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
          Miscevic 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 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


Kaldor, Mary, 2004, ‘Nationalism and globalization,’ *Nations and Nationalism* 10, 161-174


O’Leary, Brendan. 1998. ‘Ernest Gellner’s diagnoses of nationalism: a critical overview, or, what is living and what is dead in Ernest Gellner’s philosophy of nationalism’, in John A. Hall (ed.), *State of


Tajfel, Henri, 1981, Human Groups and Social Categories, New York: Cambridge University Press,


Yiftachel, Oren, 2002, ‘Territory as the kernel of the nation: Space, time and nationalism in Israel/Palestine,’ Geopolitics 7, 215-248