Culture and Nationalism

This course on culture and nationalism will consist of lectures/seminars and will deal with the subject in a broad geographic perspective, with special emphasis on Europe and in particular Central and Eastern Europe. The discussion will be based on classic and recent theoretical works of sociologists and social anthropologists.

The theoretical analysis will be illustrated by case studies, which will bring material from different parts of the world, with special reference to the Central and Eastern European region. Current transformation of the region will be discussed in comparison with processes in other parts of Europe, and in connection with the future European integration.

The course will combine elements of lecture and seminar form. Each session will last 2 hours. Each subject will be introduces by the lecturer, and the students will be encouraged to raise problems, ask questions and speak freely.

Course requirements

Students must attend all seminars, and participate in discussions based on the recommended literature. It is vital that the students are familiar with the readings required for each week.

The literature is meant to be a background for the seminars, and to help students to understand the lectures better.
Students are required to write a term paper – an essay to be handed at the end of the course, which will serve as the principal basis for the grade for the course. The paper should be 12 – 15 pages, with bibliography and references.

Course outline:

2. Culture and ethnicity

Reading:

3. Minorities: ethnic, religious, regional

Reading:
- Smith M.G. Some minority problems and a solution. (manuscript - 23 pages).

4. The origins of nation

Reading:
5. Nation and nationalism

Reading:
- Hobsbawm E. Nation and Nationalism since 1780 Cambridge: CUP 1990 ch. 6


Reading:

7. Ethnic revival, ethnic conflict and new ethnicity

Reading:


8. Nationalism in Contemporary Central and Eastern Europe

Reading:


- Verdery K. „Ethnic Relations, the Economy of Shortage and the Transition in Eastern Europe” (manuscript – 18 pages).


- Lane Ch. The Rites at Rulers. Cambridge: CUP. 1981.


9. Nationalistic mythologies

Reading:


10. Nationalism and the State

Reading: