

**Political Geography: Nation and Nationalism
Geography 248
Macalester College**

Professor Dan Trudeau Carnegie Hall, 104e 651-696-6872 trudeau@macalester.edu Office Hours: Monday 1:30 – 3:30 pm, Wednesday 1:30 – 3:30 pm, and by appointment in 104e CARN.	Spring 2019 T/R 3 - 4:30 pm 208 Carnegie TA: Claire Hamerlinck Office Hours: Sunday and Wednesday 7-9 pm in 104 CARN.
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Description

The purpose of this course is to investigate how nations and nationalism affect social identity and the organization of territory in our world. Political geography offers concepts and approaches to help us think through the complex intersections of people, place, and politics that constitute the struggle to create and maintain nation-states. Thus, the first part of the course is devoted to enhancing your understanding of core concepts, such as nation, state, territory, sovereignty, scale, borders, and geographical imagination. The ultimate purpose of this first part of the course then is to assemble a framework for understanding why our contemporary organization of territory throughout the world looks the way it does. Equipped with these foundations, we explore topics in the second part of class that help you think critically about the stability of nations and the organization of territory into the nation-state system as well as challenges to these institutions. Toward this end, you will also conduct an independent research project on a single group's attempt to create a nation-state. Throughout this course, we will bring our investigations to bear on everyday life, exploring how nations and nationalism shape our world in dramatic and mundane ways.

Goals

By the end of this course, I expect you to:

- Be able to explain why the nation-state system looks the way it does, including how it has developed and how it might change in the future.
- Understand how processes of nation-state building serve to include and exclude particular peoples, ways of life, and ideas.
- Apply theories and concepts from political geography to real world events and issues.
- Develop collaborative learning skills through group work and giving effective peer feedback
- Improve your reading, analytical, and writing skills

Format

Our two meetings per week will include a mix of discussions, group and individual learning activities, and lectures. Your regular attendance, preparation, and full participation are necessary to sustain an optimal environment for learning. I therefore expect you to have completed all readings and assignments before coming to class and be prepared to talk about them in detail.

‘W’ requirement

This course satisfies Macalester College’s general education writing requirement. In practice, this means that there is a fair bit of writing involved in the course, including an in-depth research paper to which you will make two rounds of revisions.

Policies

Cell phones and Laptops: Cell phone use is not allowed in the classroom. Please silence your phones at the start of class. Should you need to answer a phone call, quietly step out of the classroom. Texting is not allowed either as this is both disruptive and disrespectful to other students and the instructor. Laptop use in the classroom is allowed only for referring to course readings or unless you personally discuss the matter with me.

Academic honesty is expected at all times. All work for this course must be your own. You must properly cite any work on which you draw in your written assignments. Plagiarism or cheating will not be tolerated and will result in a failing grade for the course. Furthermore, such behavior will be reported to the Dean and may result in suspension or even dismissal from the college. Please see me if you have questions about what counts as plagiarism.

Changes. As the semester unfolds, there may be reason to make changes to the course. I will announce any changes to readings, topics, or the schedule in class and via Moodle. It is your responsibility to keep up with any changes.

Deadlines. Deadlines for assignments are firm. Unless otherwise noted, there is a 10% per calendar day penalty for missed deadlines. Note: in a couple of cases, assignments will not be accepted past their deadlines. If you have obligations that conflict with this class’ scheduled assignments, you must see me no later than Thursday, February 1st so that we can discuss appropriate accommodations.

Disabilities. If you have a documented disability or any other problem that you think may affect your ability to perform well in this course please see me as soon as possible so that we can discuss appropriate accommodations.

Health and Well-being. Here at Macalester, you are encouraged to make your well-being a priority throughout this semester and your career. Investing time into taking care of yourself will help you engage more fully in your academic experience. It is important to acknowledge any stressors you may be facing, which can be mental, emotional, physical, cultural, financial, etc., and how they can have an impact on your academic experience. I encourage you to remember that sleeping, moving your body, and connecting with others can be strategies to help you be resilient at Macalester. If you are having difficulties maintaining your well-being, please don’t hesitate to contact me and/or find support from other resources, including those listed on the Hamre Center for Health and Wellness: macalester.edu/healthandwellness

Moodle. A fair amount of course information will be disseminated via Moodle. I will post pertinent documents, notices, and announcements on the class Moodle page. If you are looking for a handout, for instance, you will likely find it there.

No extra credit. The number of assignments on which grades in this course are based is non-negotiable.

Respect for learning. Respect for your peers and professor are absolutely essential to create and sustain a supportive learning environment. As we engage in critical discussion and debate, keep your critiques focused on ideas (and not the person voicing the idea). Our goal is to create a positive classroom environment in which you and your classmates feel comfortable having bold conversations and taking risks in the learning process.

Do not hesitate to talk with me if you have any questions or concerns regarding this class. Open communication is key to successful learning. The sooner you voice your concerns, the more opportunity I will have to respond.

Text

There is one book that you are required to read in this course. It is available for purchase through the campus bookstore and on e-reserve in the library.

- Anderson, Benedict. 2006. *Imagined communities: reflections on the origin and spread of nationalism*, New Edition. Verso: London. (Hereinafter referred to as “Anderson”).

Additional Readings

In addition to the required texts, we will be reading a number of peer-reviewed journal articles and select chapters from political geography books. This format allows us to explore a variety of writing styles, perspectives, and empirical cases. These readings are referenced in the schedule by last name of the author. These are available through our course Moodle page. Let me know if you have any problems accessing these materials in a timely manner. **Bring a copy (electronic or paper) of assigned readings to class.**

Assignments (1000 points total)

This is a writing-intensive course. Writing regularly will help you to improve your writing skills (one of the goals for this course). It will also facilitate a deep engagement with ideas and concepts that are central to political geography. Nearly all the in-class and out-of-class exercises in this course consist of writing essays. Moreover, nearly all of these exercises contribute to your writing a substantive research paper. Writing is thus a major part of this course and written work will form a substantial portion of your final grade. **All assignments are submitted via Moodle.**

Your grade in the course will be based on performance in the following assignments (I will provide detailed instructions and grading criteria for each one at an appropriate time):

- Term paper (300 points). You will write a 3500 word scholarly argumentative paper as a capstone to this course. The final paper will be due on **May 5th**. The basic assignment is to use theories of nationalism to analyze a specific case of nation-state formation.
 - This assignment comprises a substantial portion of your grade because I want to emphasize the importance of writing, reading and analysis skills

that come together in completing the term paper. Furthermore, the remaining assignments in this course are designed to help you enhance the skills and foundational knowledge you will need to excel with this assignment.

- Proposal (50 points). A brief essay describing your interest in a research topic. It is due **March 1st**.
- Rough draft (50 points). Your first rough draft of the term paper is due on **April 7th**. This is a firm deadline. You must turn in a rough draft in order to participate in the subsequent peer-review exercise.
 - Late papers will not be accepted. Furthermore, students who fail to complete the rough drafts by the due date cannot participate in the peer review. Thus, **failure to complete the rough draft means a net loss of 100 points from the total number of points you could earn in this course.**
- Peer review of term paper (50 points). There will be an in-class writing workshop on **April 9th** in which you will exchange constructive criticism on rough drafts with two of your peers. You will receive detailed instructions for providing critique of your peers' work at a later date in the semester.
 - **** You must be in-class on April 9th in order to participate in this assignment. ****
 - Your participation in this assignment depends on you submitting a rough draft. If you do not submit a rough draft, you will be given a zero on this assignment. Note: failure to complete the rough draft means a net loss of 100 points from the total number of points you could earn in this course.
- Revised draft and response to reviewers (50 points). Your second draft of the term paper is due on **April 19th**. In addition to the revised draft, you will submit a short letter in which you identify the changes you have made in response to peer review comments.
- Writing Exercises (200 points). You will have 5 writing assignments leading up to your research paper. The assignments are designed for you to gain a deeper understand of key concepts, to creatively engage course material, and to progress your research project. The grade breakdown on these assignments are as follows:
 1. National artifact assignment (50 points) – due Feb 14th
 2. Profile of nation-making movement (25 points) – due Feb 21st
 3. Inventory of nationalism theories (25 points) – due Mar 11th
 4. Summary of research case (50 points) – due Mar 28th
 5. What theory fits your case? (50 points) – completed in class Mar 28th
- News Media Reflection Groups (50 points). Students will be assigned to work in a small group that finds, reflects on, and reacts to relevant stories in the news media. Over the course of the semester each student will be responsible for

finding and reflecting on three news media stories that relate to relevant ideas, theories, or concepts encountered in the course. Additionally, they must post a brief reaction to the reflections of their fellow group members. These will be scheduled to achieve an even distribution across members and over time.

- Exams (250 points)
 - Midterm exam (100 points) on Mar 14th covering the first part of class.
 - Final exam (150 points) on May 11th that is cumulative.
 - There are no opportunities for make-up exams. Students who do not submit an exam on the scheduled day will receive no credit.

Your final grade will be based on performance in all parts of the course. Letter grades will be assigned according to the following distribution:

<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>	<u>Failing</u>
A (1000-930)	B+ (899-880)	C+ (799-780)	D+ (699-680)	NC (< 600)
A- (929-900)	B (879-830)	C (779-730)	D (679-630)	
	B- (829-800)	C- (729-700)	D- (629-600)	

List of Required Readings

Agnew, J. 2004. "Nationalism" in *A companion to cultural geography*. Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishers.

Agnew, J. A., Mamadouh, K., Secor, A., Sharp, J. 2015. "Introduction" in *A companion to political geography*. Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishers.

Anderson, B. 2006. *Imagined communities: reflections on the origin and spread of nationalism*, New Edition. Verso: London.

Antonsich, M. 2008. European attachment and meanings of Europe: A qualitative study in the EU-15. *Political Geography* 27: 691-710

Antonsich, M., and Holland, E. 2014. Territorial attachment in the age of globalization: The case of Western Europe. *European Urban and Regional Studies* 21(2): 206-221.

Articles of Interest [podcast]. 2018. Plaid. Available online: <https://99percentinvisible.org/episode/plaid-articles-of-interest-2/>

Barrington, L. 2006. "Nationalism and independence," in Barrington, L. (ed.) *After Independence: making and protecting the nation in postcolonial and postcommunist states*. The University of Michigan Press: Ann Arbor.

Bernal, V. 2004. Eritrea goes global: reflections on nationalism in a transnational era. *Cultural Anthropology* 19 (1): 3-25.

Billig, M. 2004 [1995]. *Banal nationalism*. Chapter 1 & 3. London: Sage Publications.

- Booth, W., Colomb, G., and Williams, J. 2003. *The craft of research*, second edition. University of Chicago Press: Chicago.
- Chatterjee, P. 2000 [1991]. "Whose imagined community?" in Hutchinson, J., and Smith, A. (eds.). *Nationalism: critical concepts in Political Science*. New York: Routledge.
- Chouinard, V. 2004. "Making feminist sense of the state and citizenship," in Staeheli, L., Kofman, E., and Peake, L. (eds.) *Mapping Women, Making Politics*. Routledge: New York.
- Conversi, D. 2012. Irresponsible Radicalisation: Diasporas, Globalisation and Long-Distance Nationalism in the Digital Age. *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies* 38(9): 1357-137.
- Cram, L. 2009. Identity and European Integration: diversity as a source of integration. *Nations and Nationalism* 15(1): 109-128.
- Economist* 2016. League of nationalists. November 19.
- Economist* 2016. The new nationalism. November 19.
- Eriksen, T. 2007. Nationalism and the Internet. *Nations and Nationalism* 13(1): 1 – 17.
- Forrest, J. 2006. "Nationalism in postcolonial states" in: Barrington, L. (ed.) *After Independence: making and protecting the nation in postcolonial and postcommunist states*. Ann Arbor: The University of Michigan Press.
- Graff, G., and Birkenstein, C. 2010. *They say, I say*, second edition. Norton & company New York.
- Harvey, M. 2003. *The nuts and bolts of college writing*. Hackett Publishing: Indianapolis.
- Hechter, M. 2000. *Containing nationalism*. Chapter 2. Oxford University Press: Oxford.
- Herb, G. 2018. Power, territory, and national identity. In Herb, G., and Kaplan, D. (eds.) *Scaling Identities: Nationalism and Territoriality*, pp. 7-30. Rowman and Littlefield, Lanham, MD.
- Hirsh, M. 2016. Why the new nationalists are taking over. *Politico Magazine*, June 27. Online: <http://www.politico.com/magazine/story/2016/06/nationalism-donald-trump-boris-johnson-brexit-foreign-policy-xenophobia-isolationism-213995>
- Huntington, S. 1993. The Clash of Civilizations? *Foreign Affairs*, 72(3): 22-49.
- Hutchinson, John and Anthony Smith (eds.). 1994. *Nationalism: A Reader*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Itzigsohn, J., and vom Hau, M. 2006. Unfinished imagined communities: states, social movements, and nationalisms in Latin America. *Theory and Society* 35(2): 193-212.

Jones, R. and Merriman, P. 2009. Hot, banal and everyday nationalism: bilingual road signs in Wales. *Political Geography* 28: 164-173.

Kaplan, D. 2018. National identity and scalar processes. In Herb, G., and Kaplan, D. (eds.) *Scaling Identities: Nationalism and Territoriality*, pp. 31-48. Rowman and Littlefield, Lanham, MD.

Lane, A. 2010. Only mr. god knows why: the meaning of the Eurovision song contest. *The New Yorker* 86(18).

Lowe, J., Matthews, O., McAllester, M. 2016. Why Europe's populist revolt is spreading. *Newsweek*, November 23. Online: <http://www.newsweek.com/2016/12/02/europe-right-wing-nationalism-populist-revolt-trump-putin-524119.html>

Mann, M. 1984. The Autonomous Power of the State: Its Origins, Mechanisms and Results." *Archives europeennes de sociologie*, 25, 185-213.

Murphy, A. 1996. The sovereign state system as political-territorial ideal: historical and contemporary considerations. In Biersteker, T. J., & Weber, C. (eds.), *State sovereignty as social construct*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Nagel, J. 2008. Gender, sexuality, and nationalism. In Herb, G., and Kaplan, D. (eds.) *Nations and National: A Global Historical Overview*, vol. 2. ABC-CLIO: Denver, CO.

Palmer, M. 2012. Cybernationalism: terrorism, political activism, and national identity creation in virtual communities and social media. *Annals of Information Systems* 15: 115-134.

Rinnawi, K. 2012. 'Instant Nationalism' and the 'Cyber Mufti': The Arab Diaspora in Europe and the Transnational Media. *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies* 38(9): 1451-1467.

Scott, J. 2009. Europe of Regions, in: Kitchin, R. and N. Thrift (eds.) *International Encyclopedia of Human Geography* 3: 649-657. Oxford: Elsevier.

The Secret Ingredient [podcast]. 2016. Nationalism. Available online: <http://theseingredient.org/tag/arjun-appadurai/>

SCHEDULE

Topic	Day	Readings	Assignment
Week 1: Introductions			
Introductions	R Jan 24	Graff and Berkstein	
Week 2: Core Concepts in Political Geography			
Scale, territory, landscape, & geographical imagination	T Jan 29	1) Agnew et al. 2) Herb	
The state in historical perspective	R Jan 31	1) Murphy	
Week 3: States & Nations			
The territorial state	T Feb 5	1) Mann 2) Chouinard	Paper assignment given Profile assignment given
What is a “nation”? And who says so?	R Feb 7	1) Anderson ch 1 2) Nationalism Reader: ch 1-5 3) The Secret Ingredient Podcast	News media check-in National artifact assignment given
Week 4: Nation and Nationalism in everyday life			
Banal Nationalism	T Feb 12	1) Billing 2) Nagel	
Everyday nationalism	R Feb 14	1) Jones and Merriman 2) Articles of Interest Podcast	National artifact assignment due
Week 5: Making Nation-States			
Rise of the nation-state	T Feb 19	Anderson ch 2 - 4	
Types of nationalism	R Feb 21	1) Hechter 2) Barrington 3) Huntington	Profile due
Week 6: Causes of Nationalism			
Origins of nationalism	T Feb 26	Anderson Ch 5 & 6	
Evolution of nationalism	R Feb 28	1) Anderson Ch 7 2) Chatterjee	Proposal due F Mar 1 Case summary assigned

Topic	Day	Readings	Assignment
Week 7: Causes of nationalism			
Theoretical frameworks I	T Mar 5	1) Kedourie 2) Forrest	
Theoretical frameworks II	R Mar 7	1) Itzigsohn 2) Nairn	What theory fits? Assigned
Week 8: Nationalism in everyday life			
Nationalism, patriotism, racism	T Mar 12	1) Anderson Ch 8 2) Balibar	Theory Inventory due Mar 11
Mid-term Exam	R Mar 14	Mid-term Exam	
Week 9: Spring Break			
<i>No class</i>	T Mar 19		
<i>No class</i>	R Mar 21		
Week 9: Explaining nationalism			
Remembering and forgetting in the Jordan National Museum	T Mar 26	Anderson Ch 9-11	News media check-in
Which theory fits your case?	R Mar 28		Case summary due What theory fits? completed in class
Week 10: Explaining nationalism			
The geographical elements of nationalism	T April 2	1) Agnew 2) Kaplan	
<i>No Class – Dan at AAG</i>	R April 4		Rough draft due Su Apr 7 @ 9 pm
Week 11: Writing Workshop			
Writing workshop	T Apr 9		Peer Review
Strategies for effective writing	R Apr 11	1) Booth et al. 2) Harvey 3) OWL: Reverse Outlining	Bring an example of good writing to class

Topic	Day	Readings	Assignment
Week 12: States and nationalism in the 21st century			
Nationalism & the Internet in a transnational era	T Apr 16	1) Bernal, Rinnawi, Conversi, or Palmer 2) Eriksen	
Small nations and the politics of regional autonomy	R Apr 18	TBD	Revised draft and response to reviews by Fri April 19@ 9 pm
Week 13: Nations and nationalism in the 21st century			
Discussion led by news media reflection groups	T Apr 23	1) Hirsch	News media check-in
Nationalism and the EU	R Apr 25	1) Antonsich 2) Lane	
Week 14: Nations and nationalism in the 21st century			
Beyond nationalism in the EU?	T Apr 30	1) Scott 2) Antonsich & Holland	
Will a European Identity Succeed?	R May 2	1) Cram	Final paper due Su May 5 @ 9 pm
Final Exam 10:30 am – 12:30 pm	S May 11		