

IWP 602 - NATIONALISM AND ISLAMISM

Fall Semester 2011
Mondays 2:30 – 5:00 pm
Professor Juliana Geran Pilon
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Course Summary

This course examines the meaning of nationalism, its origins in Western Europe, subsequently spread throughout the world, as well as the relationship between nationalism, ethnicity, historic tradition, linguistic and religious identity, with specific emphasis on the various mindsets of Islamists. Connections between nationalism and modernization, the idea of nations as imagined or “invented” communities, and cultural nationalism, are discussed from both political-economic and socio-biological perspectives. Whether nationalism is on its way to extinction, or destined for resurgence, is still an open question – as is its potential for good or ill. Meanwhile, both Islamist terrorists and their intended victims rally around national, ethnic, and religious identities yet reach for global partners.

Course Objectives

As a result of this course, the student will be able to differentiate between the related concepts of nationalism, ethnicity, tribalism, and other forms of group identity; recognize various theoretical and practical implications of identity conflicts; understand the rationale behind Islamism, being able to differentiate among sects, tribal and ideological divisions; and become familiar with the debates regarding public diplomacy and policy options open to U.S. officials and non-state actors.

Course Goals

This course seeks to explore the political implications of group identity formation, including tribalism and nationalism, and relate it to Islamism in its current contexts.

Readings

BOOKS

Nationalism, ed. by John Hutchinson and Anthony D. Smith (Oxford University Press, 1995)

http://www.amazon.com/Nationalism-Oxford-Readers-John-Hutchinson/dp/0192892606/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1312220360&sr=8-1

The Islamist, by Ed Husain (Penguin, 2007)

http://www.amazon.com/Islamist-Ed-Husain/dp/0141030437/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1312220304&sr=8-1

The Dream Palace of the Arabs, Fouad Ajami (Vintage Books, 1999)

http://www.amazon.com/Dream-Palace-Arabs-Generations-Odyssey/dp/0375704744/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1312220417&sr=1-1

The Bloody Flag: Post-Communist Nationalism in Eastern Europe, by Juliana Geran Pilon – handout

http://www.amazon.com/Bloody-Flag-Post-Communist-Nationalism-Philosophy/dp/156000620X/ref=sr_1_2?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1312220518&sr=1-2

National Identity, Anthony D. Smith (University of Nevada, 1993)

http://www.amazon.com/National-Identity-Ethnonationalism-Comparative-Perspective/dp/0874172047/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1312220463&sr=1-1

ONLINE SOURCES (some required, others recommended)

- Mohammad Ayoob, "Political Islam: Image and Reality," *World Policy Journal* 21, no. 3 (Fall 2004), 1-14.
- Quintan Wiktorowicz, "Anatomy of the Salafi Movement," *Studies in Conflict & Terrorism*, 29 (2006), 207–239
- Mehdi Mozaffari, "What is Islamism? History and Definition of a Concept," *Totalitarian Movements and Political Religions* 8, no. 1 (March 2007), 17-33.
- David A. Charters, "Something Old, Something New ...? Al Qaeda, Jihadism, and Fascism," *Terrorism and Political Violence* 19, no. 1 (March 2007), 65-93.
- John McGarry and Brendan O'Leary, "Iraq's Constitution of 2005: Liberal Consociation as Political Prescription," *ICON* 5, no. 4 (2007), 670–698.
- Khomeini, *Islam and Revolution: Writings and Declarations of Imam Khomeini*, Hamid Algar, trans. (Berkeley: Mizan Press, 1981), 27-54.
- Ervand Abrahamian, "Ali Shari'ati: Ideologue of the Iranian Revolution." *Islam and Politics* no. 102 (January 1982), 24-28.
- Amir Taheri, "Fascism in Muslim Countries," *American Foreign Policy Interests* 26, no. 1 (February 2004), 21-30.
- Bernard Lewis, "License to Kill: Usama bin Ladin's Declaration of Jihad," *Foreign Affairs*, November/December 1998.
- Islamic Commission of Spain, *Fatwa Declared Against Osama Bin Laden*, March 17, 2005.
- Osama Bin-Laden, "the Destruction of the Base" Interview, June 10, 1999.
- Stanley G. Payne, *A History of Fascism, 1914-1945* (Wisconsin: University of Wisconsin Press, 1995), 3-19.
- Robert O. Paxton, "The Five States of Fascism," *The Journal of Modern History*, 70, no. 1 (March 1998), 1-23.
- Hajo Holborn, "Origins and Political Character of Nazi Ideology," *Political Science Quarterly* 79, no. 4 (December 1964), 542-554.
- Adolf Hitler, "The Personality and Conception of the Volkish State," *Mein Kampf*, Vol. 2, Chap. 4.
- Carl Brown, *Religion and State: The Muslim Approach to Politics* (New York: Columbia University Press, 2000), 9-18. (Chapter 1 "Setting the Stage: Islam and Muslims")
- Karen Armstrong, *A History of God* (New York: Ballantine, 1993), 132-169. (Chapter 5 "Unity: The God of Islam")
- Bernard Lewis, "The Roots of Muslim Rage," *The Atlantic* 266, no. 3 (September 1990), 47-60.
- Ibn Taymiyyah, *Enjoining Right and Forbidding Wrong*
- Ibn Taymiyyah, *Rulings on Resisting the Mongols*

Course Requirements

- Class participation, including a 10-minute class presentation (10%)
- Final paper (50% of grade) on a topic of your choice, to be cleared with instructor. 12-15 pp.
- Take-home exam (40%).

SYLLABUS

I. Introduction - Some basic concepts: nation, ethnicity, freedom, self-determination, democracy; terrorism.

Nationalism – basic concepts (*handout*)

II. How to understand "nationalism" - What is the "core doctrine"? Relationship between nationalism and ethnicity, tradition, linguistic identity; the "identity" of terrorists

Nationalism, pp.15-35, Part I - "The Question of Definition" and Part III, pp. 132-159, "The Rise of Nations"

National Identity, Introduction

III. *Nationalist ideologies*

Nationalism, pp. 47-131, Part II, "Theories of nationalism"

National Identity, chs. 1 ("National and Other Identities") and 2 ("The Ethnic Basis of National Identity")

IV. *The Birth of European Nationalism - Ethno-linguistic nationalism, Eastern vs. Western European nationalism*

Nationalism, pp. 160 - 195, Part IV, "Nationalism in Europe"

The Bloody Flag: Post-Communist Nationalism in Eastern Europe, by Juliana Geran Pilon - handout

National Identity ch. 3 – "The Rise of Nations"

V. *Nationalism in Asia and Africa*

Nationalism, Part V.

National Identity ch. 4 – "Nationalism and Cultural Identity"

VI. *The Birth of Arab nationalism*

Dream Palace of the Arabs, by Fouad Ajami

VII. *Multi-nationalism*

National Identity ch. 5 – "Nations by Design?" and ch. 6 – "Separatism and Multi-nationalism"

VIII. *The Demise of Arab nationalism (cont.)*

Dream Palace of the Arabs, by Fouad Ajami

Bernard Lewis, "The Roots of Muslim Rage"

IX. *Guest Lecture*

X. *Fascism, Nazism, and racism*

Stanley G. Payne, *A History of Fascism*, pp. 3-19.

Robert O. Paxton, "The Five States of Fascism"

Hajo Holborn, "Origins and Political Character of Nazi Ideology"

Adolf Hitler, "The Personality and Conception of the Volkish State"

XI. *Origins of Islamism.*

Mohammad Ayoob, "Political Islam: Image and Reality,"

Quintan Wiktorowicz, "Anatomy of the Salafi Movement"

Mehdi Mozaffari, "What is Islamism? History and Definition of a Concept,"

Ibn Taymiyyah, *Enjoining Right and Forbidding Wrong*

Ibn Taymiyyah, Rulings on Resisting the Mongols

Carl Brown, Religion and State: The Muslim Approach to Politics, pp. 9-18. (Chapter 1 "Setting the Stage: Islam and Muslims")

Karen Armstrong, A History of God, pp. 132-169. (Chapter 5 "Unity: The God of Islam")

XII. Iran

Khomeini, Islam and Revolution: Writings and Declarations of Imam Khomeini, Hamid Algar, pp, 27-54.

Ervand Abrahamian, "Ali Shari'ati: Ideologue of the Iranian Revolution."

Amir Taheri, "Fascism in Muslim Countries,"

XIII. Al Qaeda

David A. Charters, "Something Old, Something New ...? Al Qaeda, Jihadism, and Fascism,"

Bernard Lewis, "License to Kill: Usama bin Ladin's Declaration of Jihad,"

Islamic Commission of Spain, Fatwa Declared Against Osama Bin Laden, March 17, 2005.

Osama Bin-Laden, "the Destruction of the Base" Interview, June 10, 1999.

XIV. Post-nationalism: speculations and theories - Is nationalism finished? Why or why not? Is Islamist terrorism spreading in the West?

Nationalism, Part IV, "Beyond Nationalism?"

The Islamist, by Ed Husain

National Identity ch. 7 – "Beyond National Identity"

XV. Student Papers presented in class.