MULTICULTURAL EUROPE? EUROPEAN IDENTITY SEMINAR

Spring 2010 — PSC 414 — January 5-15, 2009

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Questions for the assigned course readings

For all articles:
- What is the main argument?
- How are the main claims supported? What kind of evidence is used?
- What are the strengths and weaknesses of the article?

Fukuyama, Francis. 2007. “Identity and Migration”
1. How does Fukuyama link identity politics and radical jihadism?
2. What are Fukuyama’s recommendations to address the failures of past integration efforts?

1. How did the CNHI define ‘immigration’?
2. What is the place of colonialism in the new immigration museum (physically and intellectually)?
3. How do public perceptions on immigration vary between the United States and France/Europe?

1. What is the difference between jus soli and jus sanguinis?
2. For what reasons did France expand or restrict access to citizenship over time?
3. What is laïcité? Why is Muslim immigration seen as a problem by many French/Europeans?

Alba, Richard 2005. “Bright vs. blurred boundaries”
1. How do citizenship laws, religion, race, and language serve as signifiers of boundaries?
2. Why is Germany an example of a bright boundary regarding citizenship?
3. How do such boundaries affect assimilation and integration efforts?

1. Why is there a gap between national and local integration policies?
2. Explain the different policy frames applied on the national and local levels.

1. Why did the Dutch public perceive of multiculturalism as a failure in integrating migrants?
2. How do minorities do compared to the majority (with regard to education and labor markets)?
3. What is pillarization? How did it matter for integration policies in Holland?
4. According to the article, what explains the difficulties of integrating migrants?
Joppke, Christian. 2007. “Beyond national models”
1. What does the term repressive liberalism mean? How is it different from racism?
2. What are examples of new civic integration policies? How do they differ across France, Germany, and the Netherlands?
3. What is the difference between the idea of cultural homogenization and the goal of social inclusion advanced by the European Union?
4. In what ways do integration policies described here differ from more traditional immigration nations, such as Australia and Canada? Think about the kind of immigrants arriving in each nation.

1. Who are Pim Fortuyn and Theo van Gogh?
2. Why did multiculturalism dominate the integration efforts in the 1960s and 1970s?
3. What explains the rise of right-wing politicians such as Geert Wilders?

Süssmuth, Rita 2007. “Reasonable or Mutual Accommodation?”
1. What is the percentage of immigrants living in Germany?
2. What is Leitkultur?
3. In what ways are integration measures (e.g., language requirements) used to limit immigration?

Yurdakul, Gökçe 2009. “From Guest Workers into Muslims”
1. What is a Gastarbeiter? Why did they come to Germany/Northern Europe in the 1950s/60s?
2. Outline the new German citizenship law adopted in 1999. In what ways does it make German citizenship more accessible? Why would a Turkish immigrant refuse to become a German citizen even after living here for 30 or more years? (see also Muller reading)

1. Why is immigration a necessity for most European nations?
2. Which is the largest immigrant group in Germany today?
3. Why do second and third-generation Turkish immigrants fall behind in education?