CULT 342
NATIONALISM AND GENDER

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Summer 2011
Sabancı University
Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences

Summer Term: July 4th-August 19th
Classes: Monday and Tuesday 11:40-14:30 / FASS 2031
Office hours: Monday 15:00-16:00
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COURSE OVERVIEW

This course aims to provide students with the analytical tools, concepts, issues, perspectives and questions in the study of nationalism using gender as a category of analysis. It is designed as a seminar course in cultural studies, sociology, and/or political science. The ways gender informs our understandings of nationalism will be specifically discussed throughout the course. How nationalist movements and discourses imagine, construct and invent national identities in specific gendered terms over time and space will be examined, problematizing the relationship between nationalism and gender. Nationalist politics, movements and discourses, and the “women question”; their relation with femininity and masculinity ideals; reproduction of the nation and women; gendering of citizenship and the political will be discussed throughout the course. In order to facilitate our understanding of nationalisms and their gendered manifestations, we will focus on different case studies covering a vast geographical area with a specific emphasis on the Turkish case.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

The course will consist of lectures intertwined with discussions. Lectures will be introductory, and the students are expected to offer discussion of the assigned material in relation to these introductions. Close and critical reading of the assigned texts before coming to each class is utterly necessary. (You will not be responsible from the recommended readings.)

A Xerox course package with all the reading material will be made available. We will be focusing on some specific parts of the assigned readings in the lectures and discussions.

The grading in this course will be as the following:
Class attendance and participation (%20)
Response papers (40%)
Take-home final exam (40%)

1. Class attendance and participation: Please note that chronic absences and lack of preparation will affect your grade. You are not only expected to be in class but also to participate in the discussions actively.
2. **Response papers**: Throughout the semester, starting from the second week onwards, you are expected to write five critical response papers, each around three pages (double spaced, times new roman, 12 pts), focusing on the readings. The response papers will be written prior to the discussions of the readings, and supposed to be handed in before class. Out of these five papers, only the best four will be calculated towards your final grade.

The response papers should not be a summary of the readings, but involve comments and critiques of specific arguments. Try to form an analysis of what is at stake in these debates by selecting some issues, themes, problems and/or questions to focus upon.

3. **Take-home final exam**: The exam will be in essay format.

As a general rule you are expected to adhere to the principles of academic honesty. Cheating and plagiarism are serious offences, and will result not only in an F grade but also in disciplinary action.

During the semester you are more than welcomed to come to office hours to discuss about the readings and/or talk about anything related to class or to your academic performance.

**COURSE OUTLINE**

**WEEK 1: Introduction**

I. Introduction


II. Concepts and definitions

- Connor, Walker. 1994. “A Nation is a Nation, is a State, is an Ethnic Group, is a…” in *Nationalism*, John Hutchinson and Anthony D. Smith (eds.), Oxford; New York: Oxford University Press, pp. 36-46.

**Recommended:**

WEEK 2: Approaches to the Study of Nationalism

I. Approaches:

i) Socio-economic modernization

Recommended:

ii) Political modernization

Recommended:

II. Approaches:

i) Cultural modernization

ii) Ethno-symbolist critique

Recommended:
WEEK 3: Rethinking Theories of Nationalism

I. Post-colonial perspectives


Recommended:

II. Feminist challenges


Recommended:

WEEK 4: Nationalist Politics and Women

I. Nationalism and the “woman’s question”


Recommended:

II. Reproducing the nation


Recommended:

**WEEK 5: Nationalism and Gendering the Political**

I. Nationalism, Masculinity


Recommended:

II. Gendered Citizenship


Recommended:

**WEEK 6 & 7: Nationalism, Gender, and Nation in Turkey in Comparative Perspective**

I. Nationalism, Nation and the Citizen


Recommended:

II. Reproduction of the nation and women


Recommended:

III. & IV. Gendering Citizenship

Recommended: