

Geog 6712
Spring Semester 2008

Seminar in Political Geography
Topic: Nationalism

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The main aims of the seminar are to review, debate and critique the principal theories and approaches to the study of nationalism, and to determine how this extensive literature can inform future research in the political geography of nationalism. Students will read extensively and intensively for the first half of the seminar about the major polarities in the literature and examine some empirical accounts of these approaches. In the second half of the seminar, the focus will turn to studies of territoriality and related nationalism topics in political geography and to the students' own research interests. The last few weeks will be devoted to the presentation and critiques of the seminar papers – each will have a rapporteur.

Paper outlines and annotated bibliography are due on March 20 and the final paper is due on May 7 (5pm). Detailed guidelines for both assignments will be given in class.

Class Schedule

17 January 2008 – Introduction

Readings: Flint and Taylor, Ch 4 of *Political Geography* (chapter on Nationalism).
Hutchinson and Smith, Introduction, pp. 3-16
Miscovic online essay on “nationalism”
H-Nationalism interviews (<http://www.h-net.org/~national/interviews.html>)

24 January 2008 – What is the nation? What is territory?

Hutchinson and Smith, pp. 17-47, 132-160
Connor 2004
Paasi 2003
Scott 1990
Knight 1982
Selection from Brubaker 2004

31 January 2008 – Primordialist and Ethnic approaches

Hutchinson and Smith 47-132, 160-196
Smith *The Ethnic Origins of Nations*

7 February 2008 – Modernist Approaches

Gellner *Nations and Nationalism* 2006
Anderson *Imagined Communities* 1991
Hutchinson and Smith, pp. 196-240
O'Leary 1998

14 February 2008 – Marxist-Materialist Approaches

Selections from Nairn 1977
Selections from Hechter 1999 (1975)

Selections from Hobsbawn 1990

21 February 2008 – Globalization and Nations

Kaldor 2003

Conversi 2007

Hutchinson and Smith 287-316

Selections from Albert *et al* 2001

Selections from Young *et al* 2007

28 February 2008 – Territories, Nations and Borders – Geographic Approaches

Selections from Paasi 1995

Yiftachel 2002

Williams and Smith 1983

Williams 2003

6 March 2008 – Nations and Conflicts

Hutchinson and Smith 241-287

Newman 1991

Gurr 1994

Selections from Kalyvas 2005

13 March 2008 – Nationalist Mobilizations

Selections from amongst Beissinger, Brubaker et al, Laitin, Wilson, Kaiser (1994)

Gorenburg

Hutchinson and Smith 196-240

20 March 2008 – Nationalisms in Everyday Life – Banality and Borders

Billig 1995

Selections from Donnan and Wilson

Selections from Tajfel

3 April 2008 - *Boundaries and Borders in Geographic Perspective*

Newman, 2003, 2006

Newman and Paasi 1998

Selections from Sack

Selections from Kaplan and Herb, and Kaplan and Hakli

10 April 2008 – student presentations

17 April 2008 – No class – AAG meeting

24 April 2008 – student presentations

1 May 2008 – student presentations

Bibliography

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