

Course Syllabus

Course: *Nationalism & Ethnic Politics*

Department: European Studies & IR

Host Institution: *University of Nicosia, Cyprus*



UNIVERSITY
of NICOSIA | Global
Semesters

Course Summary

Course Code	Course Title	ECTS Credits
IREL-325	Nationalism & Ethnic Politics	6
Subject	Contact Hours	Prerequisites
Nationalism	42-45	World History
Department	Level of Course	Language of Instruction
European Studies and IR	Upper-Division	English

Course Description

How has nationalism emerged as a major force in history? Why? What are the consequences of a global economy/nation for national belonging? This course examines the history of nationalism from the French Revolution to today. We will explore how nationalism, as a phenomenon, has forwarded the creation of sovereign nation-states, and we will look closely at how nationalism, as an ideology, has inspired fascist regimes, racist movements and policies, as well as ethnic cleansing and genocide. We will also investigate how questions of race, class, gender, and colonialism have influenced notions of national identity and consciousness. All major theoretical approaches of nationalism will be covered.

Prerequisites (if applicable)

World History

Learning Outcomes

After completion of the course students are expected to be able to:

1. Assess the historical and sociological origins of nationalism and its impact on international relations and ethnic conflict.
2. Compare the struggles between ethnic groups to preserve traditional cultures and space for 'negative liberty'.
3. Explore, analyze and compare basic concepts such as nation, ethnicity, patriotism, chauvinism, expansionist nationalism, anti-colonial nationalism, etc.
4. Recount the major ideological/political approaches to nationalism (i.e., Primordialism, Modernism, Ethno-symbolism).
5. Report on and appraise alternative views to nationalism (e.g., internationalism, universalism, cosmopolitanism and supranationalism).
6. Appraise the impact of nationalism on regional and international conflict.

Course Outline

1. Defining Nationalism
2. Origins and development
3. Theoretical approaches: Primordialism, Modernism, Ethno-symbolism
4. The nation as an invented tradition
5. The nation as an imagined community
6. The ethnic origins of nations
7. Nationalism and the modern state
8. Democracy and ethnicity
9. Eastern and Western Nations
10. Nationalism and warfare
11. Nationalism and the international system
12. The future of nationalism
13. The Clash of civilizations

Evaluation and Grading

Paper 40%
Final Exam 50%
Participation 10%

Readings and Resources

- Anderson, Benedict (1991) *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origins and Spread of Nationalism*. Revised. London: Verso.
- Davis, Horace (1989) "Toward a Marxist Theory of Nationalism," in M. Williams ed. *International Relations in the Twentieth Century*, pp. 56-66.
- Gellner, Ernest (1983) *Nations and Nationalism*. New York: Cornell University Press.
- Heywood, Andrew (2007) "Nationalism," in A. Heywood *Political Ideologies*. London: Palgrave, pp. 143-173.
- Hobsbawm, E. J. (1990) "The Nation as Novelty: From Revolution to Liberalism," in E. J. Hobsbawm *Nations and Nationalism*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Plamenatz, John (1989) "Two types of Nationalism," in M. Williams ed. *International Relations in the Twentieth Century*, pp. 44-56.
- Smith, A. D. (1989) "Internationalism," in Marc Williams ed. *International Relations in the Twentieth Century*, pp. 56-66.
- Smith, Anthony (2001) "Ideologies," in A. Smith *Nationalism*. Cambridge: Polity Press, pp. 21-42 Williams, Marc (1989) "Nationalism," in M. Williams ed. *International Relations in the Twentieth Century*, pp. 42-44.

Other Academic Policies

Class attendance is compulsory. If unable to attend a class, students must inform the course lecturer in advance. A maximum of 20% excused absences is tolerated; however beyond this percentage, students will be withdrawn from the course. Moreover, any work missed due to absence must be completed on return to class.