

Politics of Identity
Professor Courtney Jung
Winter 2017

This is an upper level seminar on collective identity and the politics of identity. It covers a range of “identities,” including gender, ethnicity, sexuality, and race, as well as a number of distinct theoretical perspectives on how to think about the issue of identity in politics.

Course requirements:

1) Two 4-page reading response papers, due at noon on Monday, the day before the reading will be discussed in class. Late papers, handed in after the class that covered that reading, will not be accepted. One of these papers must be handed in before spring break. These short papers should be emailed directly to me at courtney.jung@utoronto.ca.

Format: these short papers should critically engage the reading. Although they are brief, they should be real “papers,” with an argument, an introductory paragraph, and a conclusion – they should not take the form of a series of interesting questions, or of “thoughts” or “ideas” you had when you were doing the reading.

Each of these papers will be worth 20% of the grade.

2) One final 20-page paper, due one week after the end of class, or sooner if you are graduating. This paper may be on almost any topic related to identity – it may be a research paper, a theoretical paper, or a literature review. Students are **REQUIRED** to meet with me during the semester to discuss their paper topic. Papers that have not been discussed with and approved by the instructor will not be accepted.

This paper will be worth 50% of the grade.

3) This is a seminar class. Students must complete all the reading, and come to class prepared to engage in discussion. Attendance in this course is mandatory. If a student misses more than one class without medical documentation, s/he will be asked to withdraw from the course. In-class participation will be worth 10% of the grade

Readings are available online or through Blackboard.

The Construction of Identity

James Fearon, “What is identity? (As we now use the word),” online at <https://web.stanford.edu/group/fearon-research/cgi-bin/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/What-is-Identity-as-we-now-use-the-word-.pdf>

Appiah, KA, The State and the Shaping of Identity. The Tanner Lectures on Human Values, http://tannerlectures.utah.edu/documents/a-to-z/a/Appiah_02.pdf

Stuart Hall, “Introduction: Who needs Identity?” Online at http://www.hu.mtu.edu/~jdslack/readings/CSReadings/Hall_Who_Needs_Identity.pdf

Race/Racism

Anthony Marx "Race-Making and the Nation State" World Politics, 1996 online at <http://www.jstor.org.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/stable/pdf/25053960.pdf>

John Hartigan Jr., 2008. "The end of social construction. What comes next?" online at <http://www.jstor.org.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/stable/pdf/23178883.pdf>

Anthony Appiah, "Race, Culture, Identity: Misunderstood connections" online at <http://www.tannerlectures.utah.edu/lectures/documents/Appiah96.pdf>

Critical Race Theory

Lani Guinier and Gerald Torres, chapter 2, "A Critique of Color-blindness," The Miner's Canary

Kimberlé Williams Crenshaw "Introduction," and "Race, Reform and Retrenchment: Transformation and Legitimation in Anti-discrimination Law" in Kimberlé Crenshaw, Neil Gotanda, Gary Peller, Kendall Thomas, eds. Critical Race Theory: The Key Writings That Formed the Movement

Gender/Feminism

Judith Butler, "Contingent Foundations: Feminism and the Question of Postmodernism" in Judith Butler and Joan Scott, Feminists Theorize the Political (Routledge, 1992)

Judith Butler, "Gender Trouble, Feminist Theory, and Psychoanalytic Discourse," in Linda Nicholson, ed. Feminism/Postmodernism

Becky Thompson, "Multiracial feminism: recasting the chronology of second wave feminism," online at <http://www.jstor.org.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/stable/pdf/3178747.pdf>

Claire Snyder, "What is Third Wave Feminism? A New Directions Essay," online at <http://www.jstor.org.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/stable/pdf/10.1086/588436.pdf>

National Identity/Nationalism

Weinstock (1996), "Is there a Moral Case for Nationalism?" Journal of Applied Philosophy, 13(1), pp. 87-100 (14 pages)

Mason, A. (1999), "Political Community, Liberal-Nationalism, and the Ethics of Assimilation", Ethics, 109(2), pp. 261-286 (26 pages)

Abizadeh, A. (2002), "Does Liberal Democracy Presuppose a Cultural Nation? Four Arguments", American Political Science Review, 96(3), pp.495-509 (15 pages)

Pogge, T. (2008), "The Bounds of Nationalism" pp. 124-151 in World Poverty and Human Rights. Second Edition, Cambridge: Polity (28 pages)

Liberal nationalism and the identities of "others"

Himani Bannerjee, "The Paradox of Diversity: the construction of a multicultural Canada and "Women of Colour,"" in The Dark Side of the Nation: Essays on Multiculturalism, Nationalism, and Gender

Sherene Razack, "Policing the Borders of Nation: The Imperial Gaze in Gender Persecution Cases," in Looking White People in the Eye

Jasbir Puar, Introduction, "Homonationalism and biopolitics," in Terrorist Assemblages: Homonationalism in Queer Times

Indigenous identity and politics

Nancy Shoemaker, "How Indians got to be Red," American Historical Review, June 1997 online

Gerald Torres, Kathryn Milun, "Translating "Yonnonidio" by Precedent and Evidence: The Mashpee Indian Case, in Kimberlé Crenshaw, Neil Gotanda, Gary Peller, Kendall Thomas, eds. Critical Race Theory: The Key Writings That Formed the Movement

Glen Coulthard, Conclusion, "Lessons from Idle No More," in Red Skin, White Masks (University of Minnesota Press, 2014)

Audra Simpson, Chapter six, "The Gender of the Flint," in Mohawk Interruptus

Queer Theory

José Muñoz, chapter one, "Queerness as Horizon," in Cruising Utopia online at <https://fswg.files.wordpress.com/2014/11/munoz-cruising-utopia-ch1.pdf>

Lee Edelman, chapter one "The Future is Kid Stuff" in No Future: Queer Theory and the Death Drive, online at

<http://www.faculty.umb.edu/heike.schotten/readings/Edelman,%20The%20Future%20is%20Kid%20Stuff.pdf>

Cathy Cohen, "Punks, bulldaggers, and welfare queens: the radical potential of queer politics?" Online at <http://www.isabelcporras.com/punks%2Bbulldaggers%2Bcohen.pdf>

Intersectionality

Kimberlé Crenshaw, "Mapping the Margins: Intersectionality, Identity Politics, and Violence Against Women of Color" in Crenshaw et al., eds.

Ange Marie Hancock, chapter one, "Intersectionality to the rescue," in Solidarity Politics for Millennials, online at <https://sites.oxy.edu/ron/csp19/2010/BTOO%20Chapter%201.PDF>

Courtney Jung, "Tilting at Windmills: the politics of horizontal inequality"

Jennifer C. Nash, "Re-thinking intersectionality," online at <https://philpapers.org/archive/NASRI>

Recognition and its critics

Will Kymlicka, Multicultural Citizenship

Nancy Fraser, "From Redistribution to Recognition?" In Justice Interruptus

Courtney Jung, Chapter 1, The Moral Force of Indigenous Politics online at <https://www-cambridge-org.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/core/books/the-moral-force-of-indigenous-politics/E9B5ABB10AA0850CDB73AC11CFB34F32>

Okin, S.M. (1998), "Feminism and Multiculturalism: Some Tensions", Ethics, Vol. 108, No. 4, pp. 661-684 (24 pages)

Glen Coulthard, Chapter 1, "The Politics of Recognition in Colonial Contexts," in Red Skin, White Masks (University of Minnesota Press, 2014)

Policing (and Relaxing) the Boundaries

<http://aptnews.ca/2016/12/23/author-joseph-boydens-shape-shifting-indigenous-identity/>

<https://thewalrus.ca/why-is-joseph-boydens-indigenous-identity-being-questioned/>

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/opinion/there-is-room-in-our-circle-for-joseph-boyden/article33467823/>

<http://www.vanityfair.com/hollywood/2015/06/caitlyn-jenner-bruce-cover-annie-leibovitz>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7B8Q6D4a6TM>

<http://www.cnn.com/2015/06/12/us/washington-spokane-naacp-rachel-dolezal-identity/>

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2015/06/12/spokane-naacp-president-ethnicity-questions/71110110/>