

Political Identities

Fall 2011

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301 Cooper House
x 2942
Office hours Wednesdays: 4-6 pm

Course Materials

Books for Purchase: (P)

Available from the Food for Thought Bookshop:

I, Rigoberta Menchu
Amitav Ghosh, *The Shadow Lines*
Bikhu Parekh, *A New Politics of Identity*
The New York Times, *Class Matters*
Zygmunt Bauman, *Identity*
Nussbaum, et al., *For Love of Country*

All Other Required Readings for this course can be found on E-Reserve (E) or in the Course Reader packet - Multilith (M).

You may purchase these required readings in a bound multilith packet. The Multilith is not a required purchase but is highly recommended. To do so, you will need to submit a request purchase form at https://www.amherst.edu/academiclife/departments/political_science/multilithorderform. If you order this Course Reader, you will receive an email informing you when you can collect it from the Political Science office, Room 103, Clark House.

*Films will be streamed on the course website under the e-reserves tab. Please plan to see them before the classes when we discuss them.

Course Requirements

I expect you to attend class regularly and inform me by email if you miss a class.

Three five page papers will be assigned over the course of the semester. The due dates are October 7th, Nov. 4th and Dec. 16th. In determining your final grade, I will consider your class participation and your performance on each of these papers.

Course Schedule

Conceptualizing Identities

1. Wed. Sept. 7th

Quine, "Identity" in *Quiddities*.

2. Mon. Sept. 12th:

Akeel Bilgrami, "What Is a Muslim? Fundamental Commitment and Cultural Identity"

Issac Levi, "Identity and Conflict"

3. Wed. Sept 14th:

Amartya Sen, *Identity and Violence*, chapter 2 (M) (E)

Frederic Cooper, "Identity" in *Colonialism in Question*

4. Mon. Sept. 19th

Parekh, *New Politics of Identity*, chapters 1, 2, 3 (P)

5. Wed. Sept 21st: *Citizenship*

Benhabib, Seyla. "Borders, boundaries, and citizenship," *PS: Political Science & Politics* 38.4 (2005): 673-677 (M) (E)

Parekh, *A New Politics of Identity*. Chapters 4, 5 (P)

Multiculturalism and Identity Movements

6. Mon. Sept. 26th

Charles Taylor, "The Politics of Recognition"

7. Sept. 28th

Wendy Brown's "Wounded Attachments"

Iris Young's "Social Difference as a Political Resource" in *Inclusion and Democracy*

8. Mon. Oct. 3rd *Strategic Identity Movements*

Dugan, "Just Like You", Einwohner, Passing as Strategic Identity Work in the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising," and Bernstein, "Afterword: The Analytic Dimensions of Identity" in *Identity Work in Social Movements* (M) (E)

Domination and Resistance

Class and Status

9. Wed. Oct. 5th

Karl Marx, The Communist Manifesto (M) (E)

Max Weber, "Class, Status, Party," *From Max Weber*, (M) (E)

Hobsbawm, "Class Consciousness in History," in Alcoff ed. *Identities: Race, Class, Gender and Nationality*,

First Paper Due: Oct. 7th

Mon Oct. 10th: FALL BREAK

10. Wed. Oct. 12th

The New York Times, *Class Matters: Social Class in America* (P)

Race

11. Mon. Oct. 17th

***Malcolm X**

Malcolm X, "The Ballot or the Bullet?" in *On Violence*, pp. 143-156 (M) (E)

The Autobiography of Malcolm X, chapters 1, 2 and 19 (M) (E)

Malcolm X, "Message to Grassroots – October 10, 1963" (M) (E)

Marable, *A Life of Reinvention*, Epilogue, pp. 479-487

12. Wed. Oct. 19th:

Victoria Hattam, *In The Shadow of Race*, 1-17, 157-168 (M) (E)

Barack Obama's Speech on Race, *New York Times* (M) (E)

Obama, *Dreams From My Father*, chapters 1, 4, 6,7,15 (M) (E)

13. Mon. Oct. 24th: *Gender*

Simone de Beauvoir, "Introduction to The Second Sex," Wittig, "One Is Not Born a Woman," and Crenshaw, "Mapping the Margins," in Alcoff ed., *Identities: Race, Class, Gender and Nationality*

14. Wed. Oct. 26th *Indigenous Struggles*

***Rigoberta Menchu**

I, Rigoberta Menchu (P)

Colonialism and Nationalism

15. Mon. Oct. 31st

***The Battle of Algiers**

Fanon, *The Wretched of the Earth*, chapter 1, Concerning Violence and pp. 249-279 (M) (E)

16. Wed. Nov. 2nd

***Gandhi**

Richard Johnson, *Gandhi's Experiments With Truth*, chapters 1, 3 and 4 (M) (E)

Dennis Dalton, *Mahatma Gandhi*, Intro and chapter 1 (M) (E)

New Religious Politics

17. Mon. Nov. 7th

Hirschkind, "What Is Political Islam? (M)(E)

Parekh, *A New Politics of Identity*, chapter 6, 7 (P)

18. Wed. Nov. 9th

Mahmood, *The Politics of Piety*, chapter 1, 3 (M) (E)

Second paper due: Nov. 11th

The Local and the Global

19. Mon. Nov. 14th

Huntington, "The Clash of Civilizations," *Foreign Affairs* (M) (E)

Parekh, *A New Politics of Identity*, chapter 8 (P)

20. Wed. Nov. 16th

Parekh, *A New Politics of Identity*, chapters 9 and 12 (P)

21. Mon. Nov. 28th

Nussbaum, et al., *For Love of Country*, Essays by Nussbaum, Appiah, Butler, Falk, Scarry and Nussbaum rejoinder

22. Wed. Nov. 30th

Zygmunt Bauman, *Identity* (P)

Borderlands

23. Mon. Dec. 5th

Amitav Ghosh, *Shadow Lines* (P)

24. Wed. Dec. 7th

Berjarano, "Las super Madres de Latino America," *Frontiers*

25. Dec. 12th

Barbara Yngvesson, *Belonging in an Adopted World*, chapters 1, 7 and epilogue

26. Dec 14th

Tony Judt, "The Rootless Cosmopolitan" *The Nation*, July 1, 2004 (M) (E)

The Edward Said Reader, chapter 14, pp. 360-380, chapter 16, pp. 399-415 (M) (E)

Edward Said, "Reflections on Exile" (M) (E)

Third Paper Due: December 16th