

Hist 317, sec. 01, Nationalism (4 hrs. credit), Fall Semester 2007 (crn 71375)

Class meets in DBH 113 from 8:00 to 9:50 a.m.

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The current catalog description of the course is as follows: *Advanced study of nineteenth-century and twentieth-century European history focusing on the rise of nationalism and its consequences.* Short and sweet, perhaps, but a little elaboration on that might be of interest to those actually taking the course. The instructor for this section is primarily interested in exploring a folklore-to-nationalism pattern that seems to structure many modern nationalisms: you must have the Brothers Grimm, for example, before Otto von Bismarck has a fiery new patriotism to manipulate in order to create the modern German state.

In the first half or more of the course, the instructor will pursue various “case studies” of that with some smaller examples such as Czechs, the Irish and the Finns, the Irish, saving larger examples such as Italy and Germany for later. Initial reading for this first half is the fairly recent university press monograph by Jeremy King, called *Budweisers into Czechs and Germans: A Local History of Bohemian Politics*. The “Budweisers” of the title is only indirectly about beer. A beautiful old town on the upper Vltava (Moldau) River from Prague was called in German “Budweis” (and it indeed did have famous beer whose name was in effect “borrowed” by Messrs. Anheuser & Busch in St. Louis but technically before modern copyright, so a century and a half later there’s still a big flap about it) but called “Česke Budejovice” in Czech. The study goes from 1848 to 1948. Early on there was a mayor who was perfectly fluent in both languages, who had a nickname in both languages and who mingled effortlessly with both ethnic groups. But by 1948 everybody, but everybody, had had to choose sides, often in bloody encounters and foreign invasions, and one group was virtually evicted from the whole state. The next reading is a 20th century novel set in this same little town, Bohumil Hrabal’s *The Little Town Where Time Stood Still*. Unfortunately it is currently unavailable through standard bookstore channels, so you’ll have to round up a used copy (which may be cheaper anyway). As of the printing of this syllabus, there were a dozen available on Amazon.com, a couple on e-bay in e-bay stores, and half a dozen on half.com.

In the second half of the course, hoping to fulfill the “Advanced” label in the catalog description, students will research one aspect of the material of the first half of the course while also reading and discussing the broader topic of how nationalism played out in modern history. The primary reading for this half of the course will be Benedict Anderson’s *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism*. The fortunate introductory phrase of the title has both resulted from and in its turn had a major impact on modern thinking about the subject. Anderson himself is a specialist in Indonesia, which offers the enrolled student a clue that we will also discuss to some extent the transmission of this nationalism idea/pattern to non-European parts of the world. Other TBA readings will be given. So required texts are:

Jeremy King, *Budweisers into Czechs and Germans: A Local History of Bohemian Politics*

Bohumil Hrabal, *The Little Town Where Time Stood Still*

Benedict Anderson, *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism*

Schedule:	<u>Readings for the day</u>	<u>Tentative lecture topic</u>
Tues. Aug. 28 – (none)		Czech language, geography, ancient history
Thurs. Aug. 30 – King Chpt 1		Glory days; John Hus; White Mountain
Tues. Sept. 4 – King chpt. 2		Early cultural nationalism
Thurs. Sept. 6 – King chpt. 3		Classic 19 th century cultural nationalism
Tues Sept. 11 – King chpt. 4		Independence through Soviet era
Thurs. Sept. 13 – King chpt. 5		Irish language, geography, ancient history
Tues. Sept. 18 – King Conclusion		Britain's first overseas colony
Thurs. Sept. 20 – King Introduction		Catholic Emancipation; <i>The Nation</i> ; Famine
Tues. Sept. 25 – Hrabel TBA		I.R.B., G.A.A., Sinn Fein & Easter Monday
Thurs. Sept. 27 – Hrabel TBA		Divided Ireland
Tues. Oct. 2 – Hrabel TBA		Finnish language, geography, ancient history
Thurs. Oct. 4 – Hrabel TBA		The <i>Kalevala</i>
Tues. Oct. 9 – Hrabel TBA		Historic-Geographic, Type & Motif methods
Thurs. Oct. 11 – Hrabel TBA		Finlandia to the present
[Tues. Oct. 16 – NO CLASSES; FALL BREAK]		
Thurs. Oct. 18 – Hrabel TBA		Reflections on the foregoing; exam prep
Tues. Oct. 23 – MIDTERM EXAMINATION		
Thurs. Oct. 25 – [no class; instructor off on academic business: work on term papers]		
Tues. Oct. 30 – Anderson chpts. 1-2		The language of nationalism: Italy
Thurs. Nov. 1 – Anderson chpts. 3-4		The language of nationalism: Italy
Tues. Nov. 6 – Anderson chpts. 5-6		The language of nationalism: Germany
Thurs. Nov. 8 – Anderson chpts. 7-8		The language of nationalism: Germany
Tues. Nov. 13 – Anderson chpts. 9-10		The language of nationalism: Germany
Thurs. Nov. 15 – Anderson chpts. 11		The language of nationalism: Germany
Tues. Nov. 20 – TBA		The language of nationalism: Germany
[Thurs. Nov. 22 – NO CLASSES; THANKSGIVING HOLIDAYS]		
Tues. Nov. 27 – Google Earth presentations day 1 – Ireland I		
Thurs. Nov. 29 – Google Earth presentations day 2 – Ireland II		
Tues. Dec. 4 – Google Earth presentations day 3 – Czech I		
Thurs. Dec. 6 – Google Earth presentations day 4; – Czech II; all research papers due in		

Thurs. Dec. 13, 8:00-10:00 a.m. – FINAL EXAMINATION

Determination of grade: Midterm – 25%; Final Exam – 25% ; daily reading quizzes (dropping 2 lowest) – 25%; research & GIS project – 25%. Missing over 5 of these 2-hour-long classes wins grade of F, as does plagiarism or cheating (clearly defined in the student handbook). Each exam is roughly half essay and half objective, and includes an open-ended bonus question about any outside reading (viewing, interviewing, etc.) you have done specifically for this class.

The research paper is to be on a topic agreed upon between you and the instructor, roughly 12-15 pages of basic text, and is to be a classic, Turabian-styled work complete with footnotes (or endnotes) and bibliography – as if you were submitting it to a historical journal for publication. The class presentation of that same material at end of term is to be done on a Google Earth platform. Instructor will try to model such kinds of presentations throughout the course, and take at least one hour for formal instruction. In particular, students need to know:

- A) how to create Placemarks in Google Earth, to lock in a certain view of the earth's surface, and to embed in that Placemark both text and photographs (at least digital version such as .jpg, .gif, .tiff, etc.); and
- B) how to create Image Overlays to embed digital versions of maps directly into the Google Earth surface.

All these are available on the free download version of the basic Google Earth. In addition the instructor hopes to make available at least some computers with the \$20/yr Google Earth Plus, which enables a user to create Paths (for historical routes), and the \$400/yr Google Earth Pro, which enables a user to create Polygons or polygon outlines (as a visual indicator of particular areas under historical discussion). For this students will need a flash drive (thumb drive, USB drive) of approx. 256 meg capacity, the kind issued to entering freshmen. Price on these has really dropped this last year; instructor recently saw a 2 gig flashdrive for less than \$40.

Other semester dates of possible interest:

- Feb. 2 – last day to drop/add without financial penalty
- Mar. 16 – last day to withdraw without academic penalty
- Apr. 26– last day to completely withdraw from all courses without academic penalty

Samford University complies with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act. Students with disabilities who seek accommodations must make their request by contacting Disability Support Services, located in Counseling Services on the lower level of Pittman Hall (telephone number: 726-4078 or 726-2105). Instructor will grant reasonable accommodations only upon written notification from Disability Support Services.