

INTL 4280: Nationalism and Ethnic Conflict
Fall 2022

Instructor

Aman Bekmagambetov
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Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday after class
and by appointment

Class Schedule

Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays
3:00PM – 3:50PM
Caldwell Hall 107

This syllabus is subject to change throughout the semester.

Course Description and Objectives

How do we define the concepts of nation and ethnicity? Why nationalism and ethnicity are such powerful motivators of inter-group conflict? Why do we observe such an upsurge of inter-ethnic conflict after the end of the Cold War? What theories and paradigms can help us understand such conflicts? This course explores potential answers to these and related questions through the combination of the theoretic analysis, case presentation, and extensive group discussion.

The first part of the course aims at establishing important conceptual and theoretical understanding of the subject, and the second part of the course introduces students to the real-world examples of ethnic conflict over the world. After this course, you will have not only an understanding of core concepts and ideas in the field of nationalism and ethnic conflict through social-scientific perspective but also a skill of dissecting real-world cases according to theoretical expectations.

Required Books

The main texts for this course that need to be obtained by students:

- Smith, Anthony D. *Nationalism: Theory, ideology, history*. John Wiley & Sons, 2013.
- Jesse, Neal G., and Kristen P. Williams. *Ethnic conflict: a systematic approach to cases of conflict*. CQ Press, 2010.

Some of the additional readings will be provided to you through eLC, so make sure to check the course page before each week.

Please NOTE: The readings that will be posted on the course page are for use by students in this course ONLY! Please do not share these copyrighted materials with others.

ALL READINGS ARE TO BE COMPLETED BEFORE MONDAY EACH WEEK.

Course Grading

Your grade in this class will be composed of the following items:

1. Movie Review (5% of final grade). You are required to complete one review of a movie from among those we will be watching in class. It must be at least one thousand words long and go beyond a mere retelling of the plot and description of the events. In other words, you should include theories, paradigms and other insights from the readings. Due: October 30, midnight.

2. Discussion participation and class attendance (15% of final grade). Participation from you will be expected during Monday, Wednesday, and Friday as only part of each class will include a brief lecture by the instructor; the rest of the time will be spent in discussion. You are expected to participate, not just attend every class. That means you need to come to class and be ready to discuss the assigned readings. The readings are to be completed by Monday class each week.

3. Midterm Exam (30% of final grade). The exam will be testing the core concepts, theories, paradigms and ideas from the first part of the course. It will consist of several mini-essays, and the prompts will be distributed randomly among the students. Each exam will be closed note, closed book. You will have the allotted 50 minutes to complete each exam. The two-part exam is scheduled for September 26 and 28. Further details will be announced in class.

4. Two Short Papers + Leading the discussion (20% of final grade). Each paper will be worth 10% of the final grade and should be at least 1500 words long (no more than 2000 words). The students will be asked to pick two cases of conflict discussed in class and produce an analytical paper based on each case. The due date for this assignment is the Sunday of the week after the case discussion. The student writing the paper for the chosen case is also responsible for the discussion of the case in class. The sign-up sheet for the cases will be administered after the first 3 weeks of classes.

5. Final Exam (30% of final grade). The exam will be similar to the midterm in format and will be testing the grasp of the content for the whole course. The final is scheduled for Friday, December 9 3:30 - 6:30 pm.

Course grades will be assigned as follows: 94–100% = A, 90–93% = A-, 87–89% = B+, 84–87% = B, 80–83% = B-, 77–79% = C+, 74–77% = C, 70–73% = C-, 67–69% = D+, 64–67% = D, 60–63% = D-, 0–59% = F.

Other Issues

1. Disabilities: Students with disabilities of any kind are strongly encouraged to tell me at the beginning of the semester, so appropriate accommodations can be made. Students with disabilities that have been certified by the UGA Disabilities Services Office will be accommodated according to university policy. Contact Disabilities Services for more information.

2. Instructor Availability: I am available to meet with students by appointment if anyone cannot attend my posted office hours. Please email me to schedule a meeting.

3. Classroom Behavior: Students should behave professionally throughout the course. Disruptive behavior in discussion sections will not be tolerated. Laptops may be used to take notes in class, but not in a way that is disruptive to other students. Texting is never appropriate in class. Be respectful of other students' thoughts and opinions.

4. Cheating and Plagiarism: All course work must meet the standards put forth in the University of Georgia's Student Honor Code. See the Academic Honesty Policy for details on what is expected of you:

<https://honesty.uga.edu/Academic-Honesty-Policy/Student-Honor-Code/>.

5. Covid 19: Information related to Covid 19 and how this will impact our course and the University of Georgia more generally can be found at the end of this syllabus.

Course Schedule

Week 1 (8/17 and 8/19 – Introduction)

- Smith Chapter 1 – Concepts

The Meanings of Nationalism, Definitions

Week 2 (8/22, 8/24, and 8/26)

- Smith Chapter 2 – Ideologies

Fundamental Ideals, Core Concepts, Nationalism as Culture and Religion, Voluntarism and Organicism, 'Ethnic' and 'Civic' Nationalisms

- "Ethnic Conflict on the World Stage", in Taras, Raymond, and Rajat Ganguly. Understanding ethnic conflict. Routledge, 2015. Chapter 1, 1 – 33.

Week 3 (8/29, 8/31, and 9/2)

- Smith Chapter 3 Paradigms

Modernism, Perennialism, Primordialism, Ethno-nationalism

- Varshney, Ashutosh. "Ethnicity and ethnic conflict." (2009).

MOVIE: TBA

Week 4 (9/5 – Labor Day – No Class, 9/7, and 9/9)

- Smith Chapter 4 Theories

Ideology and Industrialism, Reason and Emotion, Politics and Culture, Elites and Everyday Nationalism, Construction and Reinterpretation

- Nimni, Ephraim (2011). "Stateless nations in a world of nation-states" in Cordell, Karl, and Stefan Wolff, eds. Routledge handbook of ethnic conflict. London: Routledge, 2011.

Week 5 (9/12, 9/14, and 9/16)

- Jesse and Williams Chapter 1 Ethnic Conflict and Approaches to Understanding It

Defining Our Terms, Theories of Ethnicity/Nationalism, International Relations and Ethnic Conflict

- Hale, H. (2008). The Foundations of Ethnic Politics: Separatism of States and Nations in Eurasia and the World. Chapter 5, 93–118.

MOVIE: TBA

Week 6 (9/19, 9/21, and 9/23)

- Jesse and Williams Chapter 2 Levels of Analysis and Ethnic Conflicts

Individual Level, Domestic Level, International Level

- Gurr, Ted Robert. "Why minorities rebel: A global analysis of communal mobilization and conflict since 1945." International political science review 14.2 (1993): 161-201.

Week 7 (9/26 – MIDTERM EXAM PART I, 9/28 – MIDTERM EXAM PART II, and 9/30)

MOVIE: Hotel Rwanda

Week 8 (10/3, 10/5, and 10/7)

CASE #1: Northern Ireland

- Jesse and Williams Chapter 3
- Mac Ginty, Roger, Orla T. Muldoon, and Neil Ferguson. "No war, no peace: Northern Ireland after the agreement." *Political psychology* 28.1 (2007): 1-11.

Week 9 (10/10, 10/12, and 10/14)

CASE #2: Yugoslavia

- Jesse and Williams Chapter 4
- Berinsky, Adam J., and Donald R. Kinder. "Making sense of issues through media frames: Understanding the Kosovo crisis." *The Journal of Politics* 68.3 (2006): 640-656.

Week 10 (10/17, 10/19, and 10/21)

CASE #3: Sudan

- Jesse and Williams Chapter 5
- Etefa, Tsega. *The Origins of Ethnic Conflict in Africa*. Springer International Publishing, 2019. Chapter 1 – Ethnicity as a Tool: The Root Causes of Ethnic Conflict in Africa

Week 11 (10/24, 10/26, and 10/28 – Fall Break – No Class)

CASE #4: Sri Lanka

- Jesse and Williams Chapter 6
- "Intractable Ethnic War? The Tamil-Sinhalese Conflict in Sri Lanka," in Taras, Raymond C. and Rajat Ganguly. *Understanding Ethnic Conflict*. New York: Longman, 2010.

Week 12 (10/31, 11/2, and 11/4)

CASE #5: Israel and Palestine

- Jesse and Williams Chapter 7
- Carter, Judy, George Irani, and Vamik D. Volkan. 2009. *Regional and Ethnic Conflicts: Perspectives from the Front Lines*. New Jersey: Pearson Prentice Hall. Chapter 5.
- Schanzer, Jonathan (2008), "Introduction: Islamism vs. Palestinian Nationalism." In *Hamas vs. Fatah: The Struggle for Palestine*. Palgrave Macmillan.

Week 13 (11/7, 11/9, and 11/11)

CASE #6: Quebec and Xinjiang Province

- "Separatist Movements in Constitutional Democracies: Canada and Quebec Nationalism", in Taras, Raymond, and Rajat Ganguly. *Understanding ethnic conflict*. Routledge, 2015. Chapter 6, 150 – 176.
- Millward, James A. "Violent separatism in Xinjiang: A critical assessment." (2004).

Week 14 (11/14, 11/16, and 11/18)

CASE #7: Cyprus and Ethiopia/Eritrea

- Heraclides, Alexis. "The Cyprus gordian knot: An intractable ethnic conflict." *Nationalism and Ethnic Politics* 17.2 (2011): 117-139.
- Woldemariam, Michael. "Partition problems: Relative power, historical memory, and the origins of the Eritrean-Ethiopian war." *Nationalism and Ethnic Politics* 21.2 (2015): 166-190.

Week 15 (11/21, 11/23 and 11/25 – Thanksgiving Break – No Class)

2021 Kyrgyzstan–Tajikistan clashes

- Sullivan, Charles J. "Battle at the Border: An Analysis of the 2021 Kyrgyzstan-Tajikistan Conflict." *Asian Affairs* 52.3 (2021): 529-535.
- Matveeva, Anna. "Divided we fall. . . or rise? Tajikistan–Kyrgyzstan border dilemma." *Cambridge Journal of Eurasian Studies* 1.2017 (2017): 1-20.

Week 16 (11/28, 11/30, and 12/2)

CASE #8: Nagorno-Karabakh and Transnistria

- Askerov, Ali. "The Nagorno Karabakh Conflict." *Post-Soviet conflicts: The thirty years' crisis* 55 (2020).
- Kaufman, Stuart J. "Spiraling to ethnic war: elites, masses, and Moscow in Moldova's civil war." *International Security* 21.2 (1996): 108-138.

Week 17 (12/5, 12/6)

The Course Wrap-up

- Bieber, Florian. "Is nationalism on the rise? Assessing global trends." *Ethnopolitics* 17.5 (2018): 519-540.
- Jenne, Erin K. "Is Nationalism or Ethnopolitism on the rise today?." *Ethnopolitics* 17.5 (2018): 546-552.

Week 18 (12/9 – Final Exam, 3:30PM – 6:30PM)

CORONAVIRUS INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS

UGA adheres to guidance from the University System of Georgia and the recommendations from Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH) related to quarantine and isolation. Since this may be updated periodically, we encourage you to review the latest guidance here. The following information is based on guidance last updated on December 29, 2021.

Face coverings:

Following guidance from the University System of Georgia, face coverings are recommended for all individuals while inside campus facilities.

How can I obtain the COVID-19 vaccine?

University Health Center is scheduling appointments for students through the [UHC Patient Portal](#). Learn more [here](#).

The Georgia Department of Health, pharmacy chains and local providers also offer the COVID-19 vaccine at no cost to you. To find a COVID-19 vaccination location near you, [click here](#).

In addition, the University System of Georgia has made COVID-19 vaccines available at 15 campuses statewide and you can locate one [here](#).

What do I do if I have COVID-19 symptoms?

Students showing COVID-19 symptoms should self-isolate and get tested. You can schedule an appointment with the University Health Center by calling 706-542-1162 (Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5p.m.). Please DO NOT walk-in. For emergencies and after-hours care, see <https://www.uhs.uga.edu/info/emergencies>.

What do I do if I test positive for COVID-19? (Isolation guidance)

If you test positive for COVID-19 at any time, either through a PCR test, an Antigen test, or a home test kit, you are required to report it through the [DawgCheck Test Reporting Survey](#). Follow the instructions provided to you when you report your positive test result in DawgCheck.

As of December 29, 2021, when an individual receive a positive COVID-19 test: Everyone, **regardless of vaccination status**, should:

- Stay home for 5 days
- If you have no symptoms or your symptoms are resolving after 5 days, you can leave your house and return to class.
- Continue to wear a mask around others for 5 additional days.

What do I do if I have been exposed to COVID-19? (Quarantine guidance)

If you have been exposed (within 6 feet for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period – unmasked**) to someone with COVID-19 or to someone with a positive COVID-19 test and you are:

- Boosted, or have become fully vaccinated within the last 6 months (Moderna or Pfizer vaccine) or within the last 2 months (J&J vaccine)
 - You do not need to quarantine at home and may come to class.
 - You should wear a mask around others for 10 days.
 - If possible, get tested on day 5.
 - If you develop symptoms, get tested and isolate at home until test results are received, then proceed in accordance with the test results.
- Unvaccinated, or became fully vaccinated more than 6 months ago (Moderna or Pfizer vaccine) or more than 2 months ago (J&J vaccine) and have not received a booster:
 - You must quarantine at home for 5 days. After that you may return to class but continue to wear a mask around others for 5 additional days.
 - If possible, get tested on day 5.
 - If you develop symptoms, get tested and isolate at home until test results are received, then proceed in accordance with the test results.

** “Masked-to-masked” encounters are not currently considered an exposure; this type of interaction would not warrant quarantine.

You should report the need to quarantine on [DawgCheck](https://dawgcheck.uga.edu/)(<https://dawgcheck.uga.edu/>), and communicate directly with your faculty to coordinate your coursework while in quarantine. If you need additional help, reach out to Student Care and Outreach (sco@uga.edu) for assistance.

Well-being, mental health, and student support

If you or someone you know needs assistance, you are encouraged to contact Student Care & Outreach in the Division of Student Affairs at 706-542-7774 or visit <https://sco.uga.edu/>. They will help you navigate any difficult circumstances you may be facing by connecting you with the appropriate resources or services. UGA has several resources to support your well-being and mental health: <https://well-being.uga.edu/>

Counseling and Psychiatric Services (CAPS) is your go-to, on-campus resource for emotional, social and behavioral-health support: <https://caps.uga.edu/>, TAO Online Support (<https://caps.uga.edu/tao/>), 24/7 support at 706-542-2273. For crisis support: <https://healthcenter.uga.edu/emergencies/>.

The University Health Center offers FREE workshops, classes, mentoring and health coaching led by licensed clinicians or health educators: <https://healthcenter.uga.edu/bewelluga/>

Monitoring conditions:

Note that the guidance referenced in this syllabus is subject to change based on recommendations from the Georgia Department of Public Health, the University System of Georgia, or the Governor’s Office. For the latest on UGA policy, you can visit coronavirus.uga.edu.