Course Title:
Seminar in Human Geography: Nationalism in the Information Age

Course Number:
GEOG 6220-101

Course Description:
The seminar provides the background for considering theories of nationalism, the role of various media in fostering nationalism, and methodologies for understanding and analyzing nationalism across various media.

Class Dates, Location and Hours:
- Dates: November 26 – December 2, 2012
- Location: Hurlburt Field, Florida. Class will be held in Bldg. 90220, 221 Lukasik Ave.
- Hours: Mon-Fri; 6:00 p.m.-9:30 p.m.; Sat 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Sun 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
- Last day to enroll or drop without penalty: October 28, 2012

This military installation is not open to the general public. In order to take courses at this installation, students must have a current military or Department of Defense identification card which allows them to access the installation.

Site Director:
Kelly Gaskell. Assistant: Javier Ruiz. Phone: 850-581-3000; Fax: 850-581-3004; E-mail: aphurlburt@ou.edu

Professor Contact Information:
- Course Professor: Dr. Darren Purcell
- Mailing Address: University of Oklahoma
  100 East Boyd St, SEC 510
  Norman, OK 73019-5059.
- Telephone Number: (405) 325-9193
- Fax Number: (405) 325-6090
- E-mail Address: dpurcell@ou.edu
- Professor availability: The professor will be available via e-mail to students before and after the class sessions. On-site office hours are an hour before and after each class session. Appointments may be made for other times during the day.

Textbook(s) and Instructional Materials:
Materials posted on the OU Desire to Learn (D2L) system: All materials will be provided to students via the Desire to Learn site. There will be no materials for purchase. Access D2L at http://learn.ou.edu; enter your OU NetID (4+4) and password, and select course to access material. Please contact your local Site Director if you require assistance.

Course Objectives:
At the end of the seminar, successful students will be able to discuss and differentiate between competing theories of nationalism and how they are expressed in various media, not limited to maps, newspapers, websites, social networking technologies, and in everyday life. The student will be provided opportunities to display and apply their understandings of how nationalism is created and deployed in
various media. Additionally, the student will be able to demonstrate an understanding of various methodological approaches to the study of nationalism in various media.

Course Outline:

November 26th – Theories of Nationalism


November 27th – IR, Geopolitics and Nationalism


November 28th – Methods of Approaching Nationalism


November 29th – Methods of Approaching Nationalism, Part II.


November 30th – Nationalism and Film


December 1st – Morning Session –Electronic Platforms and Media

December 1st – Afternoon Session


December 2nd – Morning Session – Discussion of Proposed Research Topics.

Students in the course will present (10 minutes, perhaps 15 minutes depending on class size) on the nation they will be analyzing the media activities of, providing a justification for why this is a good case, what primary or secondary data would be available, and what approach they intend to employ for the analysis, and what challenges will they face.

December 2nd – Afternoon Session – Final Exam:

Assignments, Grading and Due Dates:

1. Pre-Course assignment (20% of the grade) : After reading the materials for the first TWO days, please write an essay of no more than 3 pages, but no less than two FULL pages, that answers the following questions:
   a. What practices of the everyday are seen in American nationalism, if you believe there to be an American nation?
   b. Picking one medium (television, film, radio), what is the role of that medium in helping create and recreate the nation?

   This assignment will need to be posted at least one week before the class starts. No exceptions. Late work will not be graded. Question and feedback on how to approach the idea of American nationalism will be welcome.

2. Final Exam (30%) An open-book, open note exam that will be based on questions given to the students in advance of the class. The document will be provided three weeks in advance of the class via D2L.

3. In class presentation of research topic. (10%). A guide for the presentation will be available 3 weeks before the class via D2L.

4. Final Paper (40%) - A research paper in which the student will choose a medium and a national group to examine the way the nation is expressed. Linkages to the theories discussed in class, methods presented, and the broader literature on nationalism will be expected. Target length: 10-15 pages, exclusive of figures, charts and references. A writing guide will be posted in advance to D2L to provide guidance on how to approach this paper. You will need to be thinking about the paper while reading course materials in advance of the class meetings.

Grading:

This is a letter-graded course: A, B, C, D, or F.

NOTICE: Failure to meet assignment due dates could result in a grade of I (Incomplete) and may adversely impact Tuition Assistance and/or Financial Aid.
POLICIES AND NOTICES

Attendance/Grade Policy

Attendance and participation in interaction, individual assignments, group exercises, simulations, role playing, etc. are valuable aspects of any course because much of the learning comes from discussions in class with other students. It is expected that you attend all classes and be on time except for excused emergencies.

Excused absences are given for professor mandated activities or legally required activities such as emergencies or military assignments. Unavoidable personal emergencies, including (but not limited to) serious illness; delays in getting to class because of accidents, etc.; deaths and funerals, and hazardous road conditions will be excused.

If you are obtaining financial assistance (TA, STAP, FA, VA, Scholarship, etc.) to pay all or part of your tuition cost, you must follow your funding agency/institution’s policy regarding “I” (Incomplete) grades unless the timeline is longer than what the University policy allows then you must adhere to the University policy.

Students who receive Financial Aid must resolve/complete any “I” (Incomplete) grades by the end of the term or he/she may be placed on “financial aid probation.” If the “I” grade is not resolved/completed by the end of the following term, the student’s Financial Aid may be suspended make the student ineligible for further Financial Aid.

Students are responsible for meeting the guidelines of Tuition Assistance and Veterans Assistance. See the education counselor at your local education center for a complete description of your TA or VA requirements.

Academic Honesty

Honesty is a fundamental precept in all academic activities and … [you] have a special obligation to observe the highest standards of honesty. Academic misconduct in any form is inimical to the purposes and functions of the University and is therefore unacceptable and is rigorously proscribed. Academic misconduct includes:

- cheating (using unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise), plagiarism, falsification of records, unauthorized possession of examinations, intimidation, and any and all other actions that may improperly affect the evaluation of a student’s academic performance or achievement;
- assisting others in any such act; or attempting to engage in such acts.

All acts of academic misconduct will be reported and adjudicated as prescribed by the student code of the University of Oklahoma. All students should review the “Student’s Guide to Academic Integrity” found at http://www.ou.edu/provost/integrity

Accommodation Statement

The College of Continuing Education [Advanced Programs] is committed to making its activities as accessible as possible. For accommodations on the basis of disability, please contact your OU Site Director.

Course Policies

Advanced Programs policy is to order books in paperback if available. Courses, dates, and professors are subject to change. Please check with your OU Site Director. Students should retain a copy of any assignments that are mailed to the professor for the course. Advanced Programs does not provide duplicating services or office supplies.

Copyright

Any and all course materials, syllabus, lessons, lectures, etc. are the property of professor teaching the course and the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma and are protected under applicable copyright.

For more information about Advanced Programs, visit our website at: http://www.goou.ou.edu/
INSTRUCTOR VITA

Darren Purcell

Education

- BA, Geography, University of Kentucky (1991)
- MA, Geography, University of Kentucky (1996)
- Ph.D., Geography, Florida State University (2003)

Current Positions

- Assistant Professor, University of Oklahoma, Dept. of Geography (2005-Present)
- Affiliate Faculty, Film and Media Studies – 2011 to Present
- Affiliate Faculty, School of International and Area Studies, Univ. of Oklahoma
- Advanced Programs professor since 2006

Frequently Taught Advanced Programs Courses

- Nationalism in the Information Age
- Geopolitics in the Information Age
- Geopolitics of Natural Resources
- Geographies of the Global Economy

Major Areas of Teaching and Research Interest

- Critical Geopolitics
- Geopolitics
- Communications geography
- Economic geography
- Place images
- Humor

Representative Publications and Presentations

Representative Honors and Awards Received

- 2011 – National Council for Geographic Education Distinguished Teaching Achievement Award
- 2009 – Provost’s Outstanding Academic Advising Award.

Major Professional Affiliations

- Association of American Geographers
- Chair of Southwestern Association of American Geographers (2011-2012)
- Association of Internet Researchers
- National Council for Geographic Education
- International Communication Association.