochester.box.com/s/lwzj2izivkken3o23h3aubg01ymnx082>

Meguid, Bonnie M. Party Competition between Unequals: Strategies and Electoral Fortunes in Western Europe. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2008. Chapters 1 and 6.
(e-reserve at Rush Rhees)

For the independent out-of-class assignment: Read

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/wp/2016/03/11/its-not-just-trump-authoritarian-populism-is-rising-across-the-west-heres-why/?utm_term=.33b198f42629.

April 27: Course Wrap-up and Review

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