

Soc 389-000
Immigration & Social Conflict:
Comparative Perspectives

Fall 2003

Tuesday and Thursday
11.00am – 12.30pm (confirm the time please)
Location: Geoscience 105

Sam Cherribi
Department of Sociology
Emory University

Office: Room 112 Tarbutton Hall
Office Hours: Tuesdays 2.30-4.30pm
& by appointment

Course Description

The course focuses on the construction of identities in the context of social and political conflicts over contested issues. The course takes European societies as a focal point because of the ongoing and at times heated debates over immigrants within many European countries. While the US has a long history of economic migrants, most of Europe's economic migrants arrived only in the past several decades. Many of northern Europe's "guest workers" arrived in the 1960s, from North Africa and Turkey. Today, these first-generation immigrants and their European-born children and grandchildren are the focus of much public discussion and debate.

What roles do social, religious, and political groups and organizations play in mobilizing identities and conflicts in contemporary European welfare states? Contemporary Holland provides an example of an unprecedented major conflict that erupted between two ('stigmatized') minority groups (one sexual and one religious—homosexuals and Muslims), and this is just one of the country cases we will discuss in the course. Because language may be a barrier for students' understanding of the current debates in many European societies, we often rely upon examples from Britain. Students are expected to pay attention to the public debate in the UK and other countries via internet during the course.

Required Reading

The reading for the course is heavier in the first weeks, and lighter in the last weeks when you will be spending a great deal of time outside of class working on your research-based term paper.

There are 4 required books; chapters from these will be assigned:

Michelle Lamont's cross-national comparative study *The Dignity of Working Men: Morality and the Boundaries of Race, Class, and Immigration* (Harvard University Press, 2002).

Elizabeth Poole's *Reporting Islam: Media Representations and British Muslims*. (London: I.B. Taurus and Co., 2002)

Benedict Anderson's seminal book *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism*. London: Verso (revised edition 1991).

Gilles Kepel's book *Allah in the West: Islamic Movements in America and Europe* (Mestizo Spaces/Espaces Metisses) (Stanford University Press, 1997).

Additional required readings

Some journal articles and work in progress will also be assigned and available electronically.

Course Evaluation and Grading

The course will operate as a seminar. I will lecture only part of the time and our discussion about the readings will be a regular part of the course. It is therefore essential that you read everything that is required each session **before** coming to class.

Your participation in class will be based on serving as a discussant and/or expert on a number of the readings at different class meetings. At each class meeting, there will be a number of students serving on the panel of experts that day, to address questions about the day's readings. There will also be a number of discussants responsible for facilitating the discussion about the readings at each meeting.

Your grade for the course will be based upon your attendance and participation (20%), one short paper (20%), a mid-term take-home essay exam (30%), a final term paper and the presentation of that paper in class (30%). More about the paper assignments will be handed out in class.

Course outline

August 28 Syllabus distributed. No class meeting today.

September 2 Introduction to the Course: Themes and Approaches

Michelle Lamont, *The Dignity of Working Men: Morality and the Boundaries of Race, Class, and Immigration* (Harvard University Press, 2002):

Appendix A: Methods and Analysis pp 251-257

Appendix B: The context of the interview: Economic Insecurity, Globalization, and Places pp 258-264

September 4 Immigrants in Comparative Perspective I

Michelle Lamont's book, Introduction and Part1 (Chapters 1,2,3)

Introduction: Making Sense of Their Worlds pp1-13

Part I American Workers

1 The World in Moral Order pp 17- 54

2 Euphemized Racism: Moral qua Racial Boundaries pp 55-96

3 Assessing "People Above" and " People Below" pp 97-146

September 9 Immigrants in Comparative Perspective II

Lamont's book:

4 The United States Compared (Workers compared) pp 149-168

5 Racism Compared pp.169- 214

September 11 Immigrants in Comparative Perspective III

We finish reading Lamont's book:

6 Class Boundaries Compared pp 215-240

7 Conclusion: Toward a New Agenda pp 241- 249

September 16 Mediated Events

Guest Lecture: Media and Social Conflict

Holli A. Semetko

Reading t.b.a.

September 18 British Reporting I

Short paper assignment due at the beginning of class.

Elizabeth Poole's *Reporting Islam: Media Representations and British Muslims*. (London: I.B. Taurus and Co., 2002)

Preface: After 11 September 2001 + introduction pp 1- 27

1 Representing Islam in Theory and Practice pp 28-54

September 23 British Reporting II

Elizabeth Poole's *Reporting Islam*

2 Framing Islam: a quantitative analysis pp 55-100

September 25 British Reporting III

Elizabeth Poole's *Reporting Islam*:

3 British Islam: a discursive Construction pp 101-187

September 30 British Reporting IV

Elizabeth Poole's *Reporting Islam*:

4 Interpreting Islam pp 188-246

Conclusion pp 247-259

October 2 Media and National Consciousness I

Benedict Anderson's seminal book *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism*. London: Verso (revised edition 1991).

Preface xi-xv

1 Introduction pp 1-8

2 Cultural Roots pp 9-36

3 The Origins of National Consciousness pp 37-46

October 7 Media and National Consciousness II

Anderson's book *Imagined Communities*

8 Patriotism and Racism pp 141-154

11 Memory and Forgetting pp 187-206

October 9 Mid-term Review and Discussion

Take-home essay exam distributed.

October 14 No Class, Fall Break

October 16 Research Paper Workshop

October 21 Muslims in the West in Comparative Perspective I

Gilles Kepel's book *Allah in the West: Islamic Movements in America and Europe* (Mestizo Spaces/Espaces Metisses) (Stanford University Press, 1997).

Introduction pp1-6

"In The Wilderness of North America" pp 7- 14

The Birth of an American Religion pp 15-33

The Three Lives of Malcom X pp 34-43

Farakhan in the Looking Glass of America pp 44-78

October 23 Muslims in the West in Comparative Perspective II
Take-home essay exam due at the beginning of class with e-copy by email before class.

Kepel's book

The Britannic Verses

Return to The Empire pp 86-96

Britishness and Identity pp 97-125

October 28 Muslims in the West in Comparative Perspective III

Kepel's book

The Rushdie Affair pp 126- 146

October 30 Muslims in the West in Comparative Perspective IV

Kepel's book

France: land of Islam

The FIS versus the "Sons of France" pp147-173

Behind the Veil pp 174-20

November 4 Research Paper Workshop II

Kepel's book

The Communalist Challenge pp 204-233

Conclusion pp 234-238

November 6 Stigmatization and Mobilization in The Low Countries I

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News, Homosexuality, and Religious Leadership

Reading t.b.a.

November 11 Stigmatization and Mobilization in The Low Countries II

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Integration: Language, Ethnicity, and Islam

Reading t.b.a.

November 13 Transnational Identities, Transnational Issues

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What European Political Elites Think

Reading t.b.a.

November 18 Ethnic Conflict in Germany

Lyon and Ucarer (2001) Mobilizing ethnic conflict: Kurdish separatism in Germany and the PKK *Ethnic and Racial Studies* Vol 24, No 6, 2001, pp 925-948.

November 20 Migrants in Spain and Portugal

Corkill (2001) Economic migrants and the labour market in Spain and Portugal. *Ethnic and Racial Studies*. Vol 24. No. 5, pp. 828-844.

November 25 Assimilation?

Brubaker (2001) The return of assimilation? Changing perspectives on immigration and its sequels in France, Germany and the United States *Ethnic and Racial Studies*. Vol 24. No. 4, pp. 531-548.

November 27 Thanksgiving Recess. No class.

December 2 Responses to Organized Islam I

Yuasemin Nuhoglu Soysal (1997) Changing parameters of citizenship and claims-making: Organized Islam in European public spheres. *Theory and Society*. 26. pp. 509-527.

December 4 Responses to Organized Islam II

Lamont, Morning and Mooney (2002) Particular universalisms: North African immigrants respond to French racism *Ethnic and Racial Studies* Vol. 25, No. 4, pp. 390-414.

December 9 Final paper presentations*

December 11 Final paper presentations

December 16 Final paper presentations

December 18 Final paper presentations

* My preference is to organize an all day session for everyone to present a paper in a conference format. We will discuss schedules and meeting space to see if this is possible.

Recommended (not required) books

There are also a number of recommended (not required) books including:

Ruud Koopmans and Paul Statham [eds] *Challenging Immigration and Ethnic Relations Politics: Comparative European Perspectives*. (Oxford University Press, 2000).

Norbert Elias & John L. Scotson, *The Established and the Outsiders*. (London: Sage, 1976). (introduction)

Michel S. Laguerre. *Minoritized Space: An Inquiry into the Spatial Order of Things*. (Institute of Governmental Studies Press, 1999)

Nezar Alsayyad and Manuel Castells [eds] *Muslim Europe or Euro-Islam: Politics, Culture and Citizenship in the Age of Globalization*. (Lexington Books, 2002).

Yvonne Yazbeck Haddad [ed] *Muslims in the West: From Sojourners to Citizens*. (Oxford University Press, 2002).

Yvonne Yazbeck Haddad and Jane I. Smith [eds] *Muslim Minorities in the West: Visible and Invisible*. (Altamira Press, 2002).

John L. Esposito & Francois Burgat [eds] *Modernizing Islam: Religion in the Public Sphere in Europe and the Middle East*. (Newark & London: Rutgers University Press & Hurst, 2003).