COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course explores the inter-relationship between the individual, the plurality of groups, and the state. We shall discuss theoretical approaches to the construction, mobilization, and accommodation of plural identities in diverse polities. The first part of the course discusses the relationship between state-formation, governance, public policies, and conflict through the lenses of gender, race and ethnicity. The second part of the course studies some of the responses to cultural diversity. Is recognition of cultural groups desirable? What should be the extent and scope of cultural rights? What factors explain the successes and failures of institutional arrangements in varied empirical locations? The course draws upon debates and literature across sub-fields and disciplines.

READINGS

All assigned readings are also available on library reserve. Readings marked with a (W) are available online.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

You are expected to hand in two short response papers during the semester. Each paper is worth 20 percent of the final grade and should be handed in on the day the material is covered in class. The paper should focus on issues related to the particular theme of the
week, and respond critically to the discussion. In addition, your paper may also connect themes across readings covered in other weeks. You should hand in your first paper before February 21.

You are required to write a 20-25 page long research paper worth 40 percent of the grade. Paper topics may include any issue relevant to the course. You are encouraged to select your topic in consultation with the instructor. You may hand in your paper no later than April 10. Late papers and essays will be penalised by 2.5 marks per day. Late papers will only be exempted from penalty if supported by a medical certificate or other documentary evidence. For essays not returned in class, please attach a stamped, self-addressed envelope if you wish to have your assignment returned by mail. Please note that assignments sent via fax or email will not be accepted.

You should attend and participate actively in all class discussions and complete the readings for each week. You will be responsible for presenting on two themes of your choice. Class participation and presentations together are worth 20 percent of the final grade.

COURSE SCHEDULE

January 10
Introduction and Overview

What are plural societies? How do we understand pluralism?

Recommended


January 17
Religion, Nationalism, State Formation


January 24
The Making and Unmaking of Group Boundaries


January 31
Mobilising Diverse Identities


February 7
Understanding Ethnic Violence


February 14
The Aftermath of Violence: Debates over Truth, Justice, and Reconciliation


February 21
Winter Break. No Classes.

February 28
Multiculturalism and Its Critiques


**March 6**

**Tensions between Individual Rights and Group Equality**


**March 13**

**Ongoing Debates on Cultural Pluralism and Legal Pluralism**


March 20

**Crafting Diverse Accommodative Arrangements**


March 27
Partition
Student Presentations


April 3
Student Presentations

COURSE POLICIES

Plagiarism

As per university regulations, it is the responsibility of each student to understand the meaning of “plagiarism” as defined in the undergraduate or graduate calendars, and to avoid both committing plagiarism and aiding or abetting plagiarism by other students. The Undergraduate Calendar defines plagiarism as “to use and pass off as one’s own idea or product, work of another without expressly giving credit to another.” The Graduate Calendar states that plagiarism has occurred when a student either: (a) directly copies another’s work without acknowledgment; or (b) closely paraphrases the equivalent of a short paragraph or more without acknowledgment; or (c) borrows, without acknowledgment, any ideas in a clear and recognizable form in such a way as to present them as the student’s own thought, where such ideas, if they were the student’s own would contribute to the merit of his or her own work. Instructors who suspect plagiarism are required to submit the paper and supporting documentation to the Departmental Chair who will refer the case to the Dean. It is not permitted to hand in the same assignment to two or more courses. The Department’s Style Guide is available at: www.carleton.ca/polisci/undergrad/styleguide.pdf. See also Undergraduate Calendar Academic Regulations Section 14, p. 63; and www.carleton.ca/cu0607uc/regulations/acadregsuniv14.html.
Course Requirements

Approval of final grades

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by an instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

Connect email accounts

Department of Political Science strongly encourages students to sign up for a campus email account. Important course and University information will be distributed via the Connect email system. See http://connect.carleton.ca for instructions on how to set up your account.

Requests for Academic Accommodation

For Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities needing academic accommodations are required to contact a co-ordinator at the Paul Menton Centre to complete the necessary letters of accommodation. The student must then make an appointment to discuss their needs with the instructor at least two weeks prior to the first class or ITV test. This is to ensure sufficient time is available to make the necessary accommodation arrangements.

For Religious Observance

Students requesting academic accommodation on the basis of religious observance should make a formal, written request to their instructors for alternate dates and/or means of satisfying academic requirements. Such requests should be made during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist, but no later than two weeks before the compulsory academic event. Accommodation is to be worked out directly and on an individual basis between the student and the instructor(s) involved. Instructors will make accommodations in a way that avoids academic disadvantage to the student.

Students or instructors who have questions or want to confirm accommodation eligibility of a religious event or practice may refer to the Equity Services website for a list of holy days and Carleton’s Academic Accommodation policies, or may contact an Equity Services Advisor in the Equity Services Department for assistance.
For Pregnancy

Pregnant students requiring academic accommodations are encouraged to contact an Equity Advisor in Equity Services to complete a *letter of accommodation*. The student must then make an appointment to discuss her needs with the instructor at least two weeks prior to the first academic event in which it is anticipated the accommodation will be required.