



SEMESTER TWO 2023-2024

ABERYSTWYTH UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL POLITICS

IP29920/39920: NATIONALISM IN THEORY AND PRACTICE

Time allowed: **2 HOURS**.

Please answer **TWO** questions, **ONE** question from **EACH** section.

CALCULATORS ARE NOT PERMITTED

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

**Once seated, students may complete the front cover of the answer
book(s) and the attendance slip ONLY.**

**DO NOT TURN THE EXAMINATION QUESTION PAPER OVER UNTIL
INSTRUCTED TO DO SO.**

SECTION A: NATIONALISM IN THEORY

1. Critically evaluate the usefulness of the distinction between civic and ethnic understandings of nationhood and forms of nationalism with reference to **at least one case study**.
2. 'Crises, such as the Falklands or Gulf Wars, infect a sore spot, causing bodily fevers: the symptoms are inflamed rhetoric and an outbreak of ensigns. But the irruption soon dies down; the temperature passes; the flags are rolled up; and, then it is business as usual' (Billig, 1995: 5). What is meant by this, and do you agree?
3. What role did print capitalism play in the formation of a new 'imagined community' (Anderson, 1983)?
4. Critically evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the modernist approach to explaining nations and nationalism drawing on the work of **at least two scholars**.
5. Summarise and evaluate Closs-Stephens' (2022) 'affective atmospheres' concept in explaining how the nation is felt in everyday life.
6. Are nations a natural and universal phenomenon, and an extension of kinship and family relations? Critically discuss.

SECTION B: NATIONALISM IN PRACTICE

1. What are the implications of the rise of populist parties for contemporary politics?
2. Does Hindu nationalism challenge the notion of 'Unity in Diversity' and secular nationalism in India? If so, how?

3. Why are women usually 'hidden' in the various theorizations of the nationalist phenomena?
4. Populism is 'an ideology that considers society to be ultimately separated into two homogeneous and antagonistic groups, "the pure people" versus "the corrupt elite", and which argues that politics should be an expression of the *volonté générale* (general will) of the people' (Mudde, 2004: 543). Critically analyse by drawing on **at least two case studies**.
5. Has the principle of national self-determination "been haunting the world since the French Revolution"? If so, how?
6. The "dominant nation" discourses in Yugoslavia in the 1980s and 1990s allowed little room for compromise or constitutional solutions. Critically discuss.
7. 'Beyond the fact that these parties emerged in response to centre-periphery tensions, it is impossible to talk of stateless nationalist parties as constituting one, homogenous party family'. Critically discuss with reference to **at least two** stateless nationalist parties.
8. 'Nationalism has been defined as a patriarchal project that opposes the needs of the women and the goals of gender equality' (Chrisman, 2004: 188). Do you agree with this definition?