



Course Manual

Politics of Identity

Course Catalogue Number

73230190LY

Credits

12 EC

Entry requirements

Completed first year of the bachelor's degree programme in Political Science at the UvA and at least 42 EC from the second year, including a Core Module and *Onderzoeksmethoden*.

Compulsory knowledge

Familiarity with comparative politics and research methods (namely, quantitative methods) would be helpful. If you are unfamiliar with some concepts that will be discussed in class, do not be afraid to ask questions!

The student should be familiar with academic research design. These books provide guidance in conducting quality academic research:

Quantitative research: Kellstedt & Whitten. 2013. *The Fundamentals of Political Science Research*. Cambridge University Press.

Qualitative research: King, Keohane & Verba. 1994. *Designing Social Inquiry: Scientific Inference in Qualitative Research*. Princeton University Press.

Quantitative and qualitative research: Brians, Willnat, Rich & Manheim. 2016. *Empirical Political Analysis*. Routledge.

Instruction language

English

Time Period(s)

Academic year 2020/2021

Semester 1, Blocks 2-3.

Wednesday: 11:00-13:00

Friday: 9:00-11:00

Lecturer

Dr. Mike Medeiros

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Course objectives

Students will develop:

1. Empirical and theoretical knowledge on one of the subfields of political science, more specifically 'Politics of Identity'.
2. The ability to analyze and interpret societal and political phenomena.
3. The ability to formulate a research question and make use of academic research methods to answer it in a clearly argued and well-written study.

Course content

Individuals can be defined along group markers that create a – desired or undesired – collective attachment with others. The identification that individuals have towards various groups can have important political impacts.

The course will examine various features of the politics of identity and the diverse theoretical and empirical approaches used to explore the processes that make identities political in different regions of the world. The course will explore political divisions along race, language, religion, gender, and others social markers. It will focus on the manner in which these group identities are constituted and made salient as well as how they mobilise citizens and influence their political opinions and behaviours. The course will survey a range of political phenomena; e.g., intergroup conflict, political mobilisation, discrimination, nationalism, and voting.

The readings will provide a solid foundation on the scholarship interested in intergroup political phenomena. The research project will allow the student to develop their research, writing, analytical and presentation skills.

Teaching methods/learning formats

The course will be taught in the form of an online seminar via Zoom. Please consult the “Zoom Etiquette in Online Classes” manual in Canvas.

The sessions will consist of plenary discussions among the students of the assigned readings, and of discussions on different segments of their thesis. Therefore, students are expected to prepare for each class by critically reading the assigned literature and formulating questions and topics that they would like to introduce to the discussions.

Students will receive written feedback on the outline for their paper, as well as the draft and final versions of their thesis.

Manner & Form of Assessment

Thesis (90%) and Participation (10%).

The student will produce a thesis (around 8,000 words). The final version of the thesis must be submitted by **25 January at 12:00 midday**. No late submissions will be accepted. For detailed information on the technical requirements of a BA thesis, please consult the Thesis Manual in Canvas.

The research question, the data, and the research method will be the basis of the 3-minute 'Dinner Party Test' (use the short Dunleavy reading for guidance).

The student will, on **9 and 11 December**, present a short, about 10 minutes, up-to-date summary of their research. The aim of the summary is to receive feedback on their project from the supervisor and the other students. The student should submit, via Canvas, by **11 December** an outline of their thesis research. The outline will be the basis of their presentation.

The student must submit by **5 January** via Canvas a draft version of the thesis. The thesis draft will be the basis for the final feedback before the submission of the final version of the thesis. Written feedback on the thesis draft will be given latest by **18 January**.

The student's participation will be evaluated in each session based on class presence as well as the quality of their comments and questions. Furthermore, each reading, starting with the third session (4 November) will be assigned to a student who will have to briefly summarize the reading and launch the discussion on it. Also, the student is expected to provide a "peer-review" of colleagues' submitted outlines, which will also be evaluated in the participation grade.

Rules regarding Fraud and Plagiarism

The provisions of the Regulations Governing Fraud and Plagiarism for UvA Students apply in full. Access this regulation at <http://www.student.uva.nl/preventfraud-plagiarism>. Plagiarism is presenting someone else's ideas as your own. Copying, paraphrasing or translating of text needs to be referenced according to academic standards. Plagiarism will be sanctioned severely.

Literature

Book: Lipson, Charles. 2018. *How to Write a BA Thesis: A Practical Guide from your First Ideas to your Finished Paper*. University of Chicago Press.

This book is not compulsory! But it is highly recommended to guide the student through the process of writing a thesis.

Extensive use will be made of online journal resources via the digital library.

Schedule

28 October Introduction

This meeting will consist of a course presentation, and a brief presentation by the students of their planned topic for their thesis. We will also discuss the assigned readings for this session.

Identities

Brewer, M. B. 2001. The many faces of social identity: Implications for political psychology. *Political Psychology* 22(1): 115-125.

Glasford, D.E., & J.F. Dovidio. 2011. E pluribus unum: Dual identity and minority group members' motivation to engage in contact, as well as social change. *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology* 47(5): 1021-1024.

Muro, D. 2015. Ethnicity, nationalism, and social movements. In *The Oxford Handbook of Social Movements*, pp. 187-191.

30 October Thesis

Lecture: An overview of the thesis structure.

Research Question

4 November Religion & Language

Fox, J. 2004. Religion and state failure: An examination of the extent and magnitude of religious conflict from 1950 to 1996. *International Political Science Review* 25 (1): 55-76.

Tilley, J. 2015. 'We don't do God'? Religion and party choice in Britain. *British Journal of Political Science* 45 (4): 907-927.

Scheepers, P., M. Gijssels, & E. Hellemans. 2002. Religiosity and prejudice against ethnic minorities in Europe: Cross-national tests on a controversial relationship. *Review of Religious Research* 43 (3):242-65.

Liu, A. H., & J. I. Ricks. 2012. Coalitions and language politics: Policy shifts in Southeast Asia. *World Politics* 64 (3): 476-506.

Medeiros, Mike. 2017. Refining the influence of language on national attachment: Exploring linguistic threat perceptions in Quebec. *Nationalism and Ethnic Politics* 23(4): 375-390.

Çelebi, E., M. Verkuyten & N. Smyrnioti. 2016. Support for Kurdish language rights in Turkey: The roles of ethnic group, group identifications, contact, and intergroup perceptions. *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 39 (6):1034-1051.

6 November **Thesis**

Data and Methodology

11 November **Race & Immigration**

Berry, J. A., D. Ebner & M. Cornelius. 2019. White identity politics: Linked fate and political participation, *Politics, Groups, and Identities*. DOI: 10.1080/21565503.2019.1615965.

McClendon, G. H. 2016. Race and responsiveness: An experiment with South African politicians. *Journal of Experimental Political Science* 3(1), 60-74.

Lemi, D. C. 2020. Do voters prefer just any descriptive representative? The case of multiracial candidates. *Perspectives on Politics*. DOI: 10.1017/S1537592720001280.

Schaub, M., J. Gereke & D. Baldassarri. 2020. Strangers in hostile Lands: Exposure to refugees and right-wing support in Germany's Eastern regions. *Comparative Political Studies*. DOI: 0010414020957675.

van der Zwet, A. 2016. To see ourselves as others see us: Identity and attitudes towards immigration amongst civic nationalists. *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies* 42 (8): 1242-1256.

Just, A. 2019. Political regimes and immigrant party preferences. *Comparative Political Studies* 52(5): 651-686.

13 November **Thesis**

3-minute 'Dinner Party Test'

Dunleavy, P. 2003. *Authoring a PhD: How to Plan, Draft, Write and Finish a Doctoral Thesis or Dissertation*, pp 22-26.

18 November **Indigeneity, Hereditary Identities, & Regionalism**

O'Sullivan, D. 2014. Indigeneity, ethnicity, and the state: Australia, Fiji, and New Zealand. *Nationalism and Ethnic Politics* 20 (1): 26-42.

Madrid, R. L. 2005. Indigenous voters and party system fragmentation in Latin America. *Electoral Studies* 24 (4): 689-707.

Collins, K. 2004. The logic of clan politics: Evidence from the Central Asian trajectories. *World Politics* 56 (2): 224-261.

Dunning, T., & J. Nilekani. 2013. Ethnic quotas and political mobilization: Caste, parties, and distribution in Indian village councils. *American Political Science Review* 107(1): 35-56.

Giordano, B. 2000. Italian regionalism or 'Padanian' nationalism – The political project of the Lega Nord in Italian politics. *Political Geography* 19 (4): 445-471.

Medeiros, M. & J.-P. Gauvin. Two regionalisms, one mechanism: How identity shapes support for decentralisation.

20 November Thesis

Theoretical Framework

25 November Gender & LGBTQ

Al Subhi, A. K., & A. E. Smith. 2019. Electing women to new Arab assemblies: The roles of gender ideology, Islam, and tribalism in Oman. *International Political Science Review* 40 (1): 90-107.

Kjaer, U., & M. L. Krook. 2019. The blame game: Analyzing gender bias in Danish local elections. *Politics, Groups, and Identities* 7(2): 444-455.

Setzler, M., & Yanus, A. B. 2018. Why Did Women Vote for Donald Trump? *PS: Political Science & Politics*, 51 (3): 523-527.

Turnbull-Dugarte, S. J. 2020. The European lavender vote: Sexuality, ideology and vote choice in Western Europe. *European Journal of Political Research* 59(3): 517-537.

Bishin, B. G., J. Freebourn & P. Teten. 2020. The power of equality? Polarization and collective mis-representation on gay rights in congress, 1989–2019. *Political Research Quarterly* DOI: 1065912920953498.

Rich, T. S., A. Dahmer, & I. Eliassen. 2019. Explaining support for same-sex marriage: Evidence from Taiwan. *International Journal of Taiwan Studies* 2(2): 321-340.

27 November Thesis

Hypotheses

2 December Political Identities & Dealing with Difference

Mayer, S. J. 2017. How negative partisanship affects voting behavior in Europe: Evidence from an analysis of 17 European multi-party systems with proportional voting. *Research & Politics* 4(1).

Miller, P. R., & P. J. Conover. 2015. Red and blue states of mind: Partisan hostility and voting in the United States. *Political Research Quarterly* 68(2): pp.225-239.

Van der Meer, T. W., E. van Elsas, R. Lubbe & W. van der Brug. 2015. Are volatile voters erratic, whimsical or seriously picky? A panel study of 58 waves into the nature of electoral volatility (The Netherlands 2006–2010). *Party politics* 21(1): 100-114.

Transue, J. E. 2007. Identity salience, identity acceptance, and racial policy attitudes: American national identity as a uniting force. *American Journal of Political Science* 51 (1): 78-91.

Noor, N.M., & C.H. Leong. 2013. Multiculturalism in Malaysia and Singapore: Contesting models. *International Journal of Intercultural Relations* 37 (6): 714-726.

Ferwerda, J., H. Finseraas, & J. Bergh. 2018. Voting rights and immigrant incorporation: Evidence from Norway. *British Journal of Political Science* 50: 713–730.

- 4 December** **Thesis**

(Expected) Implications & Limitations
- 9 December** **Presentations**
- 11 December** **Presentations**

Deadline: Outline Submission
- 5 January** **Deadline draft version**
- 25 January** **Deadline final version at 12:00 (midday)**