

Ethnic Identity

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Description

Tailored for advanced undergraduates and graduates, this course provides an intensive introduction to the study of ethnic identity in North America and Western Europe, and its import, both as a body of knowledge and a way to framing empirical research, in sociology, anthropology, and China study.

My goals in the course are to acquaint you with significant, influential Western works in the area (especially but not exclusively in sociology and anthropology), to survey and assess the literature in the field, and to stimulate your own thinking about and research in ethnic identity in China. We will cover topics of identity, race, ethnicity, nationality, nationalism, and the state. To the extent that an overarching theme unifies the disparate readings, it probably is the identities induced race/ethnicity as a relational social construct that historically has been and is now deployed in a variety of political and cultural struggles. Whatever the particular intellectual locus, however, my real aims, again, are simpler: to have you read, ponder, and wrestle and argue with, good books and articles in the field, to prompt you to think broadly and deeply about the topic, and to help you acquire the conceptual tools and language essential to conduct research in ethnic identity and other related areas in China.

Requirements

1. Read prior to each class meeting, think, participate in class discussion, think again.
2. Responses to the readings - you need to contribute questions drawing from the readings in each class meeting.
3. An empirical research proposal on some aspect of ethnic identity. By "empirical," I simply mean that you are to use evidence from newspaper accounts, historical cases, ethnographic observations, content analysis, and social surveys to address an important issue or question in the field of ethnic identity.

Readings

1. Benedict Anderson. [1983] 1991. *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism*, Revised Edition. New York, NY: Verso. (本尼迪克特·安德森:《想象的共同体:民族主义的起源与散布》[吴叻人译],上海世纪出版集团,2005年)

2. Dru C. Gladney. 2003. *Ethnic Identity in China: The Making of a Muslim Minority Nationality*. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth/Thomson Learning.
3. Katherine Palmer Kaup. 2000. *Creating the Zhuang: Ethnic Politics in China*. Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner.
4. Other reading materials will be distributed in class.

Day 1: Race and Ethnicity

Richard Schermerhorn. 1970. "Ethnicity and Minority Groups."

Elisabeth Tonkin, Maryon McDonald and Malcolm Chapman. 1989. "History and Ethnicity."

Manning Nash. 1989. "The Core Elements of Ethnicity."

Thomas H. Eriksen. 1993. "Ethnicity, Race, Class and Nation."

Day 2: Ethnicity and Ethnic Identity: Primordialist Approach

Max Weber. 1978. "The Origins of Ethnic Groups."

Clifford Geertz. 1963. "Primordial Ties."

Jack Eller and Reed Coughlan. 1993. "The Poverty of Primordialism."

Steven Grosby. 1994. "The Inexpungeable Tie of Primordiality."

Pierre van de Berghe. 1995. "Does Race Matter?"

Day 3: Ethnicity and Ethnic Identity: Constructivist Approach

Fredrik Barth. [1969] 1998. "Introduction." Pp. 9-38 in *Ethnic Groups and Boundaries: The Social Organization of Cultural Difference*, edited by Fredrik Barth. Long Grove, IL: Waveland.

Day 4: Imagined Communities I

Benedict Anderson. [1983] 1991. *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism*, Revised Edition. New York, NY: Verso. Pp. 1-65 (Chapters 1-4).

Day 5: Imagined Communities II

Benedict Anderson. [1983] 1991. *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism*, Revised Edition. New York, NY: Verso. Pp. 67-206 (Chapters 5-11)

Day 6: Variants on Ethnic Constructivism

Michael Hechter. 1986. "Ethnicity and Rational Choice Theory."

Robert H. Bates. 1983. "Modernization, Ethnic Competition and the Rationality of Politics in Contemporary Africa." Pp. 152-71 in *State versus Ethnic Claims: African Policy Dilemmas*, edited by Donald Rothchild and Victor Olorunsola. Boulder, CO: Westview.

Hugh Trevor-Roper. 1983. "The Invention of Tradition: The Highland Tradition of Scotland." In *The Invention of Tradition*, edited by Eric Hobsbawm and Terence Ranger. New York, NY: Cambridge University Press.

David Laitin. 1985. "Hegemony and Religious Conflict." Pp. 285-316 in *Bringing the State Back In*, edited by R.B. Evans, D. Rueschmeyer and T. Skocpol. New York, NY: Cambridge University Press.

Day 7: Nation, Nationality, and Nationalism

Ernest Renan. 1882. "Qu'est-ce qu'une nation?"

Joseph Stalin. 1973. "The Nation."

Max Weber. 1948. "The Nation."

Karl W. Deutsch. 1966. "Nationalism and Social Communication."

Clifford Geertz. 1963. "Primordial and Civic Ties."

Anthony Giddens. 1985. "The Nation as Power-Container."

Walker Connor. 1978. "A Nation is a Nation, is a State, is an Ethnic Group, is a..."

Day 8: Theories of Nationalism

Elle Kedourie. 1960. "Nationalism and Self-Determination."

Ernest Gellner. 1964. "Nationalism and Modernization."

Ernest Gellner. 1983. "Nationalism and High Cultures."

Tom Nairn. 1977. "The Maladies of Development."

Eric Hobsbawm. 1983. "The Nation as Invented Tradition."

V.I. Lenin. 1951. *The Right of Nations to Self-Determination: Select Writings*. New York, NY: International Publishers. Pp. 65-85.

Day 9: Ethnic Identity in China: Becoming the Hui

Dru C. Gladney. 2003. *Ethnic Identity in China: The Making of a Muslim Minority Nationality*. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth/Thomson Learning.

Day 10: Ethnic Identity in China: Becoming the Zhuang

Katherine Palmer Kaup. 2000. *Creating the Zhuang: Ethnic Politics in China*. Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner.