

CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY
University Honors Program
One University Drive
Orange, CA 92866
(714) 744-7646

COURSE SYLLABUS

HON 311
Ethnicity, Race and Nationalism

Spring 2011

Catalog Description:

Prerequisite: Acceptance to the University Honors Program, or consent of instructor.
 All around us we see the rising tide of ethnic, racial and national conflicts. From terrorist acts in New York City to war in Afghanistan, Bosnia, and Rwanda, we see people divided along ethnic, religious, and national identities. Is this inevitable? What are the possible causes and consequences of these conflicts? We will explore what we mean by identity and its various representations such as ethnic, religious and national identities today. (Offered as needed.) Credits: 3.

Restrictions: Acceptance into the University Honors Program, or consent of instructor.

Essential Equipment and Facilities: Seminar-style classroom with computer equipment.

Course Goals, Objectives and Learning Outcomes:

1. Understand the relationship between individual and collective identities, origins of group solidarities and their various manifestations.
2. Learn how to articulate your ideas and views clearly through active class participation and discussions.
3. Cultivate ability to think critically about one of the major social and political issues that currently dominate the public consciousness.
4. Learn how to write clearly for different assignments that require you to use diverse research and analytical skills such as “reading” yearbooks, interviews, review articles and library research.

Content: The course will revolve around the following tentative discussion topics and readings:

Racial Identity and Self in Relations to Others
 Theories of Race
 Race and Gender
 Dynamics of Racism
 Fighting Institutional racism

Ethnicity, Race and Gender
 Race and Ethnicity and Migration
 Theories of Nationalism
 Understanding national identity
 Globalization and Nationalism
 Modernity and Global identity
 Diaspora and Nationalism
 Cultural versus Political Economy
 Theories of Religion and Identity
 Transnationalism, Violence and Religion
 The logic of religious violence
 Intersection of Race, ethnicity, Religion and Nationalism

Students are expected to visit a place of gathering of an ethnic or racial minority or an immigrant community in Orange County. It could be a shrine, a temple, a meeting place, a mosque, a church or non-traditional place of gathering or worship. The only requirement is that it consists of ethnic or racial minorities or immigrants meeting, or worshipping or gathering at one place. The goal of the assignment is to really uncover the stories of various minorities and immigrant communities through their places of gatherings. The expectation is that students will be conducting a study of a group of people who gather together for some purpose and who create an ongoing community and structure in which they worship, share a tradition, interact as a group, and attempt to raise their children with specific beliefs, customs, rituals and values. Therefore, this is an assignment that encourages students to cross your ethnic, racial and cultural boundaries. This will include interviews with participants and the taking of oral histories. Each student will present on their findings.

Current Required Texts:

Barack Obama, Dreams from My Father: A Story of Race and Inheritance (2004) Obama
 Paul Kivel, Uprooting Racism, revised edition (2002) Kivel
 Amin Maalouf, In the Name of Identity, (2000) Maalouf
 Mark Juergensmeyer, Terror in the Mind of God, (2001) Juergensmeyer
 Anthony D. Smith, The Nation in History, (2000) Smith

Recommended Text Books:

Michael Billig, Banal Nationalism, (1995)
 Les Back and John Solomos Theories of Race and Racism (2008)

Instructional Strategies:

The course will be conducted as a seminar with emphasis on discussion and analysis of issues raised in the readings. The instructor will introduce each topic with a brief statement and questions for discussion from the readings. You are responsible for reading assigned materials and prepare for class discussions. You are required to attend all classes, read the assigned readings, participation in class discussions. You are expected to take active role in class discussions. For participation in class you do not

have to possess answers or memorize many facts. You just have to be able to ask questions and offer comments on the readings and class discussions.

Assignments:

1. There will be two formal writing exercises that depend upon the readings and issues covered during the semester. These papers will encourage you to write in varied formats that allow you to practice expressing yourself in an organized and clear manner. While these assignments will be critiqued on substance and style, you will have an opportunity to rewrite them if you chose to gain additional feedback and improve your evaluation. Papers should be typed.
2. You will bring to class a newspaper or a magazine clipping or a material to class. You will give a brief statement on the contents of the material to the class. At the end of your presentation you are expected to ask the class to write a short statement based on your report to be entered in their journal. The class will participate in assessing the students' responses to your questions.
3. You are expected to maintain a journal that is to be entered upon daily over the course of the semester. This should include: free writing in class assignments, personal reactions to readings and your thoughts and feelings about the seminar experiences. Writing your journal will help you clarify your thoughts, feelings and opinions as well as help you with your papers. Although the contents of the journal will not be evaluated formally, it will be checked periodically for thoroughness and given a grade or evaluation at the end of the semester (minimum 250 words or one page a week).
4. A term paper (8-10 pages) on a topic of your own choice is required.
5. There will be a mid-term and a final examination

Methods of Evaluation:

A passing grade in all the assignments will be necessary to pass the course. You are expected to hand-in your rough and revised papers, type-written on time. Late papers will be down graded. Grades will be based on

Attendance and participation	10 points
Journal	15 points
Two written assignments	20 points
Mid-term examination	15 points
Final Examination	20 points
Term Paper	<u>20 points</u>
Total	100 points

Chapman University Academic Integrity Policy:

The course syllabus should include the following statement:

Chapman University is a community of scholars which emphasizes the mutual responsibility of all members to seek knowledge honestly and in good faith. Students are responsible for doing their own work, and academic dishonesty of any kind will not be tolerated anywhere in the university

Students with Disabilities Policy:

The course syllabus should include the following statement:

In compliance with ADA guidelines, students who have any condition, either permanent or temporary, that might affect their ability to perform in this class are encouraged to inform the instructor at the beginning of the term. The University, through the Center for Academic Success, will work with the appropriate faculty member who is asked to provide the accommodations for a student in determining what accommodations are suitable based on the documentation and the individual student needs. The granting of any accommodation will not be retroactive and cannot jeopardize the academic standards or integrity of the course.

Bibliography (optional):

Almaguer, Tomas. 1994. *Racial Faultlines: The Historical Origins of White Supremacy in California*. Berkeley: 1994.

Anderson, Benedict. 1983. *Imagined Community: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism*. London: Verso Press.

Breuilly, John. 1994. *Nationalism and the State*. 2nd ed. Chicago: Chicago University Press.

Brubaker, Rogers. 1996. *Nationalism Reframed: Nationhood and the National Question in the New Europe*. New York; Cambridge University Press.

Greenfield, Liah. 1992. *Nationalism: Five Roads to Modernity* Cambridge: Harvard University Press.

Hobsbawm, Eric J. 1992. *Nations and Nationalism Since 1780: Programme, Myth, Reality*. 2nd ed. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Omi, Michael and Howard Winant. 1994. *Racial Formation in the United States: From 1960s to the 1990s*. New York: Routledge.

Said, Edward. 1993. *Culture and Imperialism*. New York: Knopf.

Spickard, Paul 2005. *Race and Nation: Ethnic Systems in the Modern World*. New York: Routledge Press.

West, Cornell. 2001. *Race Matters*. Boston: Beacon Press.

Williams, Patricia. 1992. *The Alchemy of Race and Rights*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.

Prepared by:

Tekle Woldemikael, Spring 2009

Last revised:

Tekle Woldemikael, Spring 2011