

European Identity and the “Other” Europe

This course explores the complexities and contradictions inherent in the concept of European identity. “European Identity” is a concept whose precise meaning and definition, at the turn of the 21st century, has become the focal point for political and cultural contestation, on the level of the European Union and its individual member states, over issues ranging from European expansion, asylum and refugee politics, global capitalism, national identity, immigration, citizenship, racism, anti-Semitism, to the place of Islam within Europe.

The idea of “Europeanness” presumes an essential “core” of European identity. But “Europeanness” is, and has historically been, always constructed in a relation of opposition to its various internal and external “Others.” In fact, the very idea of Europe has been defined in part in terms of what Europe was not: Eastern, barbarian, savage. This course critically examines the construction of “European Identity” in relation to the social and ethnic groups, regions, and religions which have been, and in some cases still are, posited as Europe’s “Other.” It explores the after effects of these constructions of Otherness on the contemporary scene of European politics.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

This is a *concept driven* course. We will develop a conceptual apparatus to understand how cities are structured and have changed over time.

Students will be evaluated on their familiarity with these concepts in their reading logs, and 3 response papers.

COURSE READINGS:

Readings for the course will be posted on e-learning (CANVAS) before the due date.

The following books are required reading:

Caryll Phillips, *The Nature of Blood* (e-learning)

Louis Couperus, *The Hidden Force* (e-learning)

I will make these books available online, as all the other readings. You are of course welcome to buy them (make sure to get the edition we use in class).

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

ATTENDANCE AND PREPARATION:

This course will be conducted in seminar format. That means that each student is expected to come to each session prepared to discuss the readings assigned for that session. Reading of the assigned material and participating in class discussion is essential to the successful completion of the course!

Please note that class attendance is required for this course and constitutes 5% of your grade. You will be permitted 2 unexcused absences, after which you lose ALL your attendance points if you are absent without proper reason and documentation. Excused

absences are consistent with university policies in the undergraduate catalog and require appropriate documentation.

According to the Office of the Registrar, “acceptable reasons for absence from class include illness, serious family emergencies, special curricular requirements, military obligation, severe weather conditions, religious holidays and participation in official university activities such as music performances, athletic competition or debate.

Absences from class for court-imposed legal obligations (e.g. jury duty or subpoena) must be excused.”

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>)

READING QUESTIONS AND PARTICIPATION:

Each class session you will come to class prepared, To that end you will write a short (half page) answer to the question related to the readings posted for that day, before the beginning of class.

The questions are meant to stimulate active reading.

The responses to the reading questions constitute 20% of your grade.

RESPONSE PAPERS:

You will write three response papers of 5-7 pages each. I will provide detailed prompts for these papers. You will be expected to integrate class readings to aid in your interpretation and analysis of the novels.

Each response paper is worth 25% of your grade.

DUE DATES:

Paper 1: October 3

Paper 2: November 5

Paper 3: December 3

GRADE BREAKDOWN:

Attendance:	5%
Reading Questions:	20%
Paper 1:	25%
Paper 2:	25%
Paper 3:	25%

Grading Scale:

A:	92-100
A-:	88-91
B+:	84-87
B:	80-83
B-:	77-79
C+:	74-76
C:	70-74
C-:	70-73

D+: 64-66
D: 60-63

More information on grades and grading policies is here:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

COURSE EVALUATION

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>.

Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open.

Summary results of these assessments are available to students at

<https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>

UNIVERSITY HONESTY POLICY

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.”

The Honor Code (<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conducthonor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel.

STUDENTS REQUIRING ACCOMMODATIONS

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

COUNSELING AND WELLNESS CENTER

Contact information for the Counseling and Wellness Center:

<http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx>, 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

READING ASSIGNMENTS AND COURSE SCHEDULE

Week One:

Tuesday August 20: Welcome, Syllabus

Thursday August 22: David Sibley, Geographies of Exclusion: society and difference in the West, Images of Difference, 14-31; 49-71

Week Two: Geographies of Exclusion and Desire

Tuesday August 27: Gilman, "Introduction;" Mary Douglas, "Purity and Danger," excerpt

Thursday August 29: Richard Sennett, "Fear of Touching"; Caryll Phillips, The Nature of Blood, pp. 1-50

Week Three: Race

Tuesday September 3: The Nature of Blood, pp. 50-100; Drakakis, "Jews, bastards, and black rams"

Thursday September 5: Caryll Phillips, The Nature of Blood, pp. 100-150; Heng, Invention of Race in the Middle Ages

Week Four: Whiteness

Tuesday September 10: Caryll Philips, The Nature of Blood, pp. 150-175; Ashley Dawson, "To remember Too Much."

Thursday September 12: Caryll Philips, The Nature of Blood, pp. 175-end; Hall, "Europe's Other Self"

Week Five: The Europe of Civilization, Colonialism

Tuesday September 17: Part One Louis Couperus, The Hidden Force (1901)

Thursday September 19: Ann Stoler, "Sexual Affronts and Racial Frontiers," pp. 198-227

Week Six: Colonialism/Post Colonialism Continued II

Tuesday September 24: Couperus Part Two'; Dyer, excerpt "White"

Thursday September 26: Homi Bhabha, "The Other Question"

Week Seven: Colonialism/Post Colonialism Continued III

Tuesday October 1:
No Class

Thursday October 3: DUE DATE PAPER on Caryl Phillips, The Nature of Blood

Week Eight: Power/Knowledge

**Tuesday October 8: Couperus Part Three ;
Aimee Cesaire, Discourse on Colonialism, pp. 1-5
<http://www.rlwclarke.net/theory/SourcesPrimary/CesaireDiscourseonColonialism.pdf>; Open Democracy, “Xenophobia and the Civilizing Mission”**

**Thursday October 10: Edward Said, Orientalism, Chapter One
https://sites.evergreen.edu/politicalshakespeares/wp-content/uploads/sites/33/2014/12/Said_full.pdf**

Week Nine: Inventing Eastern Europe: The Slavic Other

Tuesday October 15: Chigumadzi, Soap and South Africa’s ‘Fatal Intimacy’

Thursday October 17: Wolff, Inventing Eastern Europe, Introduction; Washington Post, “Putin, Christianity, and Europe”
<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2014/jan/28/whos-godless-now-russia-says-its-us/>

Week Ten: The Balkans and the Eastern Question

Tuesday October 22: Dodds, “Licensed to Stereotype: James Bond and the Spectre of Balkanism”

Thursday October 24: Vera Goldsworthy, “Balkan as Other: The Rhetoric of Balkanization”;

Week Eleven: Inventing the Balkans

Tuesday October 29: Hammond, “Balkans as Europe’s Danger Zone”

Thursday October 31: Bogdal, “Europe Invents The Gypsies”

Week Twelve: Europeanizing the European Periphery

Tuesday November 5: DUE DATE PAPER on Couperus, “Hidden Force”;
Wiebe, “Securing Europe’s Fringe”

Thursday November 7: Shannon Jones and Jelena Subotic, “Fantasies of Power:
Performing Europeanization”;

Week Thirteen: Fortress Europe

Tuesday November 12: Dzenovska, “Eastern Europe, the Moral Subject of the
Migration/Refugee Crisis” ;

Thursday November 14: Brigitte Hipfl and Daniela Gronold, “Asylum Seekers as
Austria’s Other”; The Guardian, “Christian Refugees are Fine, Muslims Aren’t”

Week Fourteen: Refugees as Europe’s Other

Tuesday November 19: “Norway Offers Migrants a Lesson in How To Treat Women”;
The Economist, “Gay Rights in Georgia”; “Sweden’s of the Mind”

Thursday November 21: Atlantic, “Trump, Putin and the Alt Right “
<http://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2016/10/trump-putin-alt-right-comintern/506015/>

Week Fifteen:

Tuesday November 26:
THURSDAY November 29: Thanksgiving Holiday

Week Sixteen:
Tuesday December 3: Last day of Classes
: DUE DATE PAPER “Balkanism”