



# *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:* 0

*Semester:* 1st Semester

*Teaching Languages:* English

*Campus:* Mt. Scopus

*Course/Module Coordinator:* Dr. Stephan Grigat

*Coordinator Email:* [Stephan.grigat@univie.ac.at](mailto: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:*