

EUH 5934, sec. 14C1: Seminar on Nationalism
Thursday, 4.05pm to 7.05pm

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Office hours:

Nationalism has arguably been the most potent force for identity formation, at the individual and collective levels, over the past three centuries. This seminar on comparative nationalisms introduces students to some of the major works and foundational debates around nations and nationalism. What is a nation? When do nations begin? What is patriotism, and how does it differ from nationalism? What is the relationship between different forms of nationalism and other crucial historical categories such as gender, race, religion, and class?

Each week we will read one of the assigned books and/or articles and meet to discuss it. At least one member of the seminar will be responsible for leading the week's discussion, though everyone in the seminar will be responsible for reading the assigned work and formulating questions.

Grades will be based on level and quality of weekly participation, and on the assigned historiographical essay.

Written assignment: extended historiographical review essay on works related to your particular field of specialty and interest. We will discuss this essay in much greater detail in class.

Reading list, in the order in which they will be discussed in class:

1. a) Ernest Renan, "What is a Nation?" [pdf file in Canvas]

b) Oliver Zimmer, *Nationalism in Europe, 1890-1940*, **Introduction and chapter 1**

c) Excerpt, Michael Billig, *Banal Nationalism* [pdf]

2. David Bell, *The Cult of the Nation*

3. Joan Wallach Scott, *The Politics of the Veil*

4. Linda Colley, *Britons*

5. Peter Mandler, *English Character*

6. Peter Fritzsche, *Germans into Nazis*

7. Oliver Zimmer, *Nationalism in Europe, 1890-1940*, chapters 2-5 and conclusion

8. George Mosse, *Nationalism and Sexuality*

9. Gail Bederman, *Manliness and Civilization*

10. Gary Gerstle, *American Crucible*

11. Matthew Frye Jacobson, *Roots Too*