

PSC/IR 252: Ethnic Politics and Ethnic Conflict

Prof. Bethany Lacina
Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:40-10:55
Bausch & Lomb Room 269

This course takes up three questions: What is ethnicity and when is it politically important? How does ethnic politics matter for economic outcomes? What is the relationship between ethnic politics and political violence?

Instructor

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Course Requirements

1. Students should complete all assigned reading before coming to class. Readings are available through links in the syllabus.
2. There are 5 short writing assignments, all less than 5 pages and typically 2 to 3 pages.
 - Students in the W section must complete all assignments. Each is worth 12% of the final grade.
 - Students in the regular section of the course must complete assignment 1 and any two of the other four assignments. Each of these three assignments is worth 20% of the final grade.
 - The schedule of assignments is:
 - (a) Distributed 1/28, due 2/4.
 - (b) Distributed 2/6, due 2/18.
 - (c) Distributed 2/20, due 2/27.
 - (d) Distributed 3/20, due 3/27.
 - (e) Distributed 4/15, due 4/22.
3. There will be two in-class exams covering the first and the second half of the course, respectively. Each is worth 20% of the final grade.
4. If you are entitled to examination accommodations, please coordinate these with the Office of Disability Resources in advance of the examinations (see <http://www.rochester.edu/college/disability/index.html>). Students will not be able to obtain accommodations directly from the professor.

5. Assignments are due by the beginning of class (Rochester time) on the due date. Assignments will be submitted by email unless otherwise specified.
6. Barring extraordinary circumstances, late work will be marked down a third of a grade (e.g., A to A-) for each 24 hour period after it is due. Thus, if an assignment is turned in any time during the first 24 hours after it is due, it is penalized a third of a grade. Any assignment not turned in within a week of the due date will automatically receive a zero.
7. There will be a chance to earn extra credit during some class sessions. There are no other opportunities for extra credit work.

If a student wishes to challenge the grade assigned to all or part of an essay, the following steps must be taken:

1. Students must email the professor a request for a re-grade within 72 hours of the assignment being returned to the class.
2. A request for a re-grade must explain which aspect(s) of the grading rubric the student believes should have been assigned a higher score. For each disputed aspect, students must justify why they should be given a higher grade given the standards in the grading rubric and cite specific materials in the readings or lectures if applicable.
3. The professor will re-grade all aspects of the assignment. The student's final score on the assignment may go up or down or be unchanged.

Academic honesty

Students and faculty at the University must agree to adhere to high standards of academic honesty in all of the work that we do. The College Board on Academic Honesty provides further information on our policies and procedures: www.rochester.edu/college/honesty.

You are welcome to work with other students or to use AI tools when preparing for the exams. There will also be in-class review sessions. You may not bring any notes or other class materials to the exam. Any backpacks, computers, or phones that you bring to the classroom on examination day will need to be left at the front of the room.

Incomplete notations

No incomplete notations are allowed in this class.

Grading scale

A	93% – 100%
A-	90% – 92.9%
B+	87% – 89.9%
B	84% – 86.9%
B-	80% – 83.9%
C+	77% – 79.9%
C	74% – 76.9%
C-	70% – 73.9%
D+	67% – 69.9%
D	64% – 66.9%
D-	60% – 63.9%
E	0% – 59.9%

Class schedule

Jan 21 Introduction to the course

Jan 23 What is ethnicity? (21 pages)

Hutchinson, John and Thomas H. Eriksen, Eds. 1996. *Ethnicity*. Oxford University Press. Pp. 28–34. <https://www.dropbox.com/s/lqm51mlx39ruv42/Eriksen1996.pdf?dl=0> (7 pages)

Habyarimana, James et al. 2009. *Coethnicity*. Russell Sage Foundation. Pp. 1-13. <https://www.dropbox.com/s/si1gm54rleo28ow/Habyarimana.pdf?dl=0> (14 pages)

Jan 28 – Jan 30 What does ethnicity do for politicians? (64 pages)

Robinson, Amanda L. 2024. “Ethnic Visibility.” *American Journal of Political Science*, 68: 1234-1251. <https://doi.org/10.1111/ajps.12795> (18 pages)

Posner, Daniel N. 2017. “When and why do some social cleavages become politically salient rather than others?” *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, 40(12): 2001-2019. <https://www.dropbox.com/s/zkl8gbc6tnkqoil/Posner2017.pdf?dl=0> (19 pages)

Raleigh, Clionadh and Daniel Wigmore-Shepherd. 2020. “Elite Coalitions and Power Balance across African Regimes: Introducing the African Cabinet and Political Elite Data Project (ACPED).” *Ethnopolitics*, forthcoming. <http://doi.org/10.1080/17449057.2020.1771840> (27 pages)

Feb 4 – Feb 6 What does nationalism do for politicians? (62 pages)

Mayall, James. 1999. “Sovereignty, Nationalism, and Self-Determination.” *Political Studies* XLVII, 474–502. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1467-9248.00213> (29 pages)

Kymlicka, Will. 2008. “The Internationalization of Minority Rights.” *International Journal of Constitutional Law* 6, 1-32. <https://doi.org/10.1093/icon/mom032> (33 pages)

Feb 11 – Feb 13 National states (84 pages)

Brubaker, Rogers. 1992. *Citizenship and Nationhood in France and Germany*. Harvard University Press. Chapters 2 and 5. <https://tinyurl.com/y3suh65b> (46 pages)

Felleke, Getachew. 2005. “Education and Modernization: An Examination of the Experiences of Japan and Ethiopia.” *African and Asian Studies* 4(4): 509–546. <https://www.dropbox.com/s/9mzvc4wixp41mq1/Felleke.pdf?dl=0> (38 pages).

Feb 18 – Feb 20 Settler-founded countries

Anderson, Benedict. *Imagined communities*. Verso. 1991. Pp. 5–7, 47–65. <https://tinyurl.com/y48hsf4o> (22 pages)

French, Jan Hoffman. 2013. “Rethinking Police Violence in Brazil: Unmasking the Public Secret of Race.” *Latin American Politics and Society*, 55(4): 161-181. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/43286490> (21 pages)

Wade, Peter. 2010. “Blacks and Indigenous People in Latin America.” In *Race and Ethnicity in Latin America*, 24-40. New York: Pluto Press. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/j.ctt183p73f.7> (17 pages)

Van Cott, Donna Lee. 2010. “Indigenous Peoples’ Politics in Latin America.” *Annual Review of Political Science* 13(1): 385-405. <https://www.annualreviews.org/doi/abs/10.1146/annurev.polisci.032708.133003> (21 pages)

Feb 25 – Feb 27 Post-imperial countries

Geertz, Clifford. 1973. “After the revolution: The fate of nationalism in the new states.” In *The Interpretation of Cultures*, pp. 234-254. <https://tinyurl.com/y39aez68> (21 pages)

Robinson, Amanda Lea. 2014. “National versus ethnic identification in Africa: Modernization, colonial legacy, and the origins of territorial nationalism.” *World Politics* 66(4): 709-746. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/24577584> (38 pages)

Grzymala-Busse, Anna and Dan Slater. 2018. “Making Godly Nations: Church-State Pathways in Poland and the Philippines.” *Comparative Politics* 50(4): 545-564. https://www.dropbox.com/s/zthsw5fl2dpp3ei/GB_Slater.pdf?dl=0 (20 pages)

Mar 4 No class

Mar 6 Exam I

Mar 11 – Mar 13 No class

Mar 18 – Mar 20 Ethnic diversity and regime type (82 pages)

Houle, Christian. (2018). Does ethnic voting harm democracy? *Democratization*, 25(5), 824–842. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13510347.2017.1423055> (19 pages)

Lijphart, Arend. 2004. “Constitutional design for divided societies.” *Journal of Democracy*. <http://doi.org/10.1353/jod.2004.0029> (15 pages)

Reny, Marie-Eve. 2020. "Myanmar's Transition and the Resurgence of Buddhist Nationalism: How Incumbents Seek to Hold on to Power." *Asian Survey* 60(6): 1072–1089. <https://www.dropbox.com/s/m6foq23eb49xw07/Reny.pdf?dl=0> (17 pages)

Nguyen, Phi-Vân. 2018. "A Secular State for a Religious Nation: The Republic of Vietnam and Religious Nationalism, 1946-1963." *The Journal of Asian Studies* 77(3): 741–71. <https://www.dropbox.com/s/vm3mokbktrd7zhg/Nguyen.pdf?dl=0> (31 pages)

Mar 25 – Mar 27 Ethnic diversity and public goods (72 pages)

Miguel, Edward. 2004. "Tribe or nation? Nation building and public goods in Kenya versus Tanzania." *World Politics* 56(3): 327-362. www.jstor.org/stable/25054263 (36 pages)

Baldwin, Kate and John D. Huber. "Economic versus Cultural Differences: Forms of Ethnic Diversity and Public Goods Provision." *American Political Science Review* 104(4): 644–62. <http://doi.org/10.1017/S0003055410000419>. (19 pages)

Pavithra Suryanarayan and Steven White. 2020. "Slavery, Reconstruction, and Bureaucratic Capacity in the American South" *American Political Science Review* 115(2): 568–584. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0003055420000933> (17 pages)

Apr 1 Ethnic diversity and economic growth

Ottaviano, Gianmarco I. P. and Giovanni Peri. 2006. "The economic value of cultural diversity: Evidence from US cities." *Journal of Economic Geography* 6(1): 9-44. <https://doi.org/10.1093/jeg/lbi002> (Sections 4 and 5 are optional.) (11 pages)

Bove, Vincenzo and Gunes Gokmen. 2018. "Genetic distance, trade, and the diffusion of development." *Journal of Applied Economics* 33: 617–623. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jae.2622> (7 pages)

Apr 3 No class

Apr 8 – Apr 10 Migration politics (61 pages)

Rafeala Dancygier. 2007. "Immigration and the Institutionalization of Xenophobia in France," in *Racism, Xenophobia, and Distribution*, John Roemer, Woojin Lee and Karine Van der Straeten, Eds. Harvard University Press. Pp. 237–264. <https://www.dropbox.com/s/qvjb5gz2peywtot/RoemerChapter9.pdf?dl=0> (28 pages)

Bhavnani, Rikhil R., and Bethany Lacina. 2019. *Nativism and Economic Integration across the Developing World: Collision and Accommodation*. Cambridge University Press. Parts 1 and 2.

https://www.dropbox.com/s/cd6jdy166zpqabu/BhavnaniLacina_1to37.pdf?dl=0 (33 pages)

Apr 15 – Apr 17 Ethnic violence (82 pages)

Cederman, Lars-Erik. 2019. “Blood for Soil: The Fatal Temptations of Ethnic Politics.” *Foreign Affairs* 98(2): 61-69. https://www.dropbox.com/s/720h3abvqxrt2k3/Cederman_ForeignAffairs.pdf?dl=0 (10 pages)

Straus, Scott. *Making and Unmaking Nations: War, Leadership, and Genocide in Modern Africa*. Pp. 59–79, 205–231. <https://tinyurl.com/y2bkxqjm> (47 pages)

Raza, Zainab. 2019. “China’s ‘Political Re-education’ Camps of Xinjiang’s Uyghur Muslims.” *Asian Affairs* 50(4): 488-501. <https://www.dropbox.com/s/8ym5uv22r3mcnsc/Raza.pdf?dl=0> (14 pages)

Gros, Andreas, Alexander S. Gard-Murray, and Yaneer Bar-Yam. 2015. “Conflict in Yemen: From Ethnic Fighting to Food Riots.” In *Conflict and Complexity: Understanding Complex Systems*. Philip Vos Fellman Yaneer Bar-Yam Ali A. Minai, eds. Springer: 269-280. https://www.dropbox.com/s/2e8xhdzpp4ix1n9/gros_yemen.pdf?dl=0 (11 pages)

Apr 22 – Apr 24 International change and ethnic politics (63 pages)

Bieber, Florian. 2018. “Is Nationalism on the Rise? Assessing Global Trends.” *Ethnopolitics* 17(5): 519-540. <https://www.dropbox.com/s/13zdl6o51tygadq/Bieber.pdf?dl=0> (21 pages)

Zaslove, Andrej. 2008. “Exclusion, Community, and a Populist Political Economy: The Radical Right as an Anti-Globalization Movement.” *Comparative European Politics* 6(2): 169-189. <https://www.dropbox.com/s/k41t7cay97etd6h/zaslove.pdf?dl=0> (22 pages)

Isaksson, Ann-Sofie. 2020. “Chinese Aid and Local Ethnic Identification.” *International Organization*. <http://doi.org/10.1017/S0020818320000260> (20 pages)

Apr 29 Review session

May 1 Exam II (non-cumulative)