

Political Science (PSCI) 4720.001
Ethnicity in World Politics
Spring 2017

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There is a blackboard site for this course where all copies of documents will be placed (e.g. the syllabus and relevant readings).

I. Goals and Objectives of the Course:

This course takes up three questions: What is ethnicity and when is it politically important? What is the relationship between ethnic politics and political behavior, in particular ethnic voting and political violence? What “solutions” exist to help mitigate the likelihood of the incidence of recurrence of ethnic violence (e.g political institutions, partitions, and third party intervention)?. This course is primarily designed to provide both a broad overview of major theoretical approaches to the study of ethnic politics and ethnic conflict in the field of comparative politics.

One of the goals of this course is to promote the analytical skills of the student. This involves not only knowing some basic facts about various ethnic conflicts the world, exposure to the practice of conducting critical analysis (such as what appears in a typical political science journal article) but also the ability to apply academic learning to real world problems. To help cultivate such skills this course will be centered around a “problem solving” exercise- how to “solve” a current ethnic conflict drawing upon the “solutions” we discuss in class.

To promote such problem solving skills you will be involved in two major writing assignments during the term, one a collaborative group exercise provide a summary report on one of seven ethnic conflicts in the world, and an individual paper that examines ways in which to address these ethnic conflicts, and promote democracy. In the individual project students will be asked (if these countries were to democratize) to formulate a constitutional design that would be most appropriate for this country that solves this ethnic conflict. This constitutional design will include the design of executive power, the structure of the legislature, the electoral system, the territorial division of power and the design of the judiciary (more on this later in the term).

II. Texts: There is one text required for this course:

Hutchinson, John and Anthony D. Smith (eds.). 1996. *Ethnicity*. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press.
(Referred to in the syllabus as the *Ethnicity Reader*)

IN addition there will be readings that will be placed on the Blackboard site.

III. University of North Texas--Policy on Cheating and Plagiarism: Academic Integrity.
(See UNT Policy 18.1.16 http://www.unt.edu/policy/UNT_Policy/volume3/18_1_16.pdf)

Categories of Academic Dishonesty.

Cheating. The use of unauthorized assistance in an academic exercise, including but not limited to:

- use of any unauthorized assistance to take exams, tests, quizzes or other assessments;

- dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems or carrying out other assignments;
- acquisition, without permission, of tests, notes or other academic materials belonging to a faculty or staff member of the University;
- dual submission of a paper or project, or re-submission of a paper or project to a different class without express permission from the instructor;
- any other act designed to give a student an unfair advantage on an academic assignment.

Plagiarism. Use of another's thoughts or words without proper attribution in any academic exercise, regardless of the student's intent, including but not limited to:

- the knowing or negligent use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgement or citation.
- the knowing or negligent unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or by an agency engaged in selling term papers or other academic materials.

Forgery. Altering a score, grade or official academic university record or forging the signature of an instructor or other student.

Fabrication. Falsifying or inventing any information, data or research as part of an academic exercise.

Facilitating Academic Dishonesty. Helping or assisting another in the commission of academic dishonesty.

Sabotage. Acting to prevent others from completing their work or disrupting the academic work of others.

Available Academic Penalties: The following academic penalties may be assessed at the instructor's discretion upon determination that academic dishonesty has occurred. Admonitions and educational assignments are not appealable.

Admonition. The student may be issued a verbal or written warning.

Assignment of Educational Coursework. The student may be required to perform additional coursework not required of other students in the specific course.

Partial or no credit for an assignment or assessment. The instructor may award partial or no credit for the assignment or assessment on which the student engaged in academic dishonesty, to be calculated into the final course grade.

Department of Political Science POLICY ON ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: The Political Science Department adheres to and enforces UNT's policy on academic integrity (cheating, plagiarism, forgery, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty and sabotage). Students in this class should review the policy (UNT Policy Manual Section 18.1.16), which may be located at

http://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/untpolicy/pdf/7-Student_Affairs-Academic_Integrity.pdf.

Violations of academic integrity in this course will be addressed in compliance with the penalties and procedures laid out in this policy. Students may appeal any decision under this policy by following the procedures laid down in the UNT Policy Manual Section 18.1.16 "Student Standards of Academic Integrity".

Acceptable Student Behavior:

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT.

Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The university's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at <https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct>.

Violations of academic integrity in this course will be addressed in compliance with the penalties and procedures laid out in this policy.

IV. University of North Texas-Statement of ADA Compliance: The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation.

Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for *every* semester and must meet with *each* faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at <http://www.unt.edu/oda>. You may also contact them by phone at 940.565.4323

V. Course Requirements

a) There will be three exams scheduled for this term

Two In-Class Major Exams: = 200 pts (100 pts each exam) (February 23 and April 6)

A comprehensive major final examination = 125 point (May 9)

Examinations are combination of short answer/ concept identifications and longer essay questions.

b) One group ethnic conflict identification exercise (50 pts) which will be orally presented in class

c) One Ethnic Conflict Resolution Paper (due May 4, 10-12 pages) = 100 pts

The total number of points for this class = 475 pts

VI. Policy on attendance: I do not take regular attendance-- however I will take “spot attendance”. Thus, if you are not in class consistently I will know and this will affect my evaluation of your performance. Also since much of the exam material is based on class lectures, it would be in your best interest to attend regularly

VII Schedule of lecture topics and readings:

January 17: Introduction to the course (What is this course about?)

No readings

PART I: Ethnic Identity and its formation

January 19 What is ethnicity?

Ethnicity Reader, Introduction, p. 3-7 only.

Ethnicity Reader, Chapter 2 (Schermerhorn),

Ethnicity Reader, Chapter 3 (Nash).

January 24: What is nationalism?

Ethnicity Reader, Chapter 11 (Conner), p. 69-75.

Greenfield article needed here

January 26- Contending approaches to ethnicity: Primordialism vs Constructivism1:

Ethnicity Reader, “Introduction: Approaches to Ethnicity,” p. 7-10 only.

Ethnicity Reader, Chapter 5 (Weber)

Ethnicity Reader, Chapter 6 (Geertz)

January 31 contending approaches to ethnicity: Primordialism vs Constructivism 2

Ethnicity Reader, Chapter 7 (Eller and Coughlan)

Ethnicity Reader, Chapter 12 (Barth)

Hale, Henry E. 2004. "Explaining Ethnicity." *Comparative Political Studies* 37:458-485.

February 2 Where do identities come from? Modernization and ethnicity

Ethnicity Reader, Chapter 23 (Bell),

Ethnicity Reader Chapters 14 and 50 (Brass).

February 7: Ethnicity and rational choice

Ethnicity Reader Chapter 15 (Hechter)

Mozzafar, Scarritt and Galaich 2003 "Electoral Institutions, Ethnopolitical Cleavages, and Party Systems in Africa's Emerging Democracies" *American Political Science Review* (especially pp 379-383)

February 9 (NO CLASS WILL BE AT CONFERENCE)

February 14 Violence and Identity

Ishiyama, Pulido and Stewart. 2016. "Does Conflict Lead to Ethnic Particularism? Electoral Violence and Ethnicity in Kenya 2005–2008" *Nationalism and Ethnic Politics* 22:300-321

PART II: Ethnic Conflict and Ethnic voting

February 16: The dimensions of ethnic conflict

Horowitz (1985) *Ethnic groups in conflict* pp. 3-54

February 21 Social- Psychological Explanations for ethnic conflict

Horowitz. 1985. *Ethnic Groups in Conflict*, pp. 141-184, 216-226

February 23: FIRST EXAMINATION (need proctor)

March 2: Social- Psychological Explanations for ethnic conflict (continued)

March 7: Institutional explanations for conflict

Ishiyama. 2009. Do Ethnic Parties Promote Minority Ethnic Conflict? *Nationalism and Ethnic Politics*. 15:56-83.

March 9 Rationalist explanations for ethnic conflict

James D. Fearon and David D. Laitin (1996), "Explaining Interethnic Cooperation," *American Political Science Review* 90 (4): 715-35.

David A. Lake and Donald Rothchild (1996), "Containing Fear: The Origins and Management of Ethnic Conflict," *International Security* 21 (2): 41-75

SPRING BREAK MARCH 13-16 (no class)

March 21 Sources of Political Violence 1:

James D. Fearon and David D. Laitin (2003), "Ethnicity, Insurgency, and Civil War," *American Political Science Review*.

Halvard Buhaug (2006), "Relative Capability and Rebel Objective in Civil War," *Journal of Peace Research* 43 (6): 691-708.

March 23 Sources of Political Violence 2: Secession

Barbara F. Walter (2006), "Information, Uncertainty, and the Decision to Secede," *International Organization* 60 (Winter): 105-35.

March 28: Ethnic Voting

Ishiyama. 2011. "Explaining ethnic bloc voting in Africa" *Democratization* 19:761-788

March 30 -April 4 (two days of group presentations)

April 6: Second Examination

Part III: Containing Ethnic Conflict

April 11: Consociationalism and its critique

Brass 1991. "Ethnic Conflict in Multiethnic Societies: The Consociational Solution and Its Critics" *Ethnicity and Nationalism*

April 13-18: Electoral systems, Presidentialism and Federalism

Ishiyama. 2012 "Electoral Systems" in *Principles of Democracy and Democratization*.

Ishiyama. 2012 "Legislatures and Executives" in *Principles of Democracy and Democratization*.

Ishiyama. 2012 "Comparative Judicial Politics and the Territorial Arrangement of the Political System" in *Principles of Democracy and Democratization*.

April 20: Partition

Chaim Kaufmann (1996), "Possible and Impossible Solutions to Ethnic Civil Wars," *International Security* 20 (4): 136-75.

April 25- 27: (NO CLASS I will be out of country)

May 2 Third Party Intervention

Rupen Cetinyan (2002), "Ethnic Bargaining in the Shadow of Third-Party Intervention," *International Organization* 56 (3): 645-77

May 4: Review for Final Examination

Final Examination: Tuesday May 9, 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.