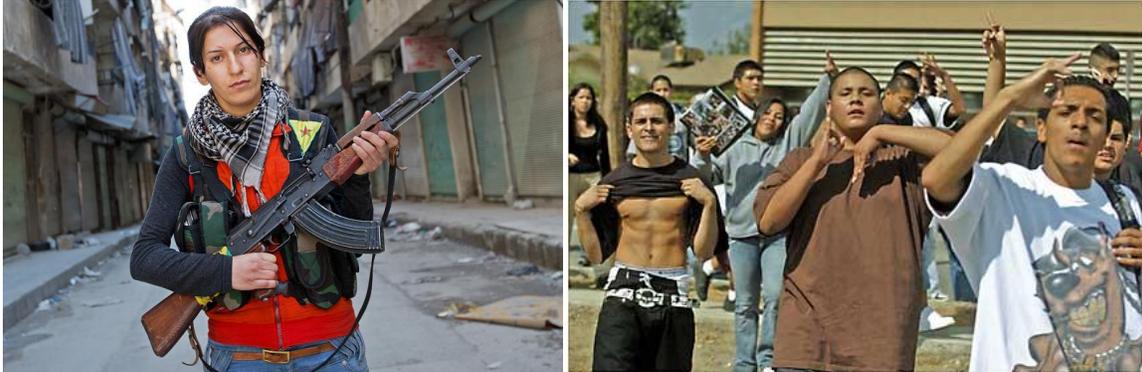




History 265.01E

Violence and Ethnic Identities



Instructor: Dr. Mark Moreno

Class Meets: Tues.-Thurs., SS150

Office Location: Ferguson Social Sciences, #126

Office Hours: Tues.-Thurs., 3:30-5:00 p.m.; Wed., 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Office Phone: 903-886-5546

Email: Mark.Moreno@tamuc.edu (or eCollege)

Office Fax: 903-468-3230

COURSE INFORMATION

Course Description

This is a very broad-based course covering the global theme of collective violence and its relation to ethnic or racial identities. Throughout world history and the histories of individual nation-states, wars and small-scale violence involving groups have arisen out of perceived differences among people: ethnic, religious, racial, or nationalistic. Ethnic violence has often occurred when minority groups in difference regions of the world have resisted outside power and influence, or fought against dominant colonial powers for national independence. Nation-states, in turn, have often constructed national mythologies based on race and/or ethnicity, and politically excluded others within their own borders, leading to violence and genocide. We will examine the intersections of identity and violence in world history, focusing on specific regions.

Required Texts

Reed, Nelson A., *The Caste War of Yucatán*. (Stanford University Press, 2001), ISBN: 978-0-804-74001-2 28.95 (new)

Mojzes, Paul., *Balkan Genocides: Holocaust and Ethnic Cleansing in the Twentieth Century*. (Rowman and Littlefield, 2011), ISBN: 978-1-442-20663-2, \$42.95 (new)

Additional Materials will be posted on eCollege

Student Learning Outcomes

By the end of the semester, students should competently meet the following learning outcomes:

- 1.) Students will be able to form substantive and evidence-driven arguments to propose solutions to problems or explain phenomena.
- 2.) Student communication will follow conventions of grammar and syntax appropriate to the audience, purpose and message.
- 3.) Students will demonstrate awareness of societal and/or civic issues.
- 4.) Students will be able to understand their role in their own education.
- 5.) Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of the interconnectedness of global dynamics (issues, processes, trends, and systems).

Learning Outcomes 1, 2, and 3 will be related to one of the class assignments for this semester.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Participation and attendance: Regular attendance is expected, as well as regular questions and comments from students. Ten points will be deducted for every three unexcused absences. Other lectures and film/video presentations will relate to class readings. Class time is meant for both lecture and discussion, so participation is important whether class involves interaction or film/video presentations. Class time is not nap time, and the instructor reserves the right to dismiss disengaged students for the day – or longer.

Plagiarism: Taking work directly from other sources and presenting it as your own is a serious academic offense, and will automatically result in a “0” grade for your paper, and possibly for the class. In addition, students will need to meet with the instructor for explanation and will be subject to disciplinary action by the University. Modern (or postmodern) technology has made detection of plagiarism easier than ever before, and faculty members in most cases have adopted a “zero tolerance” policy for such actions. All work produced for this class must come directly from History 265 students, and be specific to History 265 for the Winter 2014 semester.

Exams: Two Blue Book exams – a midterm and a final – will be assigned in this class. Students will answer two out of three questions in standard essay form and in longhand.

Short Assignments: For 200 points, students are required to attend class regularly, and complete up to four short assignments based on class readings. Students will write brief summaries to turn in, and lead discussions on the readings during class.

Semester Project: Students will write a 6-8 page essay on ethnic, racial, or religious conflict in a region outside of the U.S. All writing assignments in class are to be in 12-point Times New Roman format. Additional instructions on writing assignments will be discussed in class.

Student Responsibility Sheet: The student responsibility sheet is designed to measure the Student Learning Outcome that assesses students' role in their education. It will be distributed to students electronically, via email or eCollege, in the first week of the semester. Completed responsibility sheets are **due on or before 5 p.m. on Mon., February 3 – which is not a scheduled class time**. The completed sheets should be printed and submitted in person to the instructor. ***Failure to submit these sheets will result in a failing grade for the course regardless of any other work that has been completed for the course.*** Late responsibility sheets will *not* be accepted. For further explanation of this requirement, please ask the instructor.

Grading

Attendance, Participation, and Discussion = 200 points total

Exams = 200 points total

Semester Project = 100 points

Total = 500 points possible

Percentages and grades:

90-100% = A

80-90% = B

70-80% = C

60-70 = D

Below 60% = F

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS, ACCESS, and NAVIGATION

The following information has been provided to assist you in preparing to use technology successfully in this course.

Required:

High-speed Internet access, a word processor, and a printer for some assignments

This course is facilitated online with eCollege, the online system used by Texas A&M University-Commerce. You can get started at <https://tamuccommerce.edu/login.aspx>. You will need your CWID and password to login to the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact Technology Services at 903-468-6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

All relevant course materials – including the syllabus – can be found in eCollege.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Interaction with Instructor: Email through the online learning system is the best way to contact the instructor outside of class. Students should expect a response within 24 hours on weekdays.

Writing and Library Support

For assistance with writing, students are encouraged to make appointments with the University Writing Center:

<http://web.tamu-commerce.edu/http/academics/colleges/humanitiesSocialSciencesArts/departments/literatureLanguages/writingCenter/default.aspx>

Texas A&M University-Commerce provides students technical support in the use of eCollege. The student help desk may be reached by the following means 24 hours a day, seven days a Week:

Chat Support: Click on “Live Support” on the tool bar on our course homepage to chat with an eCollege Representative.

Phone: Call 1-866-656-5511 (Toll free) to speak with an eCollege Technical Support Representative.

Email: Send to helpdesk@online.tamuc.org to request support with from an eCollege Technical Support Representative.

Help: Click on the “Help” button on the homepage toolbar for information regarding working with eCollege functions

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES AND POLICIES

Electronic Devices: No hand-held electronic gadgets or laptops -- smartphones or otherwise -- are allowed to be in use or active during class time. It is important to be focused on the subject matter during lectures, discussions, and film/video presentations. This material tends to be rather complex at times – but all of it is relevant to understand in order to obtain a good grade in class.

Plagiarism: As stated above, it is easy to detect and provokes the ire of faculty members like almost nothing else, and it is against University policy.

University Specific Procedures:

ADA Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this

legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library 132

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

[Student Disability Resources & Services](#)

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See the “Code of Student Conduct” in *Student Guide Handbook*.)

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

This schedule is subject to slight revision during the course of the semester

Lecture/Discussion Schedule

Week 1: Introduction

- Global Approaches to Ethnicity and Collective Violence

Week 2

- Latin America’s “Small Countries”
- Mexico: Indigenous Identities and the Nation
Readings: Reed, *The Caste War* (Sections TBA)

Week 3

- The Caste War of Yucatán
Readings: Finish Reed, *The Caste War*

Week 4

- **First Discussion Assignments Due**
- The Ottoman Empire and Turkish Identity
Readings: TBA

Week 5

- The Armenian Genocide
- The Turkish Nation

- Film, “The Armenian Genocide”
Readings, TBA

Week 6

- **Second Discussion Assignments Due**
- The Kurds: Ethnic Identity in the Islamic World
Readings, TBA

Week 7

- Africans and Ethnicity
- The European “Scramble for Africa”
Readings, TBA

Week 8

- **Midterm**
- King Leopold’s Congo

Week 9

- Congolese Independence
- President Mobutu’s Congo
Readings: TBA

Week 10

Spring Break

Week 11

- Discussion, Film, TBA

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Week 12

- **Third Discussion Assignment Due**
- Ethnic Identity in Easter Europe
Readings: Mojzes, *Balkan Genocides* (Sections TBA)

Week 13

- **Semester Project Due**
- Yugoslavia: Stability Under Dictatorship

- Balkan Genocides
Readings: Finish *Balkan Genocides*

Week 14

- **Fourth Discussion Assignments Due**
- Street Gangs and Ethnicity in the U.S.
- Latino Street Gangs in the U.S.
Readings: TBA

Week 15

- Discussion; Film, “Black and Gold” or “Nuestra Familia/Our Family”

Week 16

Final Exam