Europeanisation and Transformation of Collective Identity

Course tutor(s)

Prof. dr hab. Zdzisław Mach

Professor of Sociology, Social Anthropology and European Studies. Prof. Mach is the Director of the Institute of European Studies of the Jagiellonian University. His research and publications investigate the social and cultural aspects of European integration, the cultural construction of identity, nationalism, religion, migration, ritual, and ethnicity.

Mgr Olga Brzezińska

PhD candidate at the Institute of European Studies, Jagiellonian University. Her research interests include processes of collective identity formation, democratisation and Europeanisation, as well as EU enlargement.

Description

The course deals with the dynamics of collective identities in Europe. Students will get acquainted with theories of identity - sociological and anthropological approaches, with elements of political sciences, and will learn about processes of identity construction in Europe in a broad, historical perspective, but with a special emphasis on the current transformations. The seminar, which complements the lectures, will offer the opportunity to discuss contemporary literature on the subject, familiarise with recent research in the area and analyse case studies. The background for this course is the course on European Civilisation, offered in the first semester of the MA Programme in European Studies. Students are expected to have basic knowledge of European cultural and social history, with a special reference to the European cultural heritage.

Type of course

Speciality course

Number of ECTS points

9 ECTS

Prerequisites (if applicable)

'European Civilisation' course (taught in the autumn semester).

Intended Learning Outcomes

Students will understand the concept of identity as a social and cultural phenomenon, and as a cultural and social construction. In particular, they will learn to see identity as a dynamic reality, as a process of becoming. The will know and understand different types of identity as they develop in Europe, in a historical and contemporary perspectives. They will be able to analyse processes of cultural construction of identity. Students will also acquire knowledge of different types and aspects of collective identities in Europe.

Course communication

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Notices and announcements

Via USOS

COURSE ORGANIZATION

The course will consist of lectures (18 meetings of 75 minutes) and seminars (12 meetings of 110 minutes). For the lecture part students will be expected to read the assigned literature, and take an active role during the classes by asking questions and offering comments.

For the seminar part of the course students are required to read key readings and strongly recommended to familiarise with additional readings. Seminars will be a combination of literature discussions and case study analysis.

Assessment

Attendance at all lectures is not compulsory, but students are strongly encouraged to attend and to be active. Attendance at all seminars is mandatory. As there is no single textbook recommended for this course, students are expected to read the assigned literature and to follow the instructor's presentations. Students' active participation in the classes is encouraged and may, in case of doubt concerning the final grade for the course, be taken into account. There will be a test exam at the end of the course, consisting of questions related to the content of lectures and suggested literature. There will also be an essay of 3000 words, written on a subject chosen by a student, but approved by the instructor. The essays can be on any subject related to collective identity in Europe. They may take a form of a case study, or a comparative analysis, or a critical theoretical discussion. The key criterion of assessment of the essay will be its originality, but they also

are expected to meet criteria normally required for a publishable text (references, literature, structure, language etc.). The students must have obtained the grade for the seminar part of the course, before they sit the test exam. Seminar requirements are (jointly): obligatory attendance and active participation (25 points); key readings + a 500-word response paper based on one of the obligatory readings to be submitted to the instructor before each class (25 points); and class presentation (case study, approximately 15 minutes) (50 points). Additional points may be granted upon the successful completion of a photo project (up to 10 points).

Essay will make up 25% of the final grade

Exam will make up 25% of the final grade

Seminar will make 50% of the final grade

To get a pass final grade, students must get a positive grade from the exam and seminar and submit an essay.

STRUCTURE OF THE COURSE

LECTURES, Prof. Zdzisław Mach

No.	Title of the session	Format
1	The concept of identity	Lecture
2	Euroscepticism as reactive identity	Lecture
	formation Prof. Hans-Joerg Trenz	
3	Contemporary approaches to national	Lecture
	identity in Europe. Prof. Richard Mole	
4	Identity from the perspective of sociology	Lecture
	and social anthropology	
5	Europeanisation	Lecture
6	Europeanisation. (cont.)	Lecture
7	Symbolic construction of identity	Lecture
8	Identity and Memory	Lecture
9	Modern and Post-modern identity	Lecture
10	Ethnic identity	Lecture
11	Modern national identity	Lecture

12	Eastern Enlargement and the Question of	Lecture
	European Identity.	
13	Migration and identity	Lecture
14	Religion and identity in Europe	Lecture
15	Gender and sexual minorities	Lecture
16	Multiculturalism, cultural minorities.	Lecture
17	Regional identities	Lecture
18	Identity and civil society in the EU27	Lecture

SEMINARS, Ms. Olga Brzezińska

No.	Title of the session	Format
1	Introduction. Identity as a source of	Seminar
	meaning.	
2	The construction of the Other. Stereotypes.	Seminar
3	Nations, national identity, nationalism.	Seminar
4	A meeting of cultures.	Seminar
5	Gender and sexual minorities.	Seminar
6	Religious identity.	Seminar
7	Identity of CEE. European enlargement.	Seminar
8	Regional identities.	Seminar
9	New Europeans – European lifestyles	Seminar
10	The question of the future of Europe.	Seminar
11	Wrapping up. Presentation of photo	Seminar
	projects.	