

**POLITICAL SCIENCE 688:
POLITICAL AND SOCIAL IDENTITIES IN THE U.S.**

Winter 2002: Wednesday 10:00 to 12:00

Professor Cara Wong

<u>Office:</u>	Room 211 Department of Political Science 611 Church St., Suite 334	<u>Office Hours:</u>	4:00 to 6:00, Tuesday Or by appointment
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This seminar is designed to provide students with an introduction to the concept of identity in the context of American politics. We begin by examining the definition of identity, its sources, and its measurement, mainly from the perspective of social psychology. After these issues have been addressed, we turn to an exploration of different cases, examining the effects of identity on public opinion, behavior, and politics. The particular identities that we discuss in this seminar are not necessarily the most important, the most salient, or the most critical in Americans' day-to-day living. However, by reading and discussing a few cases, you should gain a better understanding of how *other* identities play a role in politics.

The readings incorporate approaches other than political science, including sociology, psychology, and anthropology. This allows us to compare and contrast the benefits of different disciplines' approaches, as well as gain a better appreciation of the many different ways of posing and addressing a research question.

Course Requirements and Grading:

You will be required to write a short reaction paper each week. They should be no longer than one typed, single-spaced page each, and should be reflections on or critiques of the assigned readings. The following is a list of different approaches you might take: juxtapose and comment on alternative explanations or approaches to a substantive topic; criticize the methodologies used and propose other strategies of research; criticize the conceptualization or measurement of a particular construct; analyze the implications of a set of findings; suggest new questions and hypotheses for research; or develop similarities or contrasts with themes covered in previous weeks. The papers do not need to cover all of the readings for a week, but they should contain an argument and not merely a summary or description of the readings.

These papers must be emailed to me no later than noon on the Tuesday before the scheduled Wednesday session. Please email them to me as attachments. These essays will serve as the starting point for group discussion.

In addition to these short essays, you will write a research paper on a topic of your choice.

Your final grade will be based on the 1-page essays, class participation, and your research paper.

Course Materials:

The readings will be available in a reader at Excel (on S. University). Some of the articles are survey-based in the political behavior tradition, while others are experimental in the social psychology tradition. **Do not be scared away by the statistics!** I do not expect you to critique any particular quantitative analysis. The goal of the course is for you to learn how to develop testable hypotheses and how to develop theories from observations.

There is one book assigned for the class: Michael Dawson's *Black Visions*.

Class Schedule & Readings

Jan 9 **Introduction**

Jan 16 **Definitions and Measurement**

Readings:

Taylor, Charles. 1992. "Politics of Recognition." In *Multiculturalism and 'The Politics of Recognition'*, ed. Amy Gutmann. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Monroe, Kristen Renwick, James Hankin, and Renee Bukovchick Van Vechten. 2000. "The Psychological Foundations of Identity Politics." *Annual Review of Political Science* 3: 419-47.

Miller, Arthur H., Patricia Gurin, Gerald Gurin and Oksana Malanchuk. 1981. "Group Consciousness and Political Participation." *American Journal of Political Science* 25: 494-511.

Conover, Pamela Johnston. 1988. "The Role of Social Groups in Political Thinking" *British Journal of Political Science* 18: 51-76.

Brewer, Marilyn B. 1991. "The Social Self: On Being the Same and Different at th Same Time." *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin* 17: 475-82.

Brewer, Marilyn B. and Wendi Gardner. 1996. "Who Is This 'We'? Levels of Collective Identity and Self Representations." *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology* 71: 83-93.

Jan 23

Categorization and Differentiation

Readings:

Tajfel, Henri. 1970. Experiments in Intergroup Discrimination. *Scientific American* 223: 96-102.

Tajfel, Henri. 1981. *Human Groups and Social Categories: Studies in Social Psychology*. pp. 228-43. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Brown, Roger. 1986. *Social Psychology, The Second Edition*. Part VI Introduction ("Ethnic Conflict") and Chapter 15 ("Ethnocentrism and Hostility"). New York: The Free Press.

Brown, Rupert. 2000. "Social Identity Theory: Past Achievements, Current Problems and Future Challenges." *European Journal of Social Psychology* 30: 745-78.

Olsen, Laurie. 1997. *Made in America: Immigrant Students in Our Public Schools*. Chapter 1 ("At the Crossroads"), Chapter 2 ("The Maps of Madison High: On Separation and Invisibility"), and Chapter 3 ("We Make Each Other Racial: The Madison High World as Perceived by the 'American' Student"). New York: New Press.

Prentice, Deborah A., Dale T. Miller, and Jenifer R. Lightdale. 1994. "Asymmetries in Attachments to Groups and to their Members: Distinguishing between Common-Identity and Common-Bond Groups." *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin* 20: 484-93.

Jan 30

Human Nature, Presentation, and Socialization

Readings:

Goffman, Erving. 1959. *The Presentation of Self in Everyday Life*. Introduction and Chapter 1 ("Performances"). New York: Doubleday.

Heiss, Jerold. 1981. *The Social Psychology of Interaction*. "The Development of Identities, Roles, and Presented Selves." Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall.

Baumeister. 1995. "The Need to Belong: Desire for Interpersonal Attachments as a Fundamental Human Motivation." *Psychological Bulletin* 117: 497-529.

Halter, Marilyn. 2000. *Shopping for Identity*. Chapter 1 ("Longings and Belongings") and Chapter 4 ("The Romance of Ethnicity"). New York: Schocken Books.

Kalcik, Susan. 1984. "Ethnic Foodways in America: Symbol and the Performance of Identity." From *Ethnic and Regional Foodways in the U.S.: The Performance of Group Identity*, eds. Linda Keller Brown and Lay Mussell. Knoxville: The University of Tennessee Press.

Feb 6

National and Geographic Identity

Readings:

Smith, Anthony D. 1991. *National Identity*. Chapter 1 (“National and Other Identities”) and Chapter 7 (“Beyond National Identity”). Reno: University of Nevada Press.

Gleason, Philip. “Americans All: World War II and the Shaping of American Identity.” *The Review of Politics* X: 483-518.

Citrin, Jack, Beth Reingold, and Donald P. Green. 1990. “American Identity and the Politics of Ethnic Change.” *Journal of Politics* 52: 1124-54.

Merelman, Richard M., Greg Streich, and Paul Martin. 1998. “Unity and Diversity in American Political Culture: An Exploratory Study of the National Conversation on American Pluralism and Identity.” *Political Psychology* 19: 781-807.

Cuba, L. and D. Ummon. 1993. “A Place to Call Home: Identification with Dwelling, Community, and Region.” *Sociological Quarterly* 34: 111-31.

Blakely, Edward J. and Mary Gail Snyder. 1997. *Fortress America: Gated Communities in the United States*. Chapter 1 (“Forting Up”) and Chapter 2 (“The Search for Community”). Washington, D.C.: Brookings Institution Press.

Feb 13

Ethnic and Racial Identity, part 1

Readings:

Dawson, Michael C. 2001. *Black Visions*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Phinney, Jean S. 1990. “Ethnic Identity in Adolescents and Adults: Review of Research.” *Psychological Bulletin*, 108, 499-514.

Hirshfeld, Lawrence A. 1995. “The Inheritability of Identity: Children’s Understanding of the Cultural Biology of Race.” *Child Development* 66.

Feb 20

Ethnic and Racial Identity, part 2

Readings:

Waters, Mary C. 1990. *Ethnic Options*. Chapter 2 (“Flux and Choice in American Ethnicity”) and Chapter 3 (“Influences on Ancestry Choice”). Berkeley: University of California Press.

Waters, Mary C. 1999. *Black Identities: West Indian Immigrant Dreams and American Realities*. Chapter 3 (“Racial and Ethnic Identity Choices”), Chapter 5 (“Encountering American Race Relations”), and Chapter 8 (“Identities of the Second Generation”). New York: Russell Sage Foundation.

Portes, Alejandro and Dag MacLeod. 1996. “What shall I call myself? Hispanic Identity formation in the Second Generation.” *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 19: 523-47.

Rodriguez, Richard. 1982. *Hunger for Memory: The Education of Richard Rodriguez*. Chapter 1 (“Aria”). New York: Bantam Books.

Ethier, Kathleen A. and Kay Deaux. 1994. "Negotiating Social Identity when Contexts Change: Maintaining Identification and Responding to Threat" *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology* 67: 243-51.

Sears, David O. and P.J. Henry. 1999. "Ethnic Identity and Group Threat in American Politics." *The Political Psychologist* 4: 12-17.

Feb 27 Spring Break

March 6 **Gender and Sexual Identity**

Readings:

Sapiro, Virginia. 1990. "The women's movement and the creation of gender consciousness: Social movements as socialization agents." In *Political Socialization, Citizenship Education, and Democracy*, ed. O. Ichilov. New York: Teachers College Press.

Gurin, Patricia. 1985. "Women's Gender Consciousness." *Public Opinion Quarterly* 49: 143-163.

Dolan, Kathleen. 1998. "Voting for Women in the 'Year of the Woman'" *American Journal of Political Science* 42: 272-93.

Sullivan, Andrew. 1995. *Virtually Normal*. Prologue ("What is a Homosexual") and Chapter 5 ("A Politics of Homosexuality"). New York: Vintage Books.

Wells, Joel W. and William B. Kline. "Self-Disclosure of Homosexual Orientation." *Journal of Social Psychology* 127: 191-7.

Lichterman, Paul. 1999. "Talking Identity In the Public Sphere: Broad Visions and Small Spaces in Sexual Identity Politics." *Theory and Society* 28: 101-141.

March 13 **Age and Party Identity**

Readings:

Montepare, Joann M. and Leslie A. Zebrowitz. 1998. "Person Perception Comes of Age: The Salience and Significance of Age in Social Judgments." In *Advances in Experimental Social Psychology*, ed. Mark P. Zanna. Volume 30.

Mannheim, Karl. 1993. "The Problem of Generations." In *From Karl Mannheim, Second Expanded Edition*, ed. Kurt H. Wolff. New Brunswick: Transaction Publishers.

Campbell, Andrea. 1998. "Senior Citizen Political Participation and the American Welfare State." Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, April 23-35.

Miller, Warren E. and J. Merrill Shanks. 1996. *The New American Voter*. Chapter 6 (“Conceptualization and Measurement of Party Identification”) and Chapter 7 (“Realignment and Generational Change in Party Identification”). Cambridge: Harvard University Press.

Green, Donald Philip and Eric Schickler. 1993. “Multiple-Measure Assessment of Party Identification.” *Public Opinion Quarterly* 57: 503-35.

March 20 **Class, Religious, and Organizational Identity**

Readings:

Campbell, Angus, Philip E. Converse, Warren E. Miller and Donald Stoker. 1960. *The American Voter*. Chapter 12 (“Membership in Social Groupings”) and Chapter 13 (“The Role of Social Class”). New York: Wiley.

Wald, Kenneth D., Dennis E. Owen, and Samuel S. Hill, Jr. 1990. “Political Cohesion in Churches.” *Journal of Politics* 52: 197-215.

Skocpol, Theda. 1999. “How Americans Became Civic.” In *Civic Engagement in American Democracy*, eds. Theda Skocpol and Morris P. Fiorina. Washington, D.C.: Brookings Institution, pp. 27-80.

Walsh, Kathy Cramer. 2000. “The Social Bases of Political Perspectives: The Effects of Informal Interaction in the Workplace and Voluntary Associations.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, April 27-30.

Hirt, Edward R., Dolf Zillmann, Grant A. Erickson, and Chris Kennedy. 1992. “Costs and Benefits of Allegiance: Changes in Fans’ Self-Ascribed Competencies After Team Victory Versus Defeat.” *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology* 63: 724-38.

March 27 **Multiple Identities / Projected and Perceived Identity**

Readings:

Gaertner, Samuel, et al. 1999. “Across Cultural Divides: The Value of a Superordinate Identity.” In *Cultural Divides: Understanding and Overcoming Group Conflict*, eds. Deborah A. Prentice and Dale T. Miller. New York: Russell Sage Foundation.

Perlmutter, Philip. 1996. *The Dynamics of American Ethnic, Religious, and Racial Group Life: An Interdisciplinary Overview*. Chapter 4 (“Group Identity Versus National Identity”). Westport, CT: Praeger.

Phinney, Jean S. and Linda L. Alipuria. 1996. “At the Interface of Cultures: Multiethnic/Multiracial High School and College Students.” *Journal of Social Psychology* 136: 139-58.

Beckwith, Karen. 1998. “Collective Identities of Class and Gender: Working-Class Women in the Pittston Coal Strike.” *Political Psychology* 19: 147-67.

Turkle, Sherry. 1995. *Life on the Screen: Identity in the Age of the Internet*. Introduction (“Identity in the Age of the Internet”) and Chapter 8 (“Tinysex and Gender Trouble”). New York: Simon and Schuster.

Haney Lopez, Ian F. 1996. *White by Law: The Legal Construction of Race*. Chapter 1 (“White Lines”) and Appendices. New York: New York University Press.

April 3 **Mobilization and Collective Action**

Readings:

Calhoun, Craig. 1991. “The Problem of Identity in Collective Action.” In *Macro-Micro Linkages in Sociology*, ed. Joan Huber. Newbury Park CA: Sage.

Friedman, Debra and Doug McAdam. 1992. “Collective Identity and Activism: Networks, Choices, and the Life of a Social Movement.” In *Frontiers in Social Movement Theory*, eds. Aldon D. Morris and Carol McClurg Mueller. New Haven: Yale University Press, pp. 156-73.

Simon, Bernd, et al. 1998. “Collective Identification and Social Movement Participation.” *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology* 74: 646-58.

Wright, Stephen C., Donald M. Taylor, and Fathali M. Moghaddam. 1990. “Responding to Membership in a Disadvantaged Group: From Acceptance to Collective Protest.” *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology* 58: 994-1003.

Simon, Bernd, Stefan Sturmer, and Kerstin Steffens. 2000. “Helping Individuals or Group Members? The Role of Individual and Collective Identification in AIDS Volunteerism.” *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin* 26: 497-506.

Finkel, Steven E. and Karl-Dieter Opp. 1991. “Party Identification and Participation in Collective Political Action.” *Journal of Politics* 53: 339-71.

April 10 **Discussion of Papers**

April 17 **Conclusion**