

ANKARA YILDIRIM BEYAZIT UNIVERSITY – DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION COURSE SYLLABUS					
Course Code	Course Title	Course Type	ECTS Credits	Prerequisite Information	Date of Preparation
PSPA427	POLITICS OF NATIONALISM AND ETHNICITY	Elective	6	-	September 2026
Instructor of the Course & E-Mail Address	Prof. Dr. Yılmaz Bingöl (ybingol@aybu.edu.tr)				
Office Hours & Office Room	Tuesday, 12.00-13.00 Office No: B-303				
Course Content and Objectives	This course is an exploration of the ways identity figures into politics and politics figures into identity. Through readings, projects, and discussions, we focus on the generators and effects of the identity categories nation, ethnicity, religion, race, gender, class, and culture. The course first focuses on fundamental terms and concepts used in identity politics, and explore different definitions and approaches to these concepts by the leading scholars of the area. The course second delves into theories of ethnicity and nationalism, namely primordialism, constructivism/modernism, and ethno-symbolism. Finally, the course considers selected recent cases in the light of these theories through students' presentations dealing with identity problems in specific countries/cases. The objective of this course is to provide students with a comprehensive theoretical mastery of academic debates surrounding the nation-state and nationalism, and to foster their capacity for critical thinking, independent analysis, and the generation of original perspectives regarding multiculturalism, citizenship, and ethnic politics.				
Textbook(s)	REQUIRED READINGS Özkırımlı, Umut. <i>Theories of nationalism: A critical introduction</i>. Palgrave, 2017. Supplementary Hutchinson, John and Anthony D. Smith (eds). <i>Ethnicity</i>. Oxford: Oxford UP, 1996 Hutchinson, John and Anthony D. Smith (eds). <i>Nationalism</i>. Oxford: Oxford UP, 1994. Anderson, Benedict, <i>Imagined Communities</i>. London: Verso, 1983. Smith, Anthony. <i>National Identity</i>. Nevada: University of Nevada Press, 1991. Gellner, Ernest. <i>Nations and Nationalism</i>. Ithaca and London: Cornell University Press. 1983. Kymlicka, Will. <i>Multicultural Citizenship</i>. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1995. Bingöl, Yılmaz. "Nationalism and Democracy in Post-Communist Central Asia," <i>Asian Ethnicity</i>, 5/1, 2004: 43–60. Stiks, Igor. "Nationality and Citizenship in the Former Yugoslavia: From Disintegration to European Integration," <i>Southeast European and Black Sea Studies</i>, 6/4, 2006: 483-500. http://www.nationalismproject.org/, Umut Özkırımlı, <i>Milliyetçilik Kuramları: Eleştirel Bir Bakış</i>, İstanbul: Doğu-Batı Yayınları, 2008.				
Teaching Methods and Techniques	1. Lecture / Theoretical Framework: Presentation of foundational concepts and theories (nation, ethnicity, critiques of modernity, etc.). 2. Seminar & Classroom Discussion: Critical inquiry and debate based on weekly assigned readings. 3. Case Study Analysis: Comparative evaluation of ethnic identity, nationalism, and multiculturalism policies across various country contexts. 4. Oral Presentation & Academic Writing: Oral delivery of independent student research and preparation of critical review/research papers.				

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)										
	1	Information	Students define the concepts of nation, nationalism, ethnicity, patriotism, and racism, and explain their interrelationships in both oral and written formats without referring to external sources.							
	2	Skill	Students analyze the construction and evolution of national identities within the context of historical, political, and social dynamics using a theoretical framework.							
	3	Skill	Given a case study, students compare ethnic identity and nationalism policies implemented in different countries.							
	4	Skill	Students critically evaluate the complex relationships between nationalism and religion, ideology, race, and citizenship within theoretical and historical contexts.							
	5	Competence	Students interpret the transformative impacts of national and supranational forms of identity on political systems, state sovereignty, and societal dynamics within theoretical and empirical contexts.							
Program Outcomes Contributed by the Course	Program Outcomes (PO)									
	P01	Defines and interprets the core concepts, theories, and approaches of political science, public administration, law, and urbanization–environment.								
	P02	Compares the intellectual foundations of major political ideologies and of social-difference phenomena such as religion, identity, nationalism, and ethnicity, and analyzes their reflections on politics and society.								
	P03	Analyzes the historical development of Turkish political life, state–society relations, and Türkiye's administrative-constitutional structure.								
	P04	Analyzes relations among societies and states in the context of world history, and evaluates current developments at national, regional, and global levels on a theoretical basis.								
	P05	Defines the core concepts and principles of economics and public finance and explains the relationship between fiscal and economic policies and political-administrative decisions.								
	P06	Interprets public and private law legislation and transfers legislative change into administrative implementation processes.								
	P07	Uses quantitative and qualitative research methods to collect and analyze data and to make scientific inferences about political-administrative phenomena.								
	P08	Evaluates urbanization and environmental problems at local, national, and global scales and develops policy proposals to address them.								
	P09	Recognizes professional roles and employment fields in the public, private, and civil-society sectors and applies acquired knowledge to these fields with professional, scientific, and ethical responsibility.								
Contribution of the Course to Field Instruction	Politics of Nationalism and Ethnicity is one of the most fundamental and analytically rigorous courses within the Political Science and Public Administration curriculum. This course shows that identity is not merely a sociological or cultural element, but a political tool that directly shapes state structures, voting behaviors, internal conflicts, and the international system.									
		P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P7	P8	P9
	In1	5	5	4	4	1	2	3	1	4
	Sk2	5	5	4	5	1	2	3	1	4
	Sk3	5	5	4	5	2	3	3	2	4
	Sk4	5	5	4	5	2	3	3	2	5
	Co5	5	5	4	5	2	3	3	2	5
Contribution: 1: Very Slight 2:Slight 3:Moderate 4:Significant 5:Very Significant										

Topics Covered in the Course	Weeks	Topics	Reading Materials
	1. Week	Introduction and Review of the Syllabus	Syllabus
	2. Week	Terms and Definitions: Nation&Nationalism	Heywood, Nation and Nationalism, in Politics Ozkirimli Introduction
	3. Week	Terms and Definitions: Ethnicity, Race, Gender, Class	Schermerhorn and Tonkin, <i>at all</i> in Hutchinson&Smith (1996) <i>Ethnicity</i> , First Chapter “Concepts of Ethnicity,” Part 1 and 2
	4. Week	History of Nationalism	Ozkirimli, Umut. Theories of nationalism: A critical introduction. Palgrave, 2017.
	5. Week	Theories of Nationalism and Ethnicity: Primordialism	Ozkirimli, Umut. Theories of nationalism: A critical introduction. Palgrave, 2017. Grosby S., The primordial, kinship and nationality, Ichijo A., Uzelac G., (Eds.) When is the Nation Towards and Understanding of theories of nationalism, Routledge, London and New York, 2005, pp. 56-78. Hobsbawm E., Comment on Steven Grosby: the primordial, kinship and nationality, Ichijo A., Uzelac G., (Eds.) When is the Nation Towards and Understanding of theories of nationalism, Routledge, London and New York, 2005, pp. 79-84
	6. Week	Theories of Nationalism and Ethnicity: Constructivism/Modernism-1	Ozkirimli, Umut. Theories of nationalism: A critical introduction. Palgrave, 2017. Part 1, Theoretical Issues, Ichijo A., Uzelac G., (Eds.) When is the Nation Towards and Understanding of theories of nationalism, Routledge, London and New York, 2005., pp. 7-9 Breuille J., Dating the nation: how old is an old nation? Ichijo A., Uzelac G., (Eds.) When is the Nation Towards and Understanding of theories of nationalism, Routledge, London and New York, 2005, pp.9-40 Connor W. The dawning of nations, Ichijo A., Uzelac G., (Eds.) When is the Nation Towards and Understanding of theories of nationalism, Routledge, London and New York, 2005, pp. 40-47
	7. Week	Theories of Nationalism and Ethnicity: Constructivism/Modernism-2	Ozkirimli, Umut. Theories of nationalism: A critical introduction. Palgrave, 2017. Part 1, Theoretical Issues, Ichijo A., Uzelac G., (Eds.) When is the Nation Towards and Understanding of theories of nationalism, Routledge, London and New York, 2005., pp. 7-9 Breuille J., Dating the nation: how old is an old nation? Ichijo A., Uzelac G., (Eds.) When is the Nation Towards and Understanding of theories of nationalism, Routledge, London and New York, 2005, pp.9-40 Connor W. The dawning of nations, Ichijo A., Uzelac G., (Eds.) When is the Nation Towards and Understanding of theories of nationalism, Routledge, London and New York, 2005, pp. 40-47
	8. Week	Midterm week (No lecture)	

	9. Week	Theories of Nationalism and Ethnicity: Ethno-Symbolism	Ozkirimli, Umut. Theories of nationalism: A critical introduction. Palgrave, 2017. Smith A. The genealogy of nations: an ethnosymbolist approach, Ichijo A., Uzelac G., (Eds.) When is the Nation Towards and Understanding of theories of nationalism, Routledge, London and New York, 2005, 94-112	
	10. Week	Student Presentations	Student term paper	
	11. Week	Student Presentations	Student term paper	
	12. Week	Student Presentations	Student term paper	
	13. Week	Student Presentations	Student term paper	
	14. Week	Student Presentations	Student term paper	
	15. Week	Student Presentations	Student term paper	
	Course Evaluation Criteria	In-Term Studies		Quantity
Mid-terms		1	%40	
Quizzes			%	
Assignments			%	
Attendance			%	
Practice			%	
Project			%	
Final examination		1	%60	
Total			100%	
Disability Policy	If you have a documented disability (e.g., visual, hearing, or physical impairment, etc.) that may influence your performance in this course, it is recommended to meet with the Engelsiz AYBU (https://aybu.edu.tr/engelsiz/content_list-327-yildirim-beyazit-universitesi-engelsiz-universite-birimi-yonergesi.html) to arrange for reasonable conditions (such as accommodation, etc.) to ensure an equitable opportunity to meet all the requirements of this course. You may also contact the relevant authority of the Faculty of Political Sciences. You should communicate your needs to the course instructor as soon as possible to ensure that any course needs concerning exams, lecture materials, etc. are met.			
Artificial Intelligence (AI) Tools Usage Policy	Assessment in this course is based solely on a midterm and a final exam; therefore, no assignments, projects, or papers are required. Students are welcome to use generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Claude) as supplementary "study assistants" to help understand course materials, review complex topics, and prepare for exams. However, since all examinations will be conducted in-class (proctored), the use of AI tools or any smart devices during exams is strictly prohibited and will be treated as a direct violation of academic integrity (cheating).			