

Nationalism, State-Building and Identity

POLS 4340

2020

Instructor: Ian S. Spears

Time: Wednesday 8:30 am-11:20 pm

Location: TBA

Exam: Take-Home in November-December

Office Hours: TBA

Office: Mackinnon 535

E-mail: ispears@uoguelph.ca

Phone: (519) 824-4120 (ex. 52182)

COURSE OUTLINE

Introduction: Welcome to *POLS 4340*. This is a multi-disciplinary course which considers various perspectives on political development. In this course, special attention is paid to the links between nationalism, violence, and identity in its many dimensions and conceptions. Students will be exposed to a variety of ideas including the impact of war, colonialism, sport, and technology in advancing development. Various ideas concerning identity, gender, nationalism, and ethnicity will also be examined. This course has demanding reading, writing, and participation components. Students should ensure that they are suited to engaging in each component enthusiastically.

Readings: There is no textbook for this course. Readings are available to students on-line through the library website. Be aware that, for some, this course may have a more demanding reading and writing component. Students should also be aware that this is not a lecture course. Consequently, students are expected to come to class having read the course materials and prepared to discuss them. Students can expect to be called upon during each class and, in turn, will be expected to offer informed perspectives on the readings. Ten percent of the grade reflects participation.

Assignments and Tests: Students will be required to prepare and submit three written assignments which are based on the course materials. More information will be provided regarding the paper assignments early in the term. Students will also be required to complete weekly short quizzes during the term. The quizzes will be based on the readings for that week. Be aware that missing class has significant costs in terms of your grades. Missed classes mean that students receive neither participation nor quiz assessments for that week.

Participation: There is a significant participation grade for this course. Participation is assessed on the basis of frequency of participation up to a total of four interventions per class (that is, if you offer four significant statements, you will receive full marks for that week). Final assessments will be determined on the basis of your participation relative to the student(s) who participate(s) most frequently over the course of the term. Alternatively, students may choose to submit weekly assessments of the readings prior to each class. In the latter case, students must attend class in order for their written participation to count. Students who choose to participate in this way will receive full marks for that class.

Students will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

Short Paper Assignment #1	20%
Short Paper Assignment #2	25%
Short Paper Assignment #3	35%
Class Participation	10%
<u>Weekly Quiz</u>	<u>10%</u>
Total	100%