INSTRUCTOR: Peter Rutland, <prutland>; tel. 2483; office PAC 203, hours MW 10.30-12.00.

ASSESSMENT: Out of 100 points

1) A 3-4 page report on one of the theoretical books or articles listed in weeks 1-5 of the syllabus. To be submitted by 4.00 pm on Friday Sept 30. Email it to <prutland> as an attached Word file. [15 points]

2) A 3-4 page paper on one of the nations we cover in class, to be submitted on the day that case is discussed. A sign up sheet for assigning these cases will be circulated in week two. [15 points]

3) A 3-4 page paper on a randomly assigned country, due by 4.00 pm on Nov 4. You should explain the key elements in country X’s national narrative and self-image: symbols, land, religion, race, heroes, historical events, relations with neighbors, values, virtues, flaws, etc. [15 points]

4) One 8-10 page final paper. Either (a) analysis of a specific nation or nationalist movement. or (b) discussion of a general theme not specific to one country. I will circulate a list of possible topics, or you can pick your own topic. The final paper should not be on the same country as the two short papers. Outline due on Nov 11; email me the paper by 4.00 pm on Dec 14. [35 points]

5) A presentation on some aspect of your final paper. The talk should focus on a conceptual puzzle arising from that people’s nationalism rather than being a potted history. The presentations will take place in the last week of class. They will take the form of a 10 minute i-movie presentation. You will be trained in this format on October 13. [10 points for the presentation]

6) Class participation and weekly quizzes on the reading. Each quiz will have 1 point for a correct answer, exceptionally 2 points may be given. Also extra credit for 1-2 page reports on outside lectures. [15 points]

Ernest Gellner Nations and Nationalism (1983)
Eric Hobsbawn Nations and Nationalism Since 1780 (1991)
Benedict Anderson Imagined Communities (1983)
Jack Snyder From Voting to Violence (2000)
Amy Chua World on Fire (2004)

Required readings are marked with *. All the other readings are optional, useful for your papers.
All the articles listed on the syllabus are available on the course’s Wesfiles page.
Unexplained absence from three classes will be treated as withdrawal from the course.
Plagiarism, using material that you did not write and without clear attribution to the source, will be punished.

There are links to fresh newspaper articles about nationalism on my blog NationalismWatch.

Websites – especially useful for your country reports:
BBC country profiles Archive of recent articles on each country in the world.
CIA World Factbook Basic facts.
State Department country notes Detailed descriptions of institutions and recent events.
Nationalism Project Definitions, links, articles by academics.
International Crisis Group Up-to-date reports on countries experiencing conflicts.
Minorities at Risk project Lots of data on ethnic minorities, esp. those that are politically active.
New York Times Search the NYT for recent articles using the country box on the right.

Encyclopedias:
Week 1

WHAT IS NATIONALISM?

Sept 5-7

For an overview of the course theme, see:


What is ethnic identity? How does it relate to other types of identity? A review of some classic sociological and anthropological articles on this question.

Edmund Shils  ‘Primordial, personal, sacred and civil ties,’ from  *British Journal of Sociology*, 8: 2, 1957, 130-45
Max Weber  ‘Ethnic groups,’ in *Economy and Society*, v. 1, 385-98
Fredrik Barth  *Ethnic Groups and Boundaries* (1969) 9-38
Thomas Eriksen  ‘What is ethnicity?’, *Ethnicity and Nationalism* (1999) ch 1

Week 2

OBAMA NATION

Sept 12

What does it mean to be American? As the ‘first new nation’ the US sees itself as a new type of civic nation based on political consensus rather than ethnic identity. How does American patriotism differ from other peoples’ nationalism?

* Michael Walzer  ‘What does it mean to be an ‘American’?’ *Social Research*, n 57, 1990, 591-614
* Minxin Pei  ‘The paradoxes of American nationalism,’ *Foreign Policy*, May 2003
* Graham E. Fuller  ‘America’s uncomfortable relationship with nationalism,’ Stanley Foundation Policy brief, July 2006
Alexander Aleinikoff  ‘A multicultural nationalism?’ *American Prospect*, 36, Jan 1998, 80-86
Samuel P. Huntington  ‘The Hispanic challenge,’ *Foreign Policy*, March 2004

Week 2

ETHNICITY IN THE PRE-MODERN WORLD

Sept 14

What was the character of ethnic identity before the emergence of the modern state? ‘Primordialists’ or ‘perennialists’ consider ethnicity to be a universal human characteristic. Diaspora nations such as the Jews and Armenians exemplify one type of primordial identity.

* Anthony Smith  *Ethno-symbolism and Nationalism* (2009) chs. 1, 2  [ebook]
Special Issue on Smith  *Nations and Nationalism*, 10: 1, Jan 2004
John Wilford  ‘Languages die, but not their last words,’ IHT, 18 Sept 2007
Michael Erard  ‘How linguists share a bible of 6,912 languages,’ *NYT*, 19 Jul 2005
Week 3
Sept 19-21

FUNCTIONALIST THEORIES

(1) Gellner

Is nationalism a pre-requisite for capitalism and the modern state? Why did nationalism arise in 18th century Europe? Gellner explains nationalism as integral to the project of modernity, a by-product of the spread of mass communications and industry. Smith offers a critique of Gellner.

* Ernest Gellner Nations and Nationalism, esp. chs. 2 and 3

Anthony Smith Nationalism and Modernism (1998) chs 1, 2 [e-book]
Gellner web-page http://members.tripod.com/GellnerPage/Index.html
Eugen Weber Peasants into Frenchmen (1976) 3-22

Week 4
Sept 26

(2) Hobsbawm

Discussion of Hobsbawm’s book. Did capitalists need the nation-state to organize their production, to seize and unify markets, and to divert their workers from socialist revolution? Consider the paradigm cases of Britain and France in the 17-19th centuries.

* Eric Hobsbawm Nations and Nationalism Since 1780 (1992)
* Ernst Renan ‘What is a nation?’ (1882)
John Breuilly Nationalism and the State (1994)
Linda Colley Britons: Forging the Nation (1992)

Week 4
Sept 28

Nationalism and citizenship

Brubaker contrasts ‘ethnic’ and ‘civic’ definitions of citizenship, contrasting France and Germany.

* Jack Snyder From Voting to Violence (2000) Chapter 3 on Germany.
Rogers Brubaker Citizenship and Nationhood in France and Germany (1992) [e-book]
Stephen Shulman ‘Challenging the civic/ethnic and West/East dichotomies in the study of nationalism,’ Comparative Political Studies (Jun 2002)
Andreas Fahmeir Citizenship: the Rise and Fall of a Modern Concept (2007)

Sept 30
Friday

FIRST ASSIGNMENT

First book report due. Write a 3-4 page critical review of one of the core theorists (Smith, Gellner, Connor, Hobsbawn, Anderson). Email it to <prutland> by 4.00 pm.
Week 5
Oct 3-5

NATIONALISM AS CONSTRUCT

Anderson sees nationalism as an artifact constructed by elites, and goes beyond Europe, looking at the spread of nationalism to the 19th century colonial world: Latin America and Indonesia.
Nationalism becomes a tool unifying anti-imperialist struggles.

* Benedict Anderson
  * Imagined Communities (1991)

Anthony Smith
  * Nationalism and Modernism (1998) chs, 5, 6, 9 [e-book]

Nira Yuval-Davis

Kwame Anthony Appiah
  * ‘The case for contamination,’ New York Times, 1 Jan 2006

Nicola Miller
  * ‘The historiography of nations and nationalism in Latin America,’ Nations and Nationalism, July 2006, 12: 2, 201-21

Eric Hobsbawm and
  * The Invention of Tradition (1983) esp. ch. 1 ‘Highland traditions,’

Terence Ranger (eds)
  * on the history of the kilt, by Hugh Seton-Watson

Wikipedia
  * ‘The history of the kilt’

Week 6
Oct 10

RACE AND NATION

Why was legal segregation of the races introduced in South Africa and the USA but not in Brazil?

* Anthony Marx
  * ‘Race-making and the nation-state,’ World Politics, 48: 2, Jan 1996

* Stephen Buckley
  * ‘Brazil’s racial awakening,’ Washington Post, 12 June 2000

Antoinette Handley
  * ‘The new South Africa,’ Current History, May 2004

Peter Fry
  * ‘Politics, nationality and the meanings of race in Brazil,’ Daedalus, spring 2000, 83-118

Week 6
Oct 12

Training on how to prepare i-move presentations

This will take place in the Language Teaching Center in Fisk Hall during the regular class time.

Week 7
Oct 17

NATIONALISM AND THE LOGIC OF THE MARKET

Why and how do markets encourage and consolidate ethnic identification?
Amy Chua picks up the theme of vulnerable ‘middleman minorities’ in the globalizing economy.
The classic article by Bonacich explains ethnic segregation in the division of labor.

* Amy Chua

* Eva Bonacich
  * ‘Class approaches to ethnicity,’ Insurgent Sociologist, 10 (1980) 9-22

Roger Waldinger
  * ‘The other side of embeddedness: the interplay of ethnicity and economics,’ Ethnic and Racial Studies, 18, 1995, 555-69

Michael Hechter
  * ‘Group formation and the cultural division of labor,’ American Journal of Sociology, 84: 2. (Sep. 1978), 293-318
Week 7  
**CASE STUDIES: QUEBEC**  
Oct 19

What do the Quebecois want? Why is language policy so central to the nationalist project? Does federalism help or hinder nationalist conflicts? This case provides an opportunity to look at the rational choice school, which argues that ethnic groups form for instrumental reasons, to advance interests rather than to express identities.

* Hudson Meadwell  
  ‘The politics of nationalism in Quebec,’ *World Politics*, 45: 2  
  Jan. 1993, 203-41

* Jacques Parizeau  
  “The case for a sovereign Quebec,” (1995), plus responses

Michael Hechter  

Michael Hechter  
  ‘Explaining nationalist violence’ *Nations & Nationalism*, 1,1995, 53-68

Eva Mackey  

 Movies  
  *Jesus of Montreal* (1989)  
  *Decline of the American Empire* (1986)

Week 8  
**NORTHERN IRELAND**  
Oct 26

What was driving the conflict in Northern Ireland? Why did peace arrive when it did? Will it last?

* Richard Rose  
  ‘*Northern Ireland: The irreducible conflict*,’ in Joseph Montville, (ed) *Conflict and Peacemaking in Multiethnic Societies* (1990), ch 9

* Ted Smyth  
  ‘The unsung heroes of the peace process,’ *World Policy* (2005), 79-87

* John Coakley  
  ‘Has the Northern Ireland problem been solved?’  
  *Journal of Democracy*, 19:3 (Jul 2008), 98-112

* Fintan O’Toole  

Tom Nairn  
  *The Break-Up of Britain* (1977)

Sabine Wichert  
  *Northern Ireland Since 1945* (1999)

Donald Horowitz  
  ‘Explaining the Northern Ireland agreement,’  

Movies:  
  *Bloody Sunday, Wind that Shakes the Barley, Omagh, Michael Collins*

Week 9  
**NATIONALISM IN POST-COLONIAL AFRICA**  
Oct 31

Decolonization led to a surge of nationalism. But ethnic complexity has made the construction of viable states in post-colonial Africa very difficult. Still, ethnicity is not necessarily destructive, it is also used by people to defend their political and economic interests.

* Bruce Berman et al,  
  ‘Ethnicity and the politics of nation-building in Africa,’ ch 1 in  
  *Ethnicity and Democracy in Africa* (2004), 1-21

* Donald Horowitz  
  *Ethnic Groups in Conflict* (1985) chs 4-5

* Frantz Fanon  
  *The Wretched of the Earth* (1963) *35-94* and *148-205*

Ben Neuberge  
  *National Self-Determination in Post-Colonial Africa* (1986)

James Fearon  
  ‘Ethnic and cultural diversity by country,’  
  *Journal of Economic Growth* 8: 2 (2003), 195-222

Alberto Alesina et al  
  ‘Fractionalization,’  
  *Journal of Economic Growth* 8: 2 (2003), 155-194

Daniel Posner  
  ‘The colonial origins of ethnic cleavages, Linguistic divisions in Zambia,’  
  *Comparative Politics*, 35: 2, Jan 2003, 127-46

Joshua Forrest  
  ‘Nationalism in post-colonial states,’ ch 2 in *Lowell Barrington* (ed)  

Joshua Forrest  
  *Subnationalism in Africa* (2004)

Crawford Young  

Partha Chatterjee  
  *Nationalist Thought and the Colonial World* (1986)

Movies  
  *Battle of Algiers* (1965)  
  *Tears of the Sun* (2003)
Week 9

RWANDA

Rwanda is the most vivid recent example of the power of ethnicity to bring about evil. Yet Rwanda in some crucial respects is not typical for the African continent.

* Helen Hintjens  ‘Explaining the 1994 genocide in Rwanda,’ *Journal of Modern African Studies*, 37: 2 (June 1999), 241-86


Philip Gourevitch  *We Wish to Inform You . . .* (1999)


Alan Kuperman  *The Limits of Humanitarian Intervention* (2001)

Alison Des Forges  *Leave None to Tell the Story* (1999)

Frank Chalk & Kurt Jonassohn  *The History and Sociology of Genocide* (1990) 3-43


Nov 4

SECOND ASSIGNMENT

Friday

Write a 3-4 page profile of the national narrative and ethnic conflicts in a randomly assigned country. Email it to <prutland> as a Word document by 4.00 pm.

Week 10

NATIONALISM AND DEMOCRACY

Nov 7

The collapse of communism in the early 1990s and the spread of democracy coincided with an upsurge of ethnic violence. Why?


Nov 11

Outline for final paper is due.

Friday

The outline should be 1-2 pages long, and include the main thesis, an outline of the arguments to be raised, and a preliminary biography. Email it to <prutland@wesleyan.edu> by 4.00 pm.

Either (a) an analysis of a specific nation or nationalist movement. Or (b) discussion of a theme or issue not specific to one country.

Week 10-11

THE FORMER SOVIET UNION

Nov 9-14

What was Soviet nationality policy, and why did the country fall apart in the late 1980s?

* Jack Snyder  *From Voting to Violence* (2000) ch. 5


Victor Kogan  ‘Chechen separatism’ in Metta Spencer (ed.), *Separatism* (1998)

Vera Tolz  ‘Forging the nation in Russia’ *Europe-Asia Studs*, 50: 6 Sep 98, 993-22

David Laitin  ‘Secessionist Rebellion in the Former Soviet Union,’ *Comparative Political Studies*, 34: 8 (2001), 839-61

Week 11-12
Nov 16-21

THE BREAK UP OF YUGOSLAVIA

The Yugoslavia wars left 250,000 dead and political deadlock in Bosnia and Kosovo. Why?

* Anthony Oberschall

Daniel Williams

Paul Mojzdes

Christopher Bennett
  Yugoslavia’s Bloody Collapse (1996)

Noel Malcolm
  Bosnia: A Short History (1996)

Norman Cigar
  Genocide in Bosnia (1996)

James Gow
  Triumph of Lack of Will: International Diplomacy and Yugoslav War

Jan Honig & Norbert Both
  Srebrenica: Record of a War Crime (1996)

Movies

Week 13
Nov 28

IS THERE A EUROPEAN IDENTITY?

What does it mean to be European? The economic success of the European Union has not led, as some had hoped, to the emergence of a strong European identity replacing national identities. Did the Eastern enlargement in 2004 and 2007 undermine the prospects for a new Euro identity? What are the chances that deeper political integration may create a real European identity?

* Daniel Williams

* Thomas Risse

Eurozine
  ‘Changing Europe’ (essays, 2006-07)

Michael Bruter

Zsuzsa Csergo & James Goldgeier
  ‘Nationalist strategies and European integration,’ *Perspectives on Politics* (2004), 2: 1, 21-37

Michael Keating

Weeks 13-14
Nov 30, Dec 4-7

STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

Possible topics include:

Case studies of China, Korea, Japan, India, etc.

Arab nationalism

Israel

Nationalism and gender

Multiculturalism and minority rights.

Dec 14
Final research paper due

10-12 pages including notes, the paper should be sent by email to <prutland> by 4.00 pm on Dec 14.