EUS 3930

European Identity and the “Other” Europe

SPRING 2018

Sections: 1964, 19A9

T 8-9th period; TH 9-th period

Flint 0117

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This course explores the complexities and contradictions inherent in the concept of European identity. “European Identity” is a concept whose precise meaning and definition, at the turn of the 21st century, has become the focal point for political and cultural contestation, on the level of the European Union and its individual member states, over issues ranging from European expansion, asylum and refugee politics, global capitalism, national identity, immigration, citizenship, racism, anti-Semitism, to the place of Islam within Europe.

The prominence of the question of “European identity” in contemporary cultural debates and politics derives from a number of factors. First, the concept is central in political attempts to infuse the process of the continuing political and economic integration and enlargement of the European Union with a popular sense of supra-national belonging.

Secondly, the discourse of Europeanness, or more specifically of a “Europe of values” is incessantly mobilized in national contexts to alternately channel and contest the ever-deepening frustration over the social fallout of globalization, immigration, and the so-called “Islamization” of Europe.

The discourse of “Europeanness” presumes an essential “core” of European identity. But “Europeanness” is, and has historically been, always constructed in a relation of opposition to its various internal and external “Others.” This course critically examines the construction of “European Identity” in relation to the social and ethnic groups, regions, and religions which have been, and in some cases still are, posited as Europe’s “Other.” It explores the after effects of these constructions of Otherness on the contemporary scene of European politics. And it ultimately questions the viability of the “European Project” in the light of recent events such as the Euro crisis, the crisis in Ukraine, the refugee crisis and the rise of anti-immigrant xenophobia.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

This is a *concept driven* course. We will develop a conceptual apparatus to understand how cities are structured and have changed over time.

Students will be evaluated on their familiarity with these concepts in their reading logs, and 3 response papers.

COURSE READINGS:

Readings for the course will be posted on e-learning (CANVAS) before the due date.

The following books are required reading

Caryll Phillips, *The Nature of Blood*  (e-learning)

Louis Couperus, The Hidden Force (e-learning)

I will make these books available online, as all the other readings. You are of course welcome to buy them (make sure to get the edition we use in class).

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

ATTENDANCE AND PREPARATION:

This course will be conducted in seminar format. That means that each student is expected to come to each session prepared to discuss the readings assigned for that session. Reading of the assigned material and participating in class discussion is essential to the successful completion of the course!

Please note that class attendance is required for this course and constitutes 5% of your grade. You will be permitted 2 unexcused absences, after which you loose ALL your attendance points if you are absent without proper reason and documentation. Excused absences are consistent with university policies in the undergraduate catalog and require appropriate documentation.

According to the Office of the Registrar, “acceptable reasons for absence from class include illness, serious family emergencies, special curricular requirements, military obligation, severe weather conditions, religious holidays and participation in official university activities such as music performances, athletic competition or debate. Absences from class for court-imposed legal obligations (e.g. jury duty or subpoena) must be excused.”

(<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>)

READING LOG AND PARTICIPATION:

You will keep a reading log that I will collect 3 times during the semester. Your entries and your contribution to class discussion will constitute 10% of your grade. I will grade the entries with V+ (92 and above); V (85-91); and V- (80-84). If your grade is lower, or if you are missing readings, I will ask you to revise.

The journal is meant to stimulate active reading. The reading log is not supposed to be a summary of the text. A good journal focuses NOT on reproducing the argument and information of the article in great detail, but selects the most important concepts, ideas and arguments that you think are central to the author’s concerns-questions or argument. Of course you can elaborate and add your own commentary. Any format for taking these notes is fine. I prefer it to be typed but if you want to keep a separate notebook in which you collect your entries, and your handwriting is superbly legible, that’s fine too.

RESPONSE PAPERS:

You will write three response papers of 5-7 pages each. I will provide detailed prompts for these papers. You will be expected to integrate class readings to aid in your interpretation and analysis of the novels.

Each response paper is worth 20% of your grade.

DUE DATES:

Paper 1: February 22

Paper 2: April 3

Paper 3: April 31

GRADE BREAKDOWN:

Attendance: 5%

Journal Grade: 5%

Paper 1: 30%

Paper 2: 30%

Paper 3: 30%

Grading Scale:

A: 90-100

B+: 85-89

B: 80-84

C+: 75-79

C: 70-74

D+: 65-69

D: 60-65

E: 59 % or below

More information on grades and grading policies is here: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

COURSE EVALUATION

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this

course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>.

Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the

semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open.

Summary results of these assessments are available to students at

<https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>

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UNIVERSITY HONESTY POLICTY

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members

of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our

peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor

Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of

Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I

have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.”

The Honor Code (<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conducthonor-code/> specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code

and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any

condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel.

STUDENTS REQUIRING ACCOMMODATIONS

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register

with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, [www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/)

) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive

an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when

requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this

procedure as early as possible in the semester.

COUNSELING AND WELLNESS CENTER

Contact information for the Counseling and Wellness Center: http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx, 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

READING ASSIGNMENTS AND COURSE SCHEDULE

**Week One:**

**Tuesday January 9:** **Welcome, Syllabus**

**Thursday January 11: David Sibley, Geographies of Exclusion: society and difference in the West, Images of Difference, 14-31; 49-71**

**Week Two: Geographies of Exclusion and Desire**

Tuesday January 16: Gilman, “Introduction;” Mary Douglas, “Purity and Danger,” excerpt

Thursday January 18: Richard Sennett, “Fear of Touching”; Caryll Phillips, The Nature of Blood, pp. 1-50

**Week Three: Race**

**Tuesday January 23: The Nature of Blood, pp. 50-100; Drakakis, “Jews, bastards, and black rams”**

**Thursday January 25: Caryll Phillips, The Nature of Blood, pp. 100-150; Heng, Invention of Race in the Middle Ages**

**Week Four: Whiteness**

**Tuesday January 30: Caryll Philips, The Nature of Blood, pp. 150-175; Ashley Dawson, “To remember Too Much.”**

**Thursday February 1: Caryll Philips, The Nature of Blood, pp. 175-end; Hall, “Europe’s Other Self”**

**Week Five: The Europe of Civilization, Colonialism**

**Tuesday February 6: Part One Louis Couperus, The Hidden Force (1901)**

**Thursday February 8: Couperus Part One, continued; Ann Stoler, “Sexual Affronts and Racial Frontiers,” pp. 198-227**

**Week Six: Colonialism/Post Colonialism Continued II**

Tuesday February 13: Couperus Part Two

Thursday February 15: Dyer, excerpt “White”; Homi Bhabha, “The Other Question”

**Week Seven: Colonialism/Post Colonialism Continued III**

**Tuesday February 20: Couperus Part Three**

**Thursday February 22: DUE DATE PAPER on Caryl Phillips, The Nature of Blood**

**Week Eight: Power/Knowledge**

**Tuesday February 27: Aimee Cesaire, Discourse on Colonialism, pp. 1-5**

[**http://www.rlwclarke.net/theory/SourcesPrimary/CesaireDiscourseonColonialism.pdf**](http://www.rlwclarke.net/theory/SourcesPrimary/CesaireDiscourseonColonialism.pdf)**; Open Democracy, “Xenophobia and the Civilizing Mission”**

**Thursday March 1: Edward Said, Orientalism, Chapter One**

[**https://sites.evergreen.edu/politicalshakespeares/wp-content/uploads/sites/33/2014/12/Said\_full.pdf**](https://sites.evergreen.edu/politicalshakespeares/wp-content/uploads/sites/33/2014/12/Said_full.pdf)

**Week Nine: SPRING BREAK March 5-9**

**Week Ten: Inventing Eastern Europe: The Slavic Other**

Tuesday March 13: Wolff, Inventing Eastern Europe, Introduction; Washington Post, “Putin, Christianity, and Europe” <http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2014/jan/28/whos-godless-now-russia-says-its-us/>

Thursday March 15: Dodds, ”Licensed to Stereotype: James Bond and the Spectre of Balkanism”; The Guardian, “Two Angry men at Europe’s Fringe”

**Week Eleven: The Balkans and the Eastern Question**

**Tuesday March 20: Schumacher, “The Eastern Question as European Question”**

Thursday March 22: Vera Goldsworthy, “Balkan as Other: The Rhetoric of Balkanization”; Hammond, “Balkans as Europe’s Danger Zone”

Week Twelve: Inventing the Balkans

Tuesday March 27: Elena Condouriotis, “Dracula and the Invention of Europe”

Thursday March 29: Ivaylo Ditchev, “Eros of Identity”; Bogdal, “Europe Invents The Gypsies”

Week Thirteen: Europeanizing the European Periphery

**Tuesday April 3: DUE DATE PAPER on Couperus, “Hidden Force”;**

Wiebe, “Securing Europe’s Fringe”

Thursday April 5: Shannon Jones and Jelena Subotic, “Fantasies of Power: Performing Europeanization”; Sieg, “Cosmopolitan Empire”

Week Fourteen: Fortress Europe

**Tuesday April 10: Dzenovska, “Eastern Europe, the Moral Subject of the Migration/Refugee Crisis”**

**Thursday April 12: Brigitte Hipfl and Daniela Gronold, “Asylum Seekers as Austria’s Other”; The Guardian, “Christian Refugees are Fine, Muslims Aren’t”**

**Week Fifteen: Refugees as Europe’s Other**

Tuesday April 17: “Norway Offers Migrants a Lesson in How To Treat Women”; “Migrant, Refugee or Human?”; The Economist, “Gay Rights in Georgia”

Thursday April 19: Holmes, Integral Europe, “Introduction”; “The New Integralist Conservatism”; Atlantic, “Trump, Putin and the Alt Right “ <http://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2016/10/trump-putin-alt-right-comintern/506015/>

**Week Sixteen: Conclusion**

**Tuesday April 24: Simms and Less, “A Crisis Without End: European Disintegration”**

**THURSDAY APRIL 31: DUE DATE PAPER “Balkanism”**