



The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

Nation and Nationalism in Contemporary Europe - 54829

Last update 11-09-2017

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 2nd degree (Master)

Responsible Department: cont. german studies:politics, soc.&cult

Academic year: 2018

Semester: 1st Semester

Teaching Languages: English

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Dr. Stephan Grigat

Coordinator Email: Stephan.grigat@univie.ac.at

Coordinator Office Hours: by prior arrangement

Teaching Staff:

Dr. Stephan Grigat

Course/Module description:

A radical critique of Germany has been flitting through federal political discussions for at least 25 years. The story of the so called ,anti-Germans' begins in the late 1980s when members of the radical Left in Germany remembered Jean Améry, who since the Six-Day War in 1967 had continually stressed that the Left had to redefine itself in its fight against anti-Semitism and anti-Zionism. Since then, an independent stream of sociocritical thinking has developed that offered a particular critique of the nation-state, Germany and its international allies, of Islamism and anti-Zionism, and a unique understanding of nationalism in general and Zionism in particular. Against that background central aspects of the radical critique of Germany and its consequences will be analysed.

Course/Module aims:

A general, short and pithy statement which informs a student about the subject matter, approach, breadth, and applicability of the course. A detailed list of subjects is not required in this section (2-4 sentences).

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

- orient themselves within the discussions on nation and nationalism in the German speaking context
- compare traditional and new approaches to the critique of antisemitism and racism in Germany and Europe
- evaluate political statements on Israel, Zionism and the USA in German society
- gain insight into the debate on Islam and Islamism in Germany

Attendance requirements(%):

80%

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Text discussions, presentations, group work, lectures

Course/Module Content:

Introduction

Types of nationalism and categorical imperatives

Laying the ground for today's critique: The Critical Theory of the Frankfurt School

History of the radical critique of Germany and of nationalism

'Philozionism' against nationalism? Anti-German & pro-Israel-positions

Anti-Americanism in Europe & Germany

What is new in the 'new nationalism': Racism, antisemitism, 'Islamophobia' and 'post-nationalism'

Nationalistic government, fascist opposition: the example of Hungary

Cultural relativism: European identity, anti-Zionism & Islamism

Delegitimizing Israel and supporting the Ayatollahs in 'post-nationalism' and post-Nazism

Today's consequences of the critique of Germany & nationalism: From critique to Realpolitik?

Current developments in Europe and Germany

Required Reading:

A detailed reading list and all texts will be provided on Moodle.

Additional Reading Material:

Recommended reading.

Course/Module evaluation:

End of year written/oral examination 20 %

Presentation 60 %

Participation in Tutorials 0 %

Project work 0 %

Assignments 20 %

Reports 0 %
Research project 0 %
Quizzes 0 %
Other 0 %

Additional information: