Political Science 579: the Politics of Belonging

This course will introduce students to major theoretical approaches used to study four basic concepts: ethnicity, nationalism, citizenship and civil society. While ethnicity and nationalism involve a politics of belonging that is often associated with ascriptive commonalities, citizenship and civil society are concepts used to study the "politics of belonging" that people can create through political membership and participation. Combining theoretical readings, comparative analyses, case studies and ethnographies we will address the following questions: How has each of these concepts been studied and understood in political science and in the social sciences more broadly? What have been some of the major debates and questions that have shaped the scholarly literature and informed political practices? How may different approaches to these concepts lead to different conclusions or outcomes in different countries and world regions? How do these different concepts relate to each other? Finally, how do certain contemporary processes such as immigration, transnationalism, globalization and regionalism unsettle or alter the ways in which we may think about these concepts? Students will write 2 short response papers and one book review as well as two analytical essays. Additionally, students will participate in group assignments and in-class presentations.

Grade
Two analytical papers: 50%
Two short response papers: 24%
Book Review: 10%
Class participation (individual and group presentations): 16%

Readings

Additionally, a course pack will be available at Aires Press by the week of September 10th.
**Timetable**

August 27

First Day of Class; Introduction to the Course

**Sept**

3- no class—labor day

*Readings: culture and identity* readings

Stuart Hall. "The Question of Cultural Identity". *Modernity*

**First Short Response Paper due on Wednesday, September 5 at 5pm.**

10—Culture and Identity: Definitions and Approaches
   A cultural approach: Thinking about development

Escobar, Arturo. *Encountering Development*

17-Ethnicity : Theoretical Approaches and Case Study

Two short readings to be announced
*Imagining Miami* (Chapters 1-3)

24-Ethnic Politics: a Case Study cont. & Defining Nationalism

*Imagining Miami* Chapters 4-6

Weber. From Peasants to Frenchmen Chapter 7
Walker Connor. “When is a Nation”
Anthony Smith. “the Origin of Nations”

**First Analytical Paper due Wednesday, Sept 26 at 5pm.**

**Oct**

1- Nationalism Theoretical approaches & Colonialism

Short reading excerpts:
Ernest Renan. “What is a Nation?”
Clifford Geertz. “Primordial and Civic Ties”
Ernest Gellner. “Nationalism and Modernization”
Benedict Anderson. “Imagined Communities.”
Benedict Anderson “Census, Map, Museum”
Partha Chaterjee “National History and its Exclusions”

8- Colonial and Exclusions (cont) & Transnationalism

Longer articles:
Ann Stoler “Sexual affronts and Racial Frontiers: European Identities and the Cultural Politics of Exclusion in Colonial Southeast Asia”
Paul Gilroy. “One Nation under a Groove: the Cultural Politics of Race in Britain”

Oct 15: Transnationalism (cont) Globalization and Regionalism
Montserrat Guiberneau. “Nations without States as New Global Political Actors.”

Second Short Response Paper due Wednesday, Oct 17 at 5pm

22: Defining and Constructing Citizenship

J.G.A. Pocock. "The Ideal of Citizenship since Classical Times"
Max Weber. "Citizenship in Ancient and Medieval Cities"
29- Three Critiques of Citizenship: The Multiculturalist Critique, Multiple Citizenships & the Exclusions of Citizenship

Will Kymlicka. "Multicultural Citizenship."
Yasemin Nuhoglu Soysal "Toward a Postnational Model of Membership"
Iris Marion Young. Polity and Group Difference: A Critique of the Ideal of Universal Citizenship".
Michael Walzer. "The Civil Society Argument."

Nov
5
Citizenship Regimes and Political Participation: a Case Study

Yashar, Deborah. Contesting Citizenship in Latin America: the Rise of Indigenous Movements and the Postliberal Challenge

12
Civil Society


19
Comparative Civil Society- Critical Perspectives


26
Civil society- Comparative Applications

Marc Morjé Howard. Civil Society in Eastern Europe.

Book Review due Monday, Nov. 26, at 5pm

Dec
3- group presentations-global civil society
Group 1: the World Social Forum
Group 2: Global Warming
Group 3: Labor Movement and Migration
Global civil society Chapters: 2, 3, 4 and 6

**Final Analytical Paper due Monday, Dec. 10, at 5pm.**