THE POLITICS OF ETHNO-NATIONALISM
IN DEVELOPING SOCIETIES

Course Description

The course examines the politics of nationalism, ethnicity and religion with reference to experiences in developing societies in Asia, the Middle East, and Africa in colonial and postcolonial contexts. It explores various ways in which the politics of nationalism, ethnicity and religion has influenced political competition, social conflict, democracy, and gender relations.

Readings

Extensive readings are drawn from the following books, which are available for purchase at the bookstore:


Some readings, marked with an M, are available on mycourses. A reader containing all required readings that are neither from the above books nor on mycourses are available for purchase at the bookstore. All required readings are also on reserve at Redpath.

Course Requirements

Students will be expected to take a midterm exam and a final exam, write a research paper and participate actively in classes. The midterm and the final exams will be based on the required readings and lecture material. The midterm exam will cover the first half of the course. The final exam will be cumulative in scope, with an emphasis on material covered in the second half of the course.

The research paper should explore issues central to the course in depth, using both required readings and additional pertinent materials. It should examine one or a few cases in detail (e.g., one or a few movements or parties) or one or a few themes with reference to a number of cases (e.g., ethnic violence in a range of countries). The paper should focus on explaining particular
political outcomes, and in the process discuss political processes crucial to these outcomes. It should contain both theoretical and empirical discussion, and the theoretical and empirical aspects should be related to each other. The paper should be twenty pages long (double-spaced and typewritten, with font and margins of the usual size) and will be due on Friday, March 31, in class.

McGill University values academic integrity. Therefore all students must understand the meaning and consequences of cheating, plagiarism and other academic offences under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures (see http://www.mcgill.ca/integrity for more information). L'université McGill attache une haute importance à l'honnêteté académique. Il incombe par conséquent à tous les étudiants de comprendre ce que l'on entend par tricherie, plagiat et autres infractions académiques, ainsi que les conséquences que peuvent avoir de telles actions, selon le Code de conduite de l'étudiant et des procédures disciplinaires (pour de plus amples renseignements, veuillez consulter le site http://www.mcgill.ca/integrity).

In accord with McGill University’s Charter of Students’ Rights, students in this course have the right to submit in English or in French any written work that is to be graded. Conformément à la Charte des droits de l’étudiant de l’Université McGill, chaque étudiant a le droit de soumettre en français ou en anglais tout travail écrit devant être note.

If you have a disability please contact the instructor to arrange a time to discuss your situation. It would be helpful if you contact the Office for Students with Disabilities at 514-398-6009 before you do this.

**Grading**

The course grade will be determined in the following way:

- **Midterm Exam**: 20%
- **Paper**: 30%
- **Final Exam**: 30%
- **Conference Participation**: 10%
- **Conference Presentation**: 10%

Students must write the midterm and final exams as well as the paper to pass the course. Class participation will influence the course grade if a student's cumulative course marks are on the borderline between two letter grades. A supplemental final exam will be offered, and will be worth 30% of the total course grade. The deadline for the paper is firm. Extensions will not be given unless there are serious problems preventing the student from completing the paper on time. There is penalty of 3 marks out of 100 per weekday that the paper is late unless an extension is given. No papers will be accepted after Tuesday, December 4, the day of the last class, unless the student is given an incomplete. Incompletes will be given only if the concerned student has serious problems that interfere with academic work.

**Sept 5:** Introduction to the Course
Part A: Cultural Pluralism: An Overview of Trends and Analytical Approaches


Part B: Nations

* I Nation-Formation and Its Consequences


II Imperial Nations, Colonized Peoples


III Nationalism in Colonized Societies


October 8: Thanksgiving

Part C: Nations and Cultural Difference

* I The State and National Integration


Asia Source Interview with Thomas McKenna on Muslim identity politics in the Philippines (http://www.islamawareness.net/Asia/Philippines/mckenna.html)

Oct 17: Midterm Exam

II Nation-Formation Through Ethnic Power-Sharing and Power-Dividing


Donald Horowitz, Ethnic Groups in Conflict, p. 566-576


III Party Competition and Ethnic Conflict


Part D: Religion, Gender and Nation

I The Incorporation of Religion into Public Life


II The Recognition of Religion and Gender Relations


Nov 26: Papers due


Dec 4: Concluding Thoughts