COURSE DESCRIPTION: The nation is one of the most powerful social ideas of the modern era. But what are nations? Are they the eternally constant, fixed entities we often imagine them to be? This course accepts as its point of departure the proposition that nations are not fixed, but rather the contingent and fluid product of specific historical developments in the modern era. The goal is thus to analyze the rise of nations and the rapid spread of nationalist ideologies that espoused them. Instead of focusing on a specific region or chronological period, this course will pursue three goals organized around the common theme of nationalism: First, students will develop a satisfactory definition of “nations” and “nationalism.” Second, they will receive an overview of the historiography of nationalism that introduces relevant theoretical issues and historical debates. Third, it will allow students a glimpse into the processes and phenomena that have shaped modern history from a broader trans-national and even global perspective. Although our “case studies” will mostly cover the European continent, the global context of nationalism will become a primary focus during the final weeks of the course.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: Students are expected to develop an answer to the following two interrelated questions: What are nations? And how has the idea of nationalism impacted the development of modern states?

PREREQUISITES: A background in modern Europe is strongly recommended. Students without a background in modern European history—such as that provided in HIST 1110—may experience difficulties placing the course in its proper historical context.

TEACHING METHOD: This advanced level course will be mostly seminar (discussion) and group activities. Lectures will be offered only once per week to provide course background.

EVALUATION METHOD: Grades will be based on participation, quizzes and attendance (25%), class and group assignments (25%) and five writing assignments of 2-5 pages (50%).

COURSE RESOURCES

This course relies upon textbooks and online readings.

1) Textbooks: The texts required for this course are listed below. You may purchase these books in the bookstore or online.

Eric Hobsbawm and Terence Ranger, Invention of Tradition
Michael Ignatieff, Blood and Belonging
Norman Naimark, Fires of Hatred
Graham Robb, Discovery of France

2) Online Readings: To access online readings, you must login to Blackboard at http://bb.usu.edu. Your username is your A#, and your password is your global password (the
same one you use for Banner or Aggiemail). Course documents, lecture power points, and additional readings are available here.

Readings will be taken from various texts and document collections. Most readings and lecture power points will be available on Blackboard in .pdf format. Other readings will be available online with a hyperlink provided on Blackboard.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

Readings: We will read approximately 80-100 pages from the textbooks every week, although this number can (and will) fluctuate depending on the size and difficulty of the text, among other factors. **You are expected to complete all readings when they are due.**

Quizzes: You will be expected to answer a short two-question quiz at the beginning of EVERY reading discussion. One question will always relate to the reading, and the second will always ask: Do you have any questions regarding this reading? Failure to answer one or both of the questions will result in an unsatisfactory grade. Failure to submit a quiz results in a zero. **You will always get half credit if you submit a blank quiz, but no credit if you submit no quiz at all.** The quizzes are noted below on the course schedule. You will also be expected to sign an attendance sheet for lectures.

Writing Assignments: We will have five short (2-3 page) writing assignments; you will have a chance to revise and rewrite all but the final paper, which is slightly longer (5 pages). The total amount of writing for the entire semester is approximately 15 pages, not including revisions. Your grade for each paper will be based on the final paper draft. Each assignment will have its own handout. The dates for each writing assignment are noted on the syllabus.

Please note: For assignments # 1-3, YOU will be assigned someone else’s paper to read and mark with comments. You must legibly print your A-Number on the essay, because you will receive a grade for your comments (which counts in the “Class and Groups Assignments” portion of the grade).

American Myths Exercise: During week twelve we will have an in-class exercise called “American Myths.” You will receive a hand out explaining the assignment on week ten.

Exams: There are no exams for this course.

COURSE POLICIES

Student Feedback/Communication

I welcome feedback and questions on the course. My preferred method of communication with individual students is via email. Please send your email to shawn.clybor@usu.edu. **Please do not use the Blackboard Mail tool, as I will NOT be checking it for messages.** I will do my best to respond to email within two week days (Monday – Friday), or to notify you if I expect this to change (due to conferences, unforeseen circumstances, etc.).
Late Work/Missed Exams

The due date and time associated with each assignment is stated clearly on the Course Schedule. I do not grant extensions or make-ups for late work or missed exams due to procrastination. Late work due to a legitimate emergency may be accepted on the judgment of the professor. As a general rule, advance warning works better than an email the day after.

Special Needs

Students with ADA-documented physical, sensory, emotional or medical impairments may be eligible for reasonable accommodations. YOU MUST notify me of these issues and provide me with appropriate documentation ASAP. Veterans may also be eligible for services. All accommodations are coordinated through the Disability Resource Center (DRC) in Room 101 of the University Inn, (435) 797-2444 voice, (435) 797-0740 TTY, (435) 797-2444 VP, or toll free at 1-800-259-2966. Please contact the DRC as early in the semester as possible. Alternate format materials (Braille, large print or digital) are available with advance notice.

Weekly Schedule

Week One: What is a Nation?

January 10: Introductions and Course Expectations
January 12: Nations and Nationalism, Discussion
January 14: What is a Nation? Discussion (Reading Due: Renan and Stalin, Available on Blackboard, Week One)

Week Two: Nations as Social Constructions

January 17: HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MARTIN LUTHER KING!
January 19: Imagined Communities, Lecture
January 21: The Invention of Tradition, Discussion (Reading Due: Hobsbawm and Ranger, chapters 1-2, 4)
* Hand Out: Writing Assignment #1

Week Three: Nations and Modernity

January 24: Historical Writing, Lecture
January 26: Nationalism and Modernity, Lecture
January 28: Modernity, Discussion (Reading Due: Hobsbawm and Ranger, chapter 7; Anthony Smith and Ernest Gellner, “The Warwick Debates,” Available on Blackboard, Week Two)
* DUE: Writing Assignment #1

Week Four: Case Study France

January 31: The French “Nation”
History of Nationalism: Europe and Beyond
History 4310 Spring 2011

February 2: The Discovery of France, Discussion (Reading Due: Robb, 1-88)
February 4: Writing Assignment #1, Group Exercise

**Week Five: Case Study France**

February 7: The Discovery of France, Discussion (Reading Due: Robb, 89-164)
February 9: Census, Map, Museum, Lecture
February 11: The Discovery of France, Discussion (Reading Due: Robb, 165-214)
* DUE: Writing Assignment #1, Revisions
* Hand Out: Writing Assignment #2

**Week Six: Case Study France**

February 14: Peasants into Frenchmen, Lecture
February 16: The Discovery of France, Discussion (Reading Due: Robb, 215-299)
February 18: American Myth: Johnny Appleseed, Film and Discussion
* DUE: Writing Assignment #2

**Week Seven: Case Study France**

February 21-22: HAPPY BIRTHDAY, PRESIDENTS!
February 23: The Discovery of France, Discussion (Reading Due: Robb, 300-358)
February 25: Writing Assignment #2, Group Exercise

**Week Eight: Nation and Empire in Great Britain**

February 28: Nationalism and Imperialism, Lecture
March 2: Ethnic vs. Civic Nationalism, Lecture
March 4: Imperial Encounters, Discussion (Reading Due: Hobsbawm and Ranger, Chapter 5; Van der Veer, Available on Blackboard)
* Hand Out: Writing Assignment #3

**Week Nine: Which Way to the Beach?**

March 7: SPRING
March 9: BREAK
March 11: PARTYTIME

**Week Ten: Nations and Blood**

March 14: Nationalism and Racism, Lecture
March 16: The Dark Continent, Discussion (Mark Mazower, available on Blackboard)
March 18: American Myth: D.W. Griffin and Birth of a Nation, Film
* DUE: Writing Assignment #3
* Handout: American Myths

**Week Eleven: Ethnic Cleansing in East Europe**
March 21: Nationalism in East Europe, Lecture
March 23: Ethnic Cleansing and Genocide, Discussion (Reading Due: Naimark, 1-84)
March 25: Writing Exercise #3, Group Exercise

Week Twelve: Ethnic Cleansing in East Europe

March 28: Communism and Nationalism, Lecture
March 30: Ethnic Cleansing and Genocide, Discussion (Reading Due: Naimark, 85-138; Ignatieff, 57-103)
April 1: American Myths, Group Exercise
* Handout: Assignment #4

Week Thirteen: Modern Nationalism in the West

April 4: Great Britain and Ireland, Lecture
April 6: Nationalism beyond Europe, Discussion (Ignatieff, 143-212)
April 8: Irish Nationalism, Discussion (Ignatieff, 213-250)
* Due: Assignment #4

Week Fourteen: Yugoslavia and the Balkans

April 11: Nationalism in the Balkans, Lecture
April 13: Yugoslavia, Discussion (Reading Due: Naimark, 139-184; Ignatieff, 3-56)
April 15: NO CLASS
* Handout: Assignment #5
* Due: Revisions, Assignments #1-3

Week Fifteen: Nation and Gender

April 18: Nationalism and Gender, Lecture
April 20: Imperial Leather, Discussion (McClintock, available on Blackboard)
April 22: TBA

Week Sixteen: American Anti-Communism

April 25: American Nationalism and Anti-Communism, Lecture
April 27: Film, Red Dawn
April 29: Film, Red Dawn
* Due: Assignment #5

No Final – School’s Out Forever!!

School may not actually be out “forever”