

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO  
Political Science Department

Political Science 41500  
Seminar on Nationalism in the Age of Globalization  
Spring 2010  
Instructor: John Mearsheimer

Course Description: Nationalism has been the most powerful political ideology in the world for the past two centuries. This course examines its future in the age of globalization, focusing in particular on the widespread belief that it is an outmoded ideology. Among the topics covered in the course are: the causes of nationalism, its effects on international stability, nationalism and empires, globalization and the future of the state, and how nationalism relates to liberalism, communism, and Zionism.

Course Requirements: Every student is expected to do all the reading, attend all the seminars, and participate in the discussion. The grade will be based on classroom participation (25%) and one 15-page paper (75%).

A list of paper topics will be provided, from which students will choose one. Papers will be due in my office (Pick 416A) no later than 5:00 pm on Wednesday of exam week -- June 9. For graduating students, papers will be due no later than 5:00 pm on Wednesday, June 2. Papers received after that time will be dropped one letter grade for each day past the due date. The paper must be: no longer than 15 pages of text, double-spaced, have at least 1-inch margins on all four sides, and have a standard-sized font.

Readings and Books: The following paperbacks have been ordered through the Seminary Coop Bookstore:

Benedict Anderson, *Imagined Communities* (Verso)  
Ernest Gellner, *Nations and Nationalism* (Cornell)  
Arthur Hertzberg, *The Zionist Idea: A Historical Analysis and Reader* (JPS)  
Gregory Jusdanis, *The Necessary Nation* (Princeton)  
Anthony W. Marx, *Faith in Nation* (Oxford)  
Jacqueline Rose, *The Question of Zion* (Princeton)  
Peter Sahlins, *Boundaries*, (California)  
Yuri Slezkine, *The Jewish Century* (Princeton)  
Shlomo Sand, *The Invention of the Jewish People* (Verso)  
Ronald Suny, *The Revenge of the Past* (Stanford)  
Yael Tamir, *Liberal Nationalism* (Princeton)  
Charles Tilly, *Coercion, Capital, and European States* (Blackwell)

Course Outline:

1. March 29, 2010 (Mon): **Organizational Meeting**

2. April 5 (Mon): **The Classics**

- Anderson, *Imagined Communities*, read all.
- Gellner, *Nations and Nationalism*, read all.

3. April 12 (Mon): **Shaping Identity**

- Sahlins, *Boundaries*, read all.

4. April 19 (Mon): **Religion and Early Nationalism**

- Marx, *Faith of Nations*, read all.

5. April 26 (Mon): **The Growth of the State**

- Tilly, *Coercion, Capital, and European States*, read all.

6. May 3 (Mon): **Nationalism and Survival**

- Jusdanis, *Necessary Nation*, read all.

7. May 10 (Mon): **Liberalism and Nationalism**

- Tamir, *Liberal Nationalism*, read all.

8. May 17 (Mon): **Nationalism and the Soviet Union**

- Slezkine, *Jewish Century*, read all.
- Suny, *Revenge of the Past*, read all.

9. May 24 (Mon): **Zionism**

- Hertzberg, *Zionist Idea*, read the selections by: Moses Hess, Leo Pinsker, Theodore Herzl, Max Nordau, Ahad Ha-am, Jacob Klatzkin, Martin Buber, Vladimir Jabotinsky
- Rose, *Question of Zion*, read all.

10. June 2 (Wed): **Zionism II**

- Sand, *Invention of the Jewish People*, read all.