

**Syllabus for GOV 278**  
**NATIONALISM**  
**Fall 2007**

**Instructor:**

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Office: PAC 416

Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 3 to 5 pm, by appointment.

**Contents:**

This course analyzes the origins and transformation, contradictions and problems of nations and national movements. Its main aim is to provide an understanding as to why world politics are organized around state structures and national identities. In addressing this question it analyzes the definition of state and nation, the relationship between both concepts, the forces that motivated the appearance and spread of nation-states, the process through which national identities are formed, maintained and transformed. It studies the emergence of secessionist movements and ethnic violence, as well as the ability of institutional structures to contain and channel national conflict. It illustrates these processes through the comparative study of several case studies such as France, USA, Germany, Italy, Catalonia, Basque Country, Quebec, Northern Ireland, USSR, Yugoslavia, Algiers, Rwanda and India.

**Assessment:**

There are no specific requirements to take this course. The format of the course is lecture-discussion. Class participation is an **ESSENTIAL** component of the final grade. It involves both attendance and active participation in class discussion. In order to facilitate participation, students are required to write a one-page response to the readings each week and post it by Monday night on the course's blackboard. **Class participation** accounts for 30% of the student's final grade.

In addition, students will write **two essays** addressing questions provided by the professor. Essays will be 6 to 8 pages in length and are due on the dates specified below. Each essay is worth 20% of the grade.

Finally, there will be an in-class **final exam** at the end of the semester. It will account for the remaining 30% of the course's grade.

Alternatively, students who have specific interests on a particular question or area may write a research paper on that topic instead of the two essays. The requirements for this option are that they are not writing it for another class, to consult and get approval by the professor on the narrow research question they will conduct research on, and that the paper actually involves some degree of primary data analysis –this option is mainly reserved for senior students.

Students are also encouraged to take pictures of any display of nation-building and state-building processes that they may encounter in their daily lives, in the US or abroad. Please bring any such pictures to class and share. It will contribute to your participation part of the grade.

**Course materials:** All reading materials will be posted on-line (ERes) at least one week before the assigned date. There will also be a copy of each week's readings on reserve in the library.

In addition you can find copies of the following books at Broad Street Bookstore:

Ernest Gellner (2006) *Nations and Nationalism*. Cornell University Press  
Benedict Andersen (1999) *Imagined communities*  
Anthony Smith (1998) *Nationalism and Modernity*. Oxford University Press  
Eugene Weber (1976) *Peasants into Frenchman: the Modernization of Rural France*  
Hobsbawm (1992) *Nations and Nationalism since 1780*.

## **Week 1**

### **Tuesday, September 4<sup>th</sup>**

Definitions: terms, processes and institutions.

What is a nation? What is a state? How are they built? What is a nation-state? And a state-nation? What is federalism?

Ernest Gellner (1983 –maybe re-edition 2006) “Definitions” Chapter 1 in *Nations and Nationalism*, Cornell University Press, pp. 1-8

### **Thursday, September 6<sup>th</sup>**

The formation of group identity

What is national identity? How does it relate to other types of identity?

Anthony Smith (1991) “National and other identities” and “Nationalism and cultural identity”, in *National Identity*, chapters 1 and 4 (pp. 1-19 and 71-99).

Max Weber (1978) “Ethnic groups” in *Economy and Society*, vol. 1, pp. 385-398.

## **Week 2**

### **Tuesday, September 11<sup>th</sup>**

Primordial accounts of identity

Anthony Smith (1998) “Primordialism and perennialism” Chapter 7 in *Nationalism and Modernity*. Oxford University Press, pp. 145-170.  
(optional chapter 8)

Walker Connor “Man is a national animal” in *Ethnonationalism* pp. 195-209

### **Thursday, September 13<sup>th</sup>**

Constructivist accounts

Ernest Gellner (1983 –maybe re-edition 2006) Chapters 2-5 in *Nations and Nationalism*, Cornell University Press, pp. 8-63.

Anthony Smith (1998) “Culture of industrialism” and “Capitalism and nationalism” Chapters 2 and 3 in *Nationalism and Modernity*. Oxford University Press, pp. 27-70.

### **Week 3**

#### **Tuesday, September 18<sup>th</sup>**

The nation as artifact

Benedict Andersen (1999) *Imagined communities*, chapters 1-7, pp. 1-140.

Anthony Smith (1998) “Invention and imagination” chapter 6 in *Nationalism and Modernity*. Oxford University Press, pp. 117-143.

### **Thursday, September 20<sup>th</sup>**

Instrumentalist accounts: Marxism

Anthony Marx (1996) “Race making and the nation-state” *World Politics*, v. 48, n.2, p. 180-208.

Eva Bonacich (1980) “Class approaches to ethnicity and race” *Insurgent Sociologist*, n. 10 (1980), p. 8-22.

### **Week 4**

#### **Tuesday, September 25<sup>th</sup>**

Instrumentalist accounts: rational choice

Michael Hechter (1995) “Explaining nationalist violence” in *Nations and Nationalism: a Journal of the Association for the Study of Ethnicity and Nationalism*, vol.1, Issue 1, pages 53-68.

Michael Hechter and Margaret Levi (1985) “A rational choice approach to the rise and decline of ethnoregional political parties” in EA Tiryakian et al eds., *New Nationalisms of the Developed West*. Boston, Allen and Unwin, pp. ??

**Thursday, September 27<sup>th</sup>**

Discussion - Europa, Europa

**Week 5 –First paper due**

**Tuesday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Stages of nationalism: nationalism as novelty

Eric Hobsbawm (1992) *Nations and nationalism since 1780*, chapters 1-3. pp. 14-101.

Michael Hechter (2002) “Indirect Rule and the Absence of Nationalism” in *Containing Nationalism*. Oxford. pp. 35-69.

**Thursday, October 4<sup>th</sup>**

France as first nation

Eugene Weber (1976) *Peasants into Frenchman: the Modernization of Rural France*, part I and II (specially 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 10-20).

**Week 6**

**Tuesday, October 9<sup>th</sup>**

Or USA as first nation?

S.M. Lipset (2003) *The First New Nation*. Originally from 1963. Part I, pp. 13-98.

Michael Walzer (1990) “What does it mean to be an ‘American’?” *Social Research*, n. 57, pp. 591-614.

Minxin Pei (2003) “The Paradoxes of American Nationalism” *Foreign Policy*

**Thursday, October 11<sup>th</sup>**

Successive transformations of nationalism

Eric Hobsbawm (1992) *Nations and nationalism since 1780*, chapters 4-5, pp. 101-162.

Liah Greenfield (2000) “Nationalism: Five roads to modernity” in Anthony Smith et al. eds., *Nationalism: Critical Concepts in Political Science*, Vol 2. Routledge. pp. 558-587.

## **Week 7**

**Thursday, October 18<sup>th</sup>**

France and Germany: From civic to ethnic nationalism

Rogers Brubaker (1990) "Immigration, citizenship and nation-state in France and Germany" *International Sociology*, no. 5, pp. 379-407.

Stephen Schulman (2002) "Challenging the civic/ethnic West/East dichotomies in the study of nationalism" *Comparative Political Studies*.

## **Week 8**

**Tuesday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>**

Nations against the state: More common in developed democracies?

Link to Levi's

Michael Keating (2002) *Nations Against the State: the New Politics of Nationalism in Quebec, Catalonia and Scotland*. Pelgrave, pp. 49-76.

Donald Horowitz (2004) "A right to secede?" in Stephen Macedo and Allen E. Buchanan eds. *NOMOS XLV: Secession and Self-Determination*. New York University Press, pp. 50-76.

**Thursday, October 25<sup>th</sup>**

Catalonia and Quebec

Linz, Juan J. (1973) "Early State-Building and Late Peripheral Nationalisms Against the State: The Case of Spain," in S.N. Eisenstadt and Stein Rokkan, eds. *Building States and Nations: Analyses by Region*, Volume Two. Beverly Hills, Sage Publications, pp. 32-116.

Hudson Meadwell (1993) "The Politics of Nationalism in Quebec" *World Politics*, 45, 2, pp. 203-241.

## **Week 9**

**Tuesday, October 30<sup>th</sup>**

Post-colonial nationalism

The introduction of the self-determination

Frantz Fanon (1963) *The Wretched from the Earth*. NY: Grove Press. pp. 35-94 and 148-205.

Discussion of Movie: *The Battle of Algiers*.

**Thursday, November 1<sup>st</sup>**

The impact of post-colonial nationalism in other nations: Basque Country and Northern Ireland

Conversi, Daniele (1997) *The Basques, the Catalans and Spain: Alternative Routes to Nationalist Mobilisation*. London: Hurst, pp. 222-256.

Richard Rose (1990) "Northern Ireland: The Irreducible Conflict" in Joseph Montville (ed.) *Conflict and Peacemaking in Multiethnic Societies* (1990), chapter 9.

**Week 10 –Second paper due**

**Tuesday, November 6<sup>th</sup>**

The Politics of Identity in post-colonial states today

Bruce Brennan et al. (2004) "Ethnicity and the Politics of Nation-Building in Africa" chapter 1 in *Ethnicity and Democracy in Africa*, pp. 1-21.

Donald Horowitz (2000) *Ethnic Groups in Conflict*, Second Edition. University of California Press. Chapters 4-5 , pp. 141-228.

**Thursday, November 8<sup>th</sup>**

The cases of Rwanda and India

Helen Hintjens (1999) "Explaining the 1994 genocide in Rwanda" *Journal of Modern African Studies*, 37, 2, pp. 241-286.

Rudra Sil (2000) "India" in Kopstein and Lichbach (eds.) *Comparative Politics: Interests, Identities and Institutions in a Changing Global Order*. Cambridge University Press, pp. 307-347.

**Week 11**

**Tuesday, November 13<sup>th</sup>**

Nationalism and Communism in Theory

Roman Szporluk (1991) *Nationalism and Communism: Karl Marx versus Friedrich List*. Oxford, pp. 1-78.

**Thursday, November 15<sup>th</sup>**

Nationalism and Communism in Practice: USSR

Suny, Ronald Grigor (1993) *The Revenge of the Past: Nationalism, Revolution, and the Collapse of the Soviet Union*, Stanford University Press, pp. 1-83.

## **Week 12**

**Tuesday, November 20<sup>th</sup>**

Nationalism and Communism in Practice: Yugoslavia

Paul Mojzdes (1994) *Yugoslavian Inferno: Ethnoreligious Warfare in the Balkans*. Continuum. Chapters 2 and 5. pp. 15-45 and 71-87.

Anthony Oberschall (2000) "The manipulation of ethnicity: From ethnic cooperation to violence and war in Yugoslavia" *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, v. 23, n. 6, pp. 982-1001.

## **Week 13**

**Tuesday, November 27<sup>th</sup>**

Federalism as a solution to national tensions

Daniel Elazar (1987) *Exploring Federalism*. pp. TBA

Jenna Bednar (1999) *Federalism: Unstable by design*. pp. TBA

**Thursday, November 29<sup>th</sup>**

Minority rights

Will Kymlicka (1998) "Is federalism a desirable alternative to secession?" in Lehning ed. *Theories of Secession*. Routledge, pp. 111-150.

Will Kymlicka (1995) "Multination states" in *Multicultural Citizenship*. pp. 11-26.

## **Week 14**

**Tuesday, December 4<sup>th</sup>**

The future of nationalism and the nation-state

Eric Hobsbawm (1992) *Nations and nationalism since 1780*, chapters 4-5, pp. 101-162.

Juan J. Linz (1999) "Nationalism, Federalism and Democracy" (specially the concept of state-nation).

**Thursday, December 6<sup>th</sup>**

Review Session