I. Course Description

Nationalism is an ideology that political actors frequently harness to support a wide variety of policies ranging from intensive economic development to genocide. In fact, nationalism is arguably one of the most powerful forces shaping modern life. But what is nationalism? Where does it come from? What gives it such emotional and political power? Is it, as Albert Einstein once proclaimed, merely “an infantile disease” that humanity will eventually outgrow, or is it something more profound and intrinsic to human society? This course investigates these and other questions in a comparative perspective, drawing on both theoretical literatures on the sources and types of nationalism as well as case studies dealing with nationalism’s political uses in state building, development, and conflict.

By the end of the course, students will have a broad understanding of the types of debates that characterize the study of nationalism. They will also possess basic theoretical tools and knowledge of several empirical cases needed to analyze and respond critically to arguments about nationalism and politics.

II. Course Materials

The following books are required for this class. They are available in the bookstore and have also been placed on closed reserve at Gould Library.


Additional course readings will be available on e-reserve or located at the class Moodle site.
III. Requirements and Expectations

Your grade in this class will be based on the following components:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Class participation</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Case study journal</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Case study presentation</td>
<td>15% (10% group grade, 5% individual grade)</td>
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<td>4. Article précis</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Final research paper</td>
<td>35% (10% annotated bibliography, 25% final paper)</td>
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1. Class participation: your participation grade will be based on informed contribution during regular class discussions. When calculating your participation grade, I will be weighing the quality of contributions over quantity. You will receive a higher grade for making thoughtful comments or raising questions that enhance our understanding of the material or that further our investigation of nationalism rather than speaking just for the sake of hearing yourself talk. Students who are perennially late or absent, or who come to class unprepared for discussion will receive low marks for participation.

2. Case study journal: by the beginning of the second week of the term, you will choose a specific nationalist movement (typically one associated with a stateless nation) to investigate via several small, informal writing assignments. You must pick from a list of possible cases provided by the instructor.

You will be given five questions or topics that correspond to the issues we will be considering in the readings and in class discussions. You should respond to these questions with respect to your chosen movement. Each response should be no longer than 750 words (about 2 double-spaced pages) and will be worth 5%, for a total value of 25% for the entire journaling exercise. Though more than one individual may be working on the same case, your journal entries should be individual, not group, responses. The specific assignments and due dates are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic #1</th>
<th>Assigned</th>
<th>Due (by 5pm)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Topic #1</td>
<td>Tuesday, January 9</td>
<td>Monday, January 15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Topic #2</td>
<td>Thursday, January 11</td>
<td>Friday, January 19</td>
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<td>Topic #3</td>
<td>Thursday, January 18</td>
<td>Friday, January 26</td>
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<td>Topic #4</td>
<td>Thursday, January 25</td>
<td>Friday, February 2</td>
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<td>Topic #5</td>
<td>Tuesday, January 30</td>
<td>Monday, February 5</td>
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All journal entries must be submitted electronically via Moodle. Please do not wait until the last minute to upload your files. Computer glitches will not be an acceptable excuse for late papers!

3. Case study presentation: in this assignment, you will work in small groups to be develop a brief class presentation on your chosen case study. In the presentation, you will primarily be responsible for sharing basic information about your specific national community, its characteristics, and its ambitions. The primary challenge in this assignment will be deciding how best to inform your fellow classmates in a succinct and clear way about what you believe are the most salient features or...
aspects of your case’s national identity, community, or political goals. You will be evaluated on both content and organization of your presentation as well as effectiveness in communicating the essential features or core elements of your particular case in a condensed period of time.

The oral presentations will take place in class on Tuesday, February 6th and Thursday, February 8th. Each group will be allotted 25 minutes (20 minutes to present, 5 minutes to answer questions). Each individual must take part in the oral presentation. The final grade will be based on both individual contribution and overall group effort.

PLEASE NOTE: though you will be working in small groups for the presentation, all of your journal entries for the case should be your work, and your work alone!

4. Article précis: for the précis, you will write a very short summary (no more than 500 words) of any eligible article. Articles that are suitable for this assignment are marked with a ** in the schedule of readings. The précis is not a critical appraisal nor a place for your own reflections. It is merely an abstract or synopsis of the author’s argument. The challenge in this assignment is to represent the author’s work in a concise, accurate, and thorough way. The précis is due in class on the day your selected article is assigned.

5. Final research project: your final project will be a research paper of no more than 12 double-spaced pages that examines a particular issue or topic of nationalism. While you are not limited in the case(s) you choose or the specific question, you MUST meet with the instructor to discuss your plans and get approval in order to continue.

As part of your research, you will submit a prior annotated bibliography on your topic or question. For the bibliography, you will generate a document that includes at least five sources with relevant annotations, as well as a brief overview (no more than 3 double-spaced pages) of the themes, issues, and debates that characterize the scholarly writing on this topic. Your prior efforts in producing an article précis will be helpful to you as you work on this part of the project. The final bibliography is due in class on Tuesday, March 6th. The final research paper is due into Moodle by 5pm on March 14th (the last day of the exam period).

IV. Course Policies

• Policies on late papers: papers are due on the dates specified above and in the format specified above. Late work will NOT be accepted. If you are unable to complete an assignment on time due to illness, you can get an extension provided you can furnish a note from a doctor or the Wellness Center.

• Policies on attendance and preparation: attendance is required, and you are expected to complete the assigned readings before coming to class. However, if you need to miss class for some reason, it is your responsibility to get notes from your fellow classmates and, if necessary, to see me in office hours to go over any questions that you may have.

• Policy on plagiarism and academic dishonesty: both are serious offenses. Anyone caught cheating will automatically receive a zero for the assignment. To avoid any semblance of impropriety, please take pains to cite your sources correctly. You are also strongly advised to keep any outlines or rough drafts of your work to document the evolution of your thinking on an
assignment.

For more information on Carleton’s policy in this area, please consult:
http://apps.carleton.edu/campus/dos/handbook/academic_regs/?policy_id=21359

• Policy on special needs: if you require special accommodation due to a documented physical or learning disability, please come see me during the first week of class to discuss how I might best assist you in meeting the objectives and requirements of this course.

V. Schedule of Readings

The readings for this class come from a variety of sources. Some are highly abstract and theoretical, others might be more journalistic or historical. You will also find that the texts vary in difficulty — some will be quite challenging to read and absorb and others may not be difficult at all. Part of your responsibility in this course is to approach all required texts with an open mind and perseverance. In some cases, you may need more than one reading of a text to absorb its main ideas. We will spend considerable time and energy in class going through these texts, but to get the most out of such discussions, you should prepare ahead of time by keeping the following questions in mind for each reading:

• What is the core theoretical/empirical/historical argument being advanced in this text?
• How does this argument relate to/respond to other arguments encountered in the class?
• What methodologies does the author use to test or validate his/her arguments?
• What evidence does the author use to support his/her claims?
• Is the author’s case convincing? Why or why not?

1. Introduction and Overview

Thursday, January 4: Studying nationalism—understanding the context

Tuesday, January 9: Concepts and Terminology
- Nationalism reader excerpts from Renan, Stalin, Weber, Deutsch, Giddens, Connor (pp. 15-29, 34-46)
- Anderson, pp. 5-7
- Gellner, pp. 1-7

2. Origins of Nationalism: Competing Explanations

Thursday, January 11: Nationalism and primordialism
- Nationalism reader excerpts from Geertz, van der Berghe, Armstrong, Smith (pp. 29-34, 96-103, 140-154)
- Michael Ignatieff, Blood and Belonging, ch. 1

Tuesday, January 16: Nationalism and modernization
- Gellner, ch. 2-6 (** any single chapter)

Thursday, January 18: Nationalism and state-building
- Charles Tilly, Capital, Coercion, and European States, ch. 4 (pp. 96-117) **
Tuesday, January 23: Nationalism and social construction
- Anderson, ch. 2-3 (** any single chapter)
- Hugh Trevor-Roper, “The Invention of Tradition: The Highland Tradition of Scotland” **

Thursday, January 25: Nationalism and social construction, continued
- Anderson, ch. 5-6, 8 (** any single chapter)

3. Varieties of Nationalism

Tuesday, January 30: Nationalist typologies
- Nationalism reader excerpts from Kohn, Greenfeld, Sugar (pp. 162-171)
- Michael Hechter, Containing Nationalism, pp. 15-17.
- Pierre Brechon and Subrata Kumar Mitra, “The National Front in France: The Emergence of an Extreme Right Protest Movement.” **

Thursday, February 1: What is the nature of the “American” “nation”?
- Eric Kaufman, “Ethnic or Civic Nation? Theorizing the American Case.” [available only via Moodle!]**

4. Case Studies of Nationalism

Tuesday, February 6: In-class presentations
Thursday, February 8: In-class presentations

5. Political Deployment of Nationalism

Tuesday, February 13: Nationalist mobilization
- Nationalism reader excerpts by Nairn and Brass (pp. 70-76, 83-89)

Thursday, February 15: Nationalism and development
- Juan Diez Medrano, “Patterns of Development and Nationalism: Basque and Catalan Nationalism before the Spanish Civil War.” **
- Michael Hechter, Internal Colonialism: Celtic Fringe in British National Development, ch. 4 (pp. 79-126). **

Tuesday, February 20: Nationalism and colonialism
- Nationalism reader (pp. 225-231)
- Rudyard Kipling, “White Man’s Burden” [available only on Moodle!]
- Patrick Chamoiseau, School Days (pp. 55-80)

Thursday, February 22: Nationalism and conflict
- Nationalism reader excerpts from Howard, Lijphart, Horowitz, Mayall (pp. 254-280)
6. **Nationalism and contemporary challenges**

**Tuesday, February 27: Nationalism in the Israeli-Palestinian case**

Today we will have a guest speaker! Professor Ian Lustick from the University of Pennsylvania will speak on “Israel, the Arabs, and the Iron Wall.”
- Ian Lustick, “In Search of Hegemony: Nationalism and Religion in the Middle East.” [available only on Moodle!]

**Thursday, March 1: No class today! Use the time to work on your final papers…**

**Tuesday, March 6: Nationalism and the international system**

- Rogers Brubaker, *Nationalism Reframed: Nationhood and the National Question in the New Europe*, ch. 3

**Thursday, March 8: Towards a post-national identity?**

- Nationalism reader excerpt (pp. 316-325)
- Martha Nussbaum, “Patriotism and Cosmopolitanism.”