

Nationalism and Society / W10

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Course Information:
MWF 1:45-2:50
X-period: Th 1:00-1:50
Office hours: MWF 8:30-10 or by
appointment

The western geopolitical imagination maintains that institutions and organizations (the state), culture (the nation), society and the economy must perfectly overlap. Although no state exists in which the four elements truly overlap, as a subjective cultural frame, nationalism still provides a political formula for organizing the world. The clash between the perceived model (nationalism) and the social reality will be the subject of this course. We will look at the construction of Nationalism and at its manifestations in every-day life and in popular culture.

Course evaluation:

This class is designed as a seminar, so class time is devoted to discussion between and among students and the instructor, as well as lectures. It is essential that seminar participants come to class prepared to discuss the reading material for that day's class. Grades are based on daily participation, short presentation, three book reviews, and a final paper. The composition of final grades and grading scale are as follows:

Class Participation (10%): Class attendance will not be taken. However, class participation is part of the final grade and you will be expected to include issues discussed during class in the final essay.

Short Presentation (10%): each student will be required to present a particular cultural phenomenon that is tied to nationalism. The presentation should be 8-10 minutes long.

Presentations are scheduled for Feb 24

Book Review (10% each): Critical reviews of literature (*Imagined Communities*, *Blood and Culture* and *The Dark Side of Democracy*). Students will be required to write three critical reviews of literature. Each literature review has to comment on one reading from the required reading list. Each review should be 2-3 pages long. The review should take a form similar to that found in academic journals. For a good example, browse an issue of *Contemporary Sociology* or the *American Journal of Sociology* (reviews are at the end). Reviews include both a summary of a book's central argument and approach, and a discussion of the book's contributions and shortcomings.

First review due on Feb 5

Second review due on Feb 19

Third review due on Mar 5

Final essay (50%): One 8-10 page long essay. The essay should focus on a subject discussed in the course and of particular interest to you (nationalism and music,

nationalism and immigration...). The students should introduce new literature on the subject and incorporate theories discussed during the course.

A proposal for the essay is due no later than Feb 15

The essay is due on Mar 12.

Course Policies:

Honor Principle: Examinations and assignments will be conducted in accord with the principles of academic honor detailed in the Dartmouth Organization, Regulations and Courses. I also encourage students to read Dartmouth's statement on Sources and Citations: <http://www.dartmouth.edu/~writing/sources/>

Students with disabilities: Students with disabilities enrolled in this course and who may need disability-related classroom accommodations are encouraged to make an appointment to see me as soon as possible. All discussions will remain confidential, although the Student Accessibility Services office may be consulted to discuss appropriate implementation of any accommodation requested.

Religious Holidays: Some students may wish to take part in religious observances that occur during this academic term. If you have a religious observance that conflicts with your participation in the course, please meet with me as soon as possible to discuss appropriate accommodations.

Electronic Devices: I allow laptops in class, but if I feel like you are spending most of your time on the internet; your class participation grade will suffer. Also, please turn off your cell phones while in class.

Classroom Etiquette: I expect everyone to show up to class on time. It is crucial for our class sessions to be comfortable and conducive to learning for all participants. This means listening while other people are talking and taking their ideas seriously. Personal attacks, yelling, or other threatening behaviors are not acceptable. Anyone who violates these guidelines may be asked to leave the classroom and/or drop the course.

Required Texts: Listed below are the required books for the course. They are available at Wheelock Books, the Dartmouth Bookstore, and are on reserve at Baker-Berry Library. There are also a few additional required articles. These are listed in the syllabus below and posted to the course's Blackboard site. Additional articles might be added during the course.

Alan Bairner 2001. *Sport, Nationalism, And Globalization*. State University of New York Press. ISBN-13: 978-0791449127

Cynthia Miller-Idriss 2008. *Blood and Culture: Youth, Right-Wing Extremism, and National Belonging in Contemporary Germany*. Duke University Press. ISBN-13: 978-0822345442

Christopher Pierson 2004. *The Modern State* (2nd edition). Routledge. ISBN-13: 978-0415329330

Michael Mann. 2005. *The Dark Side of Democracy*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Cambridge University Press. ISBN-13: 978-0521538541

E. J. Hobsbawm 1992. *Nations and Nationalism since 1780: Programme, Myth, Reality*. Cambridge University Press. ISBN-13: 978-0521439619

Benedict Anderson 2006. *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism*, New edition. Verso. ISBN-13: 978-1844670864

Course Schedule & Assigned Readings:

Part I – The national world order

What is a state? What is nation?

Jan 4 – Introduction and Opening Discussion

Jan 6 – *The Modern State*

Jan 8 – *The Modern State*

Nationalism and modernity

Jan 11 – Zygmunt Bauman. "modernity and ambivalence." Pp. 143-170 in Mike Featherstone 1990. *Global Culture: Nationalism Globalization and Modernity* (Blackboard)

Jan 13 – Charles Taylor, "Nationalism and Modernity," 191-218 in *The State of the Nation: Ernest Gellner and the theory of nationalism*, ed. John Hall (Cambridge University Press: 1998) (Blackboard)

Jan 15 – Johann Arnason "Nationalism, Globalization and Modernity." Pp 207-236 in Mike Featherstone 1990. *Global Culture: Nationalism Globalization and Modernity* (Blackboard)

Jan 20 – Immanuel Wallenstein. "Culture as the ideological battleground of the modern World-System." Pp. 31-56 in Mike Featherstone 1990. *Global Culture: Nationalism Globalization and Modernity* (Blackboard)

Jan 21 – (X hour) – TBD

Jan 22 – TBD

The construction of nations (I)

Jan 25 - *Nations and Nationalism since 1780: Programme, Myth, Reality*

Jan 27 – *Nations and Nationalism since 1780: Programme, Myth, Reality*

Jan 29 – *Nations and Nationalism since 1780: Programme, Myth, Reality*

The construction of nations (II)

Feb 1 – *Imagined Communities*

Feb 3 – *Imagined Communities*

Feb 5 – *Imagined Communities*

First Review due – *Imagined communities*

Part II – nationalism and culture

Nationalism and popular culture

Feb 8 – Kyle Bristow - Nationalism and Hollywood (Blackboard)

Feb 10 – Movie - Borat

Feb 11 – (X hour) - Movie - Borat

Nationalism and everyday life

Feb 15 – *Blood and Culture*

Last day for essay Proposal

Feb 17 – *Blood and Culture*

Feb 19 – *Blood and Culture*

Second review due – *Blood and culture*

Nationalism and Sport

Feb 22 – *Sport, Nationalism, And Globalization*

Feb 24 – *Sport, Nationalism, And Globalization*

Student presentations

Feb 26 – *Sport, Nationalism, And Globalization*

Nationalism and wars

Mar 1 – *The Dark Side of Democracy*

Mar 3 – *The Dark Side of Democracy*

Mar 5 – *The Dark Side of Democracy*

Third review due - *The Dark Side of Democracy*

Final remarks – nationalism and culture/culture and nationalism

Mar 8 – Charles Tilly. 1975. "Reflections on the history of European state-making." *The formation of national states in Western Europe*. Princeton University Press (Blackboard)

Mar 12 – Essay due