Instructor: Prof. Ariane Chebel d’Appollonia  
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SPAA, 111 Washington Street, Suite 334  
Office Hours: Before class on Tuesday or by appointment

Meeting Time: Tuesday from 5:30 PM to 8:10 PM  
Location: CPS-203

Major Assignments:  
Each student will have to make an oral presentation (of about 15 minutes) and write a research paper of about 10,000 words. There are 12 subjects listed for the oral presentation. Students will be asked to present on one of these subjects in any given week.

The research paper will be based on the oral presentation. It is due on April 13 when the oral presentation takes place before March 30, and on May 3 when the oral presentation takes place after March 30. Late papers will be penalized.

Grading:  
Student grades will be based on the oral presentation (30%) and the final research paper (50%). Regular attendance, careful reading, and active participation (based on required readings) are also taken into account (20%).

All the students are expected to come to each class session prepared to discuss the required readings. The recommended readings are listed for the convenience of those who wish to pursue a particular topic in more depth, especially for the purpose of the in-class presentation.

Course Description:  
What does it take today to be American? Who are ‘the Europeans’? What are the factors explaining the attitude of majority groups toward minority groups? And to what degree are European and United States policies converging? The purpose of this course is to assess the importance of national identity as a current and future issue in the US and Europe. The notion of identity relates to three key dimensions examined in this course from both a theoretical and an empirical perspective:

- National identity as framed by a series of demographic factors such as immigration and the changing composition of the national population.
- National identity is allegedly embodied in representative institutions whose legitimacy is based on their ability to represent ‘the People.’ Yet, the increasing diversity of both US and European societies raises new challenges regarding the political representation of minorities, as well as the legitimacy of those claiming to represent them.
The rationale behind various policies designed to protect national identity on both sides of the Atlantic and their impact in terms of exclusion and inclusion, civil liberties, and democratic participation.

This course will address the following topics:
- The issue of assimilation in the US and Europe
- National minority groups and migrant communities
- Multiculturalism and national identity
- Identity and political legitimacy
- The issue of political representation
- Identity politics and democracy
- Capacity building through a process of exclusion or inclusion

1. Introduction – January 19
- Presentation of the different topics
- Selection of the oral presentations

2. Presentation of the nation-building process – January 26
- Main components (territory, population, culture, language, religion, etc.)
- Main conceptions (ethnic vs. civic approaches)

- The impact of immigration on national identity
- The emergence of the melting-pot metaphor

4. Nation-building and immigration in Europe: An historical perspective – February 9
- The impact of immigration on national identities
- The notion of European identity

5. The issue of assimilation – February 16
- The evolving notion of assimilation
- Assimilation in practice

6. Multiculturalism, diversity, and national identity – February 23
- Various conceptions of multiculturalism
- Current challenges to multiculturalism
# 7. Citizenship – March 2
- Comparative analysis of citizenship regimes
- Citizenship and national cohesion
- The devaluation of citizenship

# 8. The issue of ethnic data – March 9
- Ethnic categorization and discrimination
- Ethnic categorization and affirmative action

# 9. We the people: minorities and political representation in the United States – March 23
- The notion of ethnic politics
- The ambivalent relationship between mobilization and representation

# 10. We the people: minorities and political representation in Europe – March 30
- Ethnic politics at the national level
- The impact of migrant mobilization at the EU level

# 11. Identity politics and democracy – April 6
- Norms and processes of identity politics
- Democratic pluralism and national unity

# 12. Identity and loyalty – April 13
- State sovereignty and challenges to loyalty
- Issues raised by the emergence of transnational and post-national identities

# 13. The issue of discrimination – April 20
- Factors and vectors of discrimination
- Critical evaluation of the fight against discrimination

# 14. The current paths to integration – April 27
- New dimensions of integration
- Issues of (dis)integration