

REL246/INTR 246

Religious Nationalism

Morey 502

T&Th 14:00-15:15

Aaron W. Hughes

Office Hours (zoom): Friday, 11:00-12:00 or by appointment

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Course Description

Recent years have seen a renewed sense of nationalism, only this time tinged with an underlying and powerful religious dimension. This class seeks to illumine this religious nationalism from a comparative perspective. Using an analytical frame, we will examine the historical rise of religious nationalism, its key elements and defining features, before examining a set of particular case studies (e.g., India, Pakistan, Iran, the United States).

Textbooks:

Mark Juergensmeyer, *Global Rebellion*

Peter van der Veer, *Religious Nationalism: Hindus and Muslims in India*

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is a fundamental university value. Through the honest completion of academic work, students sustain the integrity of the university while facilitating the university's imperative for the transmission of knowledge and culture based upon the generation of new and innovative ideas

Grading

This is a discussion-based seminar that is geared towards conversation. To facilitate discussion, final grades will be divided as follows:

Attendance and Participation	25%
Class IQs** (SUBMIT THROUGH BLACKBOARD)	25%
Reflection Papers (x2)	50%

**IQ= idea and question. Each class you are required to submit –typed, double spaced—a *detailed and informed* question and an idea about the reading/documentary/movie. These will form the basis of our conversation. Both the idea and the question should emerge from the particular text we are reading that day and should try to connect the reading to the documentary or movie that we will watch for that class.

Schedule of Classes

Week One

01/18 Introductions

Week Two

01/23 **no class**

01/25 watch: Jesus Camp

Week Three

01/30 read: (1) Juergensmeyer, *Global Rebellion*, introduction and ch. 1 (1-38)
(2) van der Veer, *Religious Nationalism*, preface (ix-xvi)

02/01 Religion without Nationalism
watch: "The Mission" (2.5 hours)

Week Four

02/06 Nationalism without Religion
read: on Quebec (pdf)
watch: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rHAOpGv-NQ8> (70 mins)

India

02/08 read: <https://www.bjp.org/manifesto2019> click the English manifesto

Week Five

02/13 read: Juergensmeyer, *Global Rebellion*, 103-115
watch: Ram Ke Naam (75 mins)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GMT18TMNQbY&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR0ovbh4M003ZSL4mKSfLa2HivVSH0R46vbJTmZg3mB6wN20anOSPJRk1p4>

<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/opinion/article-narendra-modi-is-forging-a-hindu-nation-in-the-worlds-largest/>

02/15 read: van der Veer, *Religious Nationalism*, 1-24; 56-77
watch: *The World Before Her* (amazon)
interesting pairing: <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/01/11/us/how-white-evangelical-christians-fused-with-trump-extremism.html?fbclid=IwAR2v1rrAJKBeYp5P4JR9HwcWjPSbnAnu0g7ju7N8HeBskMABqsFz1jT2dY0>

Week Six

02/20 **no class, but lots to do for**

02/22 read: van der Veer, *Religious Nationalism*, 79-191
watch: Final Solution (2.5 hours)
https://cjp.org.in/final-solution/?fbclid=IwAR1TOPWO3_iGYzyB9XcQum4YMpcVfi3B_SwV6TOTMWEgoX1F9BLv_rwm74Q

Week Seven

Iran

02/27 read: <https://www.al-islam.org/cursory-glance-theory-wilayat-al-faqih-muhammad-taqi-misbah-yazdi/chapter-1-wilayat-al-faqih>

watch: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SJzuRf3Pyjk> (43 mins)

02/29 watch: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DdsFrwJb8NM> (1 hour)

Week Eight

03/05 **no class:** work on midterm assignment

03/07 **no class:** work on midterm assignment

Week Nine

SPRING BREAK

Week Ten

Middle East

03/19 read: Israel's Declaration of Independence; and Hamas Charter
(https://avalon.law.yale.edu/20th_century/hamas.asp)

03/21 read: Juergensmeyer, *Global Rebellion*, 54-72
Watch: Forever Pure (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Z9eEqctAGI>)

Week Eleven

03/26 read: Juergensmeyer, *Global Rebellion*, 193-211
watch: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2wY_URYzvw8&bpctr=1610764550
(1 hour)

03/28 **no class**

Week Twelve

U.S.

04/02 Robert N. Bellah, "Civil religion in America" *Daedalus* 96:1 (1967): 1-21
Watch: *Hail Satan?* (Hulu)

04/04 read: Juergensmeyer, *Global Rebellion*, 182-192
watch: *The Most Hated Woman in America* (Netflix)

Week Thirteen

04/09 read: Juergensmeyer, *Global Rebellion*, 212-243
Watch: 'Til Kingdom Come (Amazon)

04/11 read: <https://www.prrri.org/research/a-christian-nation-understanding-the-threat-of-christian-nationalism-to-american-democracy-and-culture/>

<https://www.pewresearch.org/short-reads/2022/07/05/10-facts-about-religion-and-government-in-the-united-states/?fbclid=IwAR1gSALBmjAfH2fPsI9BzRP0wWcqagTQnpRGgpglPl1RQtazUIi1HeH9SOg>

Week Fourteen

04/12 read: https://www.brookings.edu/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/gs_20230202_white_christian_nationalism_transcript.pdf

04/14 watch again : Jesus Camp (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zG1o95oqkqI>)
pairing: <https://www.theguardian.com/film/2016/jul/06/jesus-camp-christian-documentary-kids-10-years-later>
and
https://www.nytimes.com/2022/04/06/us/christian-right-wing-politics.html?campaign_id=2&emc=edit_th_20220407&instance_id=57814&nl=todaysheadlines®i_id=46409048&segment_id=87746&user_id=c73f72afb6c3b87f1f7cccdbfb0fd9af

Week Fifteen

04/19 TBA

