

University of Rochester PSC/IR267  
Fall 2019  
Monday/Wednesday 2-3:15pm  
Hylan 202

## Identity, Ethnicity and Nationalism

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Office Hours: Tuesday 2:30-3:30pm and by appointment

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### Course Description

This course explores the concepts of identity, ethnicity and nationalism from a comparative perspective. Drawing upon theories from political science, anthropology, sociology and economics, we will examine how identity is defined and how societies use these constructions for, among other things, nation building, war, and party competition. Theoretical readings will be supplemented with empirical studies from developed and developing countries across different time periods.

### Course Requirements

Students are expected to attend lectures every Monday and Wednesday and keep up with the readings. Lectures will be interspersed with discussions of the readings. Regular, active and informed participation is expected. There is an in-class midterm exam (worth 40% of the grade) and a cumulative final exam (worth 60% of the grade) during final exam period. According to the Registrar's website (<https://www.rochester.edu/registrar/assets/pdf/finalsfall-2019.pdf>), the final exam will tentatively be held Monday, December 16 at 4pm. However, because exam schedules can change, DO NOT change to leave for break before the end of the exam period. Barring extraordinary circumstances, there will be no make midterm or final exams.

An optional 57 page paper can be written for extra credit. The paper topic will be handed out November 18 and due by noon on November 27 (hard copy only, no email submissions accepted). If interested, please contact Professor Meguid in November.

### Readings

In this course, we will read a combination of books, book chapters and journal articles. The books are available for purchase at the Bookstore or, alternatively, are on reserve at

Rush Rhees Library. Journal articles and chapters in edited volumes are accessible through Blackboard

Texts available for purchase at the Bookstore

Hutchinson, John and Anthony D. Smith (eds). Ethnicity. Oxford: Oxford UP, 1996  
(referred to in the syllabus as the Ethnicity Reader)

Hutchinson, John and Anthony D. Smith (eds). Nationalism. Oxford: Oxford UP, 1994  
(Referred to in the syllabus as the Nationalism Reader)

Meguid, Bonnie M. Party Competition between Unequals: Strategies and Electoral Fortunes in Western Europe. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2008.

Novic, Sara. Girl at War. New York: Random House, 2016

Wates, Mary. Ethnic Options. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1990.

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This course follows the College credit hour policy for four credit courses. This course meets twice weekly for 3 academic hours per week. The course also includes independent out-of-class assignments for 50 minutes per week. In this course, students will complete the enriched independent study activities using readings and other class materials. These activities include reading articles about course topics in the newspaper and watching films. Such activities will be listed in the weekly assignments below.

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#### Academic Honesty Policy

All assignments and activities associated with this course must be performed in accordance with the University of Rochester's Academic Honesty Policy. More information is available at: [www.rochester.edu/college/honesty](http://www.rochester.edu/college/honesty)

#### Disability Resources

The University of Rochester respects and welcomes students of all backgrounds and abilities. In the event you encounter any barrier(s) to full participation in this course due to the impact of disability, please contact the Office of Disability Resources. The access coordinators in the Office of Disability Resources can meet with you to discuss the barriers you are experiencing and explain the eligibility process for establishing academic accommodations.

NB: No class on August 28 (Prof. Meguid away).  
No class on Sept 2 (Labor Day)

SECTION I: ETHNI CITY

Posner, Daniel. "The Political Salience of Cultural Difference: Why Chewas and



December 2 and 4 Party Politics and Ethnic Parties

Horowitz, Donald L. Ethnic Groups in Conflict. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1985. Chapter 7

Meguid, Bonnie M. Party Competition between Unequals: Strategies and Electoral Fortunes in Western Europe. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2008. Chapters 2 and 7.

For the independent out-of-class assignment: Read the NY Times, Wall Street Journal, Washington Post for 50 minutes this week, focusing on articles about ethnic parties.

December 9 and 11 Party Politics and “Nationalist Parties”

Norris, Pippa and Ronald Inglehart. Cultural Backlash