

**Soc 913: Social Change
Nations and Nationalism**

Spring 2005

Tuesdays 2:25-5:25

6304 Social Science Building

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Office Hours: Thursdays 11:00-12:00, or by appointment

Nationalism has exerted a profound influence on the modern world, an influence that – despite predictions to the contrary – does not appear to be waning. Indeed, the current era seems marked by a resurgence of nationalism as a major force in world affairs, not its obsolescence. In part reflecting the prominence of nationalist politics in recent and current events, in the past few decades nationalism has become a major focus of research in the social sciences. This course will provide a survey of major theoretical controversies, conceptual distinctions, and empirical debates in recent social scientific scholarship on nationalism. It will also provide a glimpse into the diversity of methodological approaches and empirical interests that drive research in this area. Readings will be interdisciplinary, drawing from sociology, history, political science and anthropology, and will include case material from around the world (including the United States, Canada, France, Germany, Brazil, Mexico, Cuba, Iraq, Rwanda, Great Britain and Japan, among others). By the end of the course, students will have a firm grasp of the major theoretical, conceptual, and analytical controversies in scholarship on nationalism. Perhaps more importantly, students will be in a position to recognize how much remains to be done. Many of the debates in this field remain unresolved, many key questions unanswered, and many more questions remain to be asked. This makes it an exciting time to do research on nationhood and nationalism. A primary objective of this course is to equip students with theoretical and analytical tools to undertake independent research in this and related areas.

Requirements: The basic requirement of the course is critical reading of all assigned texts before each class meeting and active participation in class discussions. Additionally, all students are expected to:

(1) Write weekly memos. These are short (*no more than one typed page*) written responses to the reading for each week. The point of this exercise is to get you in the habit of writing as a natural accompaniment to critical, reflective reading. The memos should not summarize the week's reading, but critically *engage* it. This might mean discussing central analytical or conceptual issues, noting the particular weaknesses or strengths of an author's argument or analytical framework, drawing connections or noting divergences between the ideas of different authors, or elaborating on how the reading pertains to your own research interests (among other possibilities). Memos should be e-mailed to the instructor by 3pm on Mondays (to allow sufficient time to read them before

the class meets on Tuesdays). They should also be posted to the class website. The memos will not be graded, but their timely completion is a firm requirement of the course; *no student who neglects to write weekly memos will earn a grade higher than a "C" in the class.* Two grace weeks are allowed over the course of the semester, chosen at the students' discretion. For the two weeks you choose not to write a memo, simply send me an email with the subject heading "grace week" before the weekly class meeting.

(2) *Initiate and facilitate discussion:* Each student will initiate one week's discussion with a short (15-20 minute) presentation at the beginning of class raising critical issues, questions and comments based on the week's reading. The presentations should very briefly synthesize the major points of each reading, and then draw out key analytical issues, note similarities and/or differences in the approaches and arguments of different authors, critique specific arguments, etc. Together with the instructor, the student will facilitate the class discussion that follows.

(3) *Complete either a take-home final exam OR an independent research paper.* Students have two options for the final assignment: (a) Complete a take-home final exam consisting of essay questions provided by the instructor, or (b) write an independent research paper on a topic chosen in consultation with the instructor. Students who wish to do a research paper must arrange to meet with the instructor during the first three weeks of the semester.

The following books will be on reserve at the Social Science Reference Library and are also available for purchase at Rainbow Books.

Benedict Anderson *Imagined Communities*
John Hutchinson and Anthony Smith (eds.) 1994. *Nationalism* (selected readings).
Craig Calhoun. *Nationalism*. (selections)
Ernest Gellner. *Nations and Nationalism*
Andreas Wimmer. *Nationalist Exclusion and Ethnic Conflict: Shadows of Modernity*

All other required reading will be available on electronic reserves through the Social Science Reference Library.

Course Outline

Week 1. (January 18) Introduction.

Week 2. (January 25) Concepts and Definitions.

Hugh Seton-Watson, *Nations and States*, pp.1-5
Joseph Stalin, excerpt from "Marxism and the national question" (in Hutchinson and Smith [eds].)
Ernest Renan, "What is a Nation?" pp. 41-55 in Geoff Eley and Ronald Suny (eds.) *Becoming National*. Oxford University Press. 1996.

Deutsch, Karl. "Nationalism and Social Communication" pp. 26-29 in Hutchinson and Smith (eds).

Max Weber, *Economy and Society*, pp.922-926.

Connor, Walker "A nation is a nation is a state is an ethnic group is a . . ." *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 1(4). October 1978.

Benedict Anderson, *Imagined Communities*, pp.1-7

Katherine Verdery, "Whither Nation and Nationalism?"

Brubaker, Rogers. "Rethinking Nationhood: nation as institutionalized form, practical category, contingent event" Ch.1 in *Nationalism Reframed: Nationhood and the national question in the New Europe*. Cambridge University Press. 1996.

Crag Calhoun, *Nationalism*, pp.1-12, 18-28

Week 3. (February 1) Gellner's Theory of Nationalism: The Modernist Perspective

Ernest Gellner. "Nationalism" in *Thought and Change*. Weidenfeld and Nicholson: London, 1964. Pp.158-69.

Ernest Gellner. *Nations and Nationalism*. Pp.1-75, 123-143.

Connor, Walker. "When is a nation?" pp.154-159 in Hutchinson and Smith (eds).

Week 4. (February 8) Critiques of Modernist Perspectives

Smith, Anthony. "The Origins of Nations" pp. 147-154 in Hutchinson and Smith (eds).

Anthony Smith. 1996. Opening Statement: Nations and their pasts. *Nations and Nationalism* 2(3): 358-365.

Gellner, Ernest 1996. Reply. "Do Nations have Navels?" *Nations and Nationalism* 2(3): 366-370.

Smith, Anthony. "Memory and modernity: Reflections on Ernest Gellner's theory of nationalism." *Nations and Nationalism* 2(3):371-388.

Ozkuirimli, Umut. 2003. The nation as an artichoke? A critique of ethnosymbolist interpretations of nationalism. *Nations and Nationalism* 9(3): 339-355.

Smith, Anthony. The poverty of anti-nationalist modernism. *Nations and Nationalism* (reply to Ozkuirimli). 9(3):357-370.

Gorski, Phil. "The Mosaic Moment: An Early Modernist Critique of Modernist Theories of Nationalism" *American Journal of Sociology* 105(5) March (2000) 1428-68 (available on JSTOR).

Week 5. (February 15) Nationalism and the modern state

Breuilly. *Nationalism and the State*, 2nd ed. Pp.366-403

Eric Hobsbawm. Pp 80-100 in *Nations and Nationalism since 1780*

Craig Calhoun. "State, Nation and Legitimacy" Ch. 4 of *Nationalism*

Mann, Michael. "A political theory of nationalism and its excesses"

Keating, Michael. "Stateless nation-building: Quebec, Catalonia and Scotland in the changing state system" *Nations and Nationalism* 3(4), 1997, 689-717.

John Meyer. "The world polity and the Authority of the Nation-State"

Week 6. (February 22) Imagined Communities

Benedict Anderson. *Imagined Communities*. Pp. 1-162.

Chatterjee, Partha. "Whose imagined community?" Ch. 1 in *The Nation and its Fragments: Colonial and Post-Colonial Histories*. Princeton Univ. Press. 1993.

Claudio Lomnitz. "Nationalism as a Practical System: Benedict Anderson's Theory of Nationalism From the Vantage Point of Spanish America" Pp.329-359 in Miguel Angel Centeno and Fernando López-Alvez (Eds). *The Other Mirror: Grand Theory through the Lens of Latin America*. Princeton University Press, 2001.

Week 7. (March 1) Constructivist approaches

Hobsbawm, Eric and Terrence Rangers (eds). *The Invention of Tradition*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Chap. 1 pp.1-14, 262-283, 298-307.

Anderson, Benedict. *Imagined Communities*, ch.10

Bourdieu, Pierre. "Identity and Representation"

Handler, Richard. "On sociocultural discontinuity: Nationalism and cultural objectification in Quebec" *Current Anthropology* 25(1):55-64 (including comments and replies, pp.64-71).

Calhoun, Craig. *Nationalism*. Ch.3. "Nationalist Claims to History".

Week 8. (March 8) Group boundaries and identities

Weber, Max. *Economy and Society*, pp.40-43, 341-348, 387-398.

Barth, Frederick. Introduction to *Ethnic Groups and Boundaries*

Jenkins, Richard. *Rethinking Ethnicity*. Chapter 5

Longman, Timothy. "Identity Cards, Ethnic Self-Perception, and Genocide in Rwanda" (pp. 345-357 in Jane Caplan and John Torpey (eds).

Documenting Individual Identity: The Development of State Practices in the Modern World. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2001.

Cornell, Stephen and Douglas Hartmann. Chs 4 and 6 (pp.72-102 and 153-194) in *Ethnicity and Race: Making Identities in a Changing World*. Pine Forge Press. 1998.

Brubaker, Rogers. "Ethnicity without groups"

Week 9. (March 15) Micro-analytical approaches

Rogowski, Ronald. 1985. "Causes and varieties of nationalism: A rationalist account" in Rogowski and Tiryakian (eds.) *New Nationalism of the Developed World*. Allen and Unwin.

- Laitin, David. 1995. "National revivals and violence" *Archives Européennes de Sociologie* 36(1): 3-43.
- Kuran, Timur. 1998. "Ethnic norms and their transformation through reputational cascades." *Journal of Legal Studies* 27 (623-659).
- Stern, P.C. "Why do people sacrifice for their nations?" *Political Psychology* 16(2) 1995.
- Billig. *Banal Nationalism*. Chs 1 and 3.
- Hechter, Michael. 2000. "Nationalism and rationality". *Studies in Comparative International Development* 35(1): 3-19.

Week 10 (March 22) Spring Recess. No Class this Week.

Week 11 (March 29) Immigration, citizenship and nationhood.

- Brubaker. *Citizenship and Nationhood in France and Germany* (selections)
- Brubaker, Rogers. "The manichean myth: rethinking the distinction between 'civic' and 'ethnic' nationalism. In Hans-Peter Kriesi, Klaus Armingeon, Hannes Siegrist and Andreas Wimmer (eds), *Nation and National Identity: Collective Identities and National Consciousness at the End of the 20th Century*. CHur: Rüegger.
- Joppke, Christian. "Multiculturalism and immigration: A comparison of the United States, Germany and Great Britain" *Theory and Society* 25: 449-500, 1996.
- Grillo. *Politics of Cultural Difference*, (selections)

Week 12. (April 5) Nationalism, Ethnicity and State in Colonial/Post-Colonial Contexts

- Young, Crawford. "The Colonial Construction of African Nations" pp.. 225-231 in Hutchinson and Smith (eds).
- Clifford Geertz. "The integrative revolution"
- Grillo, Ralph. "Ethnic and Cultural Pluralism in the Colonial Social Order" Ch.5 in *Pluralism and the Politics of Difference: State, Culture and Ethnicity in Comparative Perspective*. Clarendon Press. 1998.
- Andreas Wimmer. "Who owns the state? Understanding ethnic conflict in post-colonial societies" *Nations and Nationalism* 3(4), 1997, 631-665.
- Mamdani, Mahmood. 1996. Citizen and Subject. (selections).

Week 13. (April 12) Nationalist Exclusion and Ethnic Conflict: A Comparative Analysis of Mexico, Iraq and Switzerland

- Andreas Wimmer. *Nationalist Exclusion and Ethnic Conflict: Shadows of Modernity*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. 2002

Week 14. (April 19) Nation, Race and Gender

- Armstrong, Bruce. "Racialisation and Nationalist Ideology: The Japanese Case" *International Sociology* 4(3): 329-343.
- Wade, Peter. "Racial identity and nationalism: a theoretical view from Latin America." *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 24(5): 2001 (pp.845-865).
- De la Fuente, Alejandro. "Race, National Discourse and Politics in Cuba: An Overview" *Latin American Perspectives*. 100(25), no.3 1998:43-69.
- Anthias, Floya and Nira Yuval-Davis. "Women and the Nation-State" pp.313-316 in Hutchinson and Smith (eds).
- McClintock, Anne. "'No Longer in a Future Heaven': Nationalism, Gender, and Race" Pp. 259-284 in Eley and Suny (eds) *Becoming National*.
- Stoler, Ann. "Sexual Affronts and Racial Frontiers: European Identities and the Cultural Politics of Exclusion in Colonial Southeast Asia" *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 34(3) 1992.

Week 15. (April 26) Post-nationalism?

- Appadurai, Arjun. 1996. Patriotism and its future. In *Modernity at Large. Cultural Dimensions of Globalization*. Minneapolis: Univ. of Minnesota Press.
- Guibernau, Montserrat. "Nations without States as New Global Political Actors" in *Nations without States: Political Communities in a Global Age*. Polity Press. 1999.
- Soysal, Yasemin. *Limits of Citizenship* (Chs 1 and 8)
- Habermas. "Postnational constellation" (pp.59-112)
- Joppke, Christian. "Immigration challenges the nation-state"
- Michael Mann. "Nation states in Europe and other continents: diversifying, developing, not dying".
- Smith, Anthony. "In defense of the nation" in Smith (ed) *Nations and Nationalism in a Global Era*. Cambridge: Polity Press.

Week 16. (May 3) Multiculturalism and Cosmopolitanism: Normative Debates

- Habermas. "The European Nation-state – Its Achievements and its Limits"
- Kymlicka, Will. *Multicultural Citizenship*, chs.2 and 5.
- Stepan, Alfred. "Modern multinational democracies: transcending a Gellnerian oxymoron"
- Jeremy Waldron. "Minority Cultures and the Cosmopolitan Alternative" in Will Kymlicka (ed.) *Rights of Minority Cultures*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. Pp.93-118.
- David Hollinger, *Postethnic America*. Introduction and Chapter 6.