

SEMESTER TWO 2021- 2022
ABERYSTWYTH UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL POLITICS

EXAMINATION PAPER
IP2/39920: NATIONALISM IN THEORY AND PRACTICE

Time allowed: **24 HOURS**.

You must submit your answer in a single document to the TurnItIn submission point before 12 P.M. (BST) the day after the examination paper is released. Late submissions will not be accepted.

Please answer two questions, **ONE** from **EACH SECTION**

Each answer must comprise of 1,000 words (+/- 10%). Do not duplicate material you have submitted previously.

STUDENTS MAY SUBMIT ANSWERS TO THIS PAPER IN EITHER
WELSH OR ENGLISH

SECTION A: NATIONALISM IN THEORY

1. Primordial explanations of the origins of nations have been criticised for their use of 'retrospective nationalism'. What is meant by this critique, and do you agree with it?
2. To what extent is the ethnic / civic distinction a useful way of categorising different types of nationalism?
3. If nations are 'imagined' entities, does this mean that nations can be created out of nothing?
4. Critically evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the ethnosymbolist approach to explaining nations and nationalism?
5. Summarise and evaluate Tom Nairn's modernist theory of nationalism. To what extent does Nairn succeed in explaining the origins of nations?
6. 'Print capitalism gave a new fixity to language, which in the long run helped to build that image of antiquity so central to the subjective idea

of the nation.’ What is meant by this, and do you agree with it?
(Anderson, 1994: 94)

SECTION B: NATIONALISM IN PRACTICE

1. Are contemporary populist movements across Europe and the West comparable, or is populism just a buzzword used to describe disparate phenomena?
2. Populism is often described as having a chameleon-like nature. What is meant by this?
3. In what way has the principle of national self-determination "been haunting the world since the French Revolution"?
4. What role did the dominant nation discourse play in the break-up of Yugoslavia?
5. ‘Beyond the fact that these parties emerged in response to centre-periphery tensions, it is impossible to talk of minority nationalist parties as constituting one, homogenous party family’. Critically discuss with reference to **at least one** minority nationalist party.
6. In what way does Hindu nationalism challenge the notion of ‘Unity in Diversity’ in India?
7. Why are women usually ‘hidden’ in the various theorizations of the nationalist phenomena?’
8. ‘With blithe lightness of mind, we assumed that the world was moving irrevocably beyond nationalism, beyond tribalism, beyond the provincial confines of the identity inscribed in our passports towards a global market culture which was to be our new home. In retrospect, we were whistling in the dark. The oppressed has returned and its name is nationalism.’ (Ignatieff, 1994: 2). Critically discuss.
9. ‘Dominant national discourses do not afford much space for native people to be actively involved in making the nation’ (Canessa, 2005: 5). Critically discuss.