

ETHNIC POLITICS
POLSCI 217 324 Hyer Hall
Fall 2006
Office Hours: 5:15-7:00 pm, Monday,
1-2 pm, Fridays, or by appointment
305 Salisbury Hall,
262 472-5772
mohanp@uww.edu

Course Description

E Pluribus Unum--from many into one--is the national ideal of the United States. This is based on the idea that the United States is composed of many different immigrant and indigenous groups who are able to maintain cultural, racial, religious distinctiveness and yet still remain part of one community, united by allegiance to a common political culture. This civic culture, embodied in the U.S. constitution, is based on the protection of individual rights, the freedom of ethnic expression, the rights of minorities, and equal treatment under the law, regardless of group membership. This dynamic between political equality and cultural prejudice sets the stage for the American conflict over ethnicity and race.

This course will present an overview of the history and strategies of different ethnic groups as they have integrated (and disintegrated) into American politics through the workings of the civic culture. While often resolved through assimilation into the existing culture, (the so-called "melting pot" model), new patterns of ethnic relations calling for cultural nationalism or separatism have also developed which have created new tensions as well as new political strategies for "outsider" groups. While the history of past ethnic groups is important, we will use them primarily as models in an understanding of contemporary ethnic and racial dynamics as they play out culturally, economically, and politically.

[Ethnic Politics Presentation Description](#)

[Grading Criteria](#)

[UWW Non-Discrimination Policy](#)

Course Outline

I. Introduction:

Week 1 (9/6/06- 9/8/06)

Week 2 (9/11/06-9/15/06)

Global and psychological dimensions of ethnic conflict: globalization and tribalism^D

Zwirgler, Erla. 2000. [ONE WORLD?](#)

Week 3: (9/18/06-9/22/06)

Group Configurations and Stereotypes^d

PBS. 2005. [The New Iraq: Creating a Constitution](#)

Friedman, Thomas. 2002 [Where Freedom Reigns](#)

George Washington's letter to Jews of Newport, RI: 1790: [To Bigotry, No Sanction, To Persecution, No Assistance"](#)

La Ferla, Ruth. 12/03. [Generation E.A.: Ethnically Ambiguous](#)

Week 4 (9/25/06-9/29/06)

**Early American thought and the civic culture:d
European immigration patterns, (18th and 19th centuries)**

Early Immigration Models

Please skim- Monica Campbell. 10/4/05. [Post-Katrina Relaxing of Labor Law Stirs Debate](#)

Eric Schmidt. [Americans \(a\) Love \(b\) Hate Immigrants](#)

Daniel González and Susan Carroll 2005. [Siege Along the Border](#)

CHARLIE LeDUFF and J. EMILIO FLORES 2005. [The Every Migrant's Guide to Crossing the Border Illegally](#)

Week 5: (10/2/06- 10/6/06)

German Immigration

Quotes: [How to be German in America](#)

[Get The Rope! Anti-German Violence in WWI Era Wisconsin](#)

Week 6 (10/9/06-10/13/06)

Irish Catholic Immigration

Construction of Political MachinesD

[An Gorta Mor: The Great Hunger](#)

[Know-Nothing platform](#)

George Washington Plunkitt. ["Practical Politics":Reflections of a Machine Politician](#)

DWeek 7: (10/16/06-10/20/06)

Week 8 (10/23/06-10/27/06)

Southern and Eastern European immigrationd

Early 20th century immigration policy

DuPre, Mike. [Murder Case Had it All](#) : Lynch Mob, Bullet-ridden Corpse, Ethnic Prejudice"

Janesville Gazette, 3/5/99

Norman, Joseph. 8/13/00. [Mrs. Lieberman's Story and Others](#) . NYTimes

exam 1- European immigration

III. Non-European immigrationd

Week 9: (10/30/06-11/3/06)

American Indians

Yellow Bird, Doreen. December 2001. [Effects of Boarding Schools Linger Today](#)

Steindorf, Sara. 2001. [American Indians on the Rise](#) Christian Science Monitor

August 2005. [NCAA Executive Committee Issues Guidelines for Use of Native American Mascots at Championship Events](#)

Week 10 (11/6/06-11/10/06)

Week 11 (11/13/06-11/17/06) d

Mexican immigration and American annexation

[Family Ties Across the Divide:](#) Immigration Policies Can't Beat Networks of Friends" San Francisco Chronicle: 11/98

Sengupta, Somini. 2000. [Farm Union Takes Aim at Big Pickle Maker](#)

March 2006. [Immigrant Voices Reach Capitol Hill](#)

Week 12 (11/20/06-11/22/06) No class on Friday, 11/24/06-Thanksgiving.

early Asian immigration

[Executive Order 9066](#)

Ronald Reagan's remarks: [The Redress Act 1988](#)

Frutkin, Alan. 2000. [Asian-Americans Are Rarely Seen on TV](#)

Kneiszel, Jim. 2002. [Hmong Embrace US as Home](#)

Week 13 (11/27/06-12/1/06)

Week 14 (12/4/06-12/8/06)

African-Americans

DuPres, Mike. [Racial Prejudice Common in the Midwest](#)

Kennedy, Randall. 12/23/99. [From Small Beginnings: the Montgomery Bus Boycott](#)

[Malcolm X: Selected Readings](#)

exam 2-Non-European immigration

week 15 (12/11/06)

presentations