

Richard Ned Lebow
2A hour: Tues/Thurs 2-3:50 p.m.
X-hr Wed 4:15-5:05 p.m.

Summer 2003
Govt. 81.1
Rockefeller 208

WHO AM I? THE POLITICS OF IDENTITY

Course Description:

Format: Classes will consist of a mix of lecture and discussion. My introductory and closing remarks are intended to provide background and context for the readings and the controversies they address. The class discussions will take up topic and related readings in sequential order, so you should read the required reading *before* the associated class.

Readings: Required readings are listed underneath each topic. Students are expected to master these readings, and will be questioned about them in class. All readings are available as Word or PDF files on the Dartmouth Blackboard.

Requirements: Students are required to master a common literature and produce a term paper or conduct an experiment. The latter can be single-authored or collaborative, and will be worked out between the student(s) and instructor.

Grades: The final grade will be a composite of classroom participation (30%) and research paper or experiment (70 %).

Office Hours: My office hours are Tuesday and Thursday, 4-5. I can also be reached by email if you wish to make an appointment to see me at another time.

TOPICS

Thursday, 19 June: Introduction

Writing assignment, due 24 June. Please write a five to six page essay about yourself. Who are you? How do you define yourself? Why do you think of yourself this way? I recognize that this can be a difficult question to address for many reasons, I promise to treat all essays confidentially. In class on the 24th, I will make some general observations about the pattern of essays, and student participation in the discussion will be entirely voluntary. To even the playing field, I have posted my own autobiographical essay on the Blackboard under course documents. You are free to read it, but it is not required.

Richard Ned Lebow, "The Holocaust and Social Science: A Personal Odyssey,"
in Peter Suedfeld, ed., *Light From the Ashes: Social Science Careers of Young*

Holocaust Refugees and Survivors (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2001), pp. 248-71.

Tuesday, 24 June: No Class (I am out of town).

Wednesday, 25 June: Discussion of Essays.

Note this is an X hour section and meets at 4:15.

Thursday, 26 June: Fairy Tales and Autobiographical Essays

George Bernard Shaw, *An Autobiography, 1856-1898* (New York: Weybright and Talley, 1969), pp. 1-4.

Ulric Neisser, "Self-Narratives: True and False," in Ulric Neisser and Robyn Fivush, *The Remembering Self: Construction and Accuracy in the Self Narrative* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1994), pp. 1-18.

Tuesday, 1 July: Traditional Identity

Homer, *The Iliad*, Book 24. <http://classics.mit.edu/Homer/iliad.2.ii.html>
For a better translation of read Robert Fagles *The Iliad*, (New York: Viking, 1990), pp. 588-614. Available in paperback.

Moses I Finley, *The World of Odysseus* (New York: Viking Press, 1954), pp. 131-40.

Emile Durkheim, *The Division of Labor in Society*, trans. George Simpson (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1949), preface and pp. 219-22.

Thursday, 3 July: Modern Personal Identity. The Emergence of the Individual

The Confessions of Jean-Jacques Rousseau, trans. J. M. Cohen (Harmondsworth: Penguin, 1953), pp. 17-30.

Charles Taylor, *Sources of the Self: The Making of Modern Identity* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1989), pp. 285-304.

Tuesday, 8 July: No Class (I am out of town)

Thursday, 10 July : Social Science and the Autonomous, Egoistic Actor

Richard Ned Lebow, "Running Red Lights and Ruling the World," chapter 8 of *The Tragic Vision of Politics: Ethics, Interests and Orders* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, Spring 2003).

Tuesday, 15 July: Modern Political Identity. Nationalism and the Nation State

Johann Gottfried von Herder, *Reflections on the Philosophy of the History of Mankind* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1968), pp. 3-13, 96-118.

Guiseppe Mazzini, *The Duties of Man and Other Essays* (New York: E. P. Dutton, 1907), pp. 8-19, 51-59.

Edmund Burke, *Reflections on the Revolution in France*, ed. J. G. A. Pocock (Indianapolis, In: Hackett, 1987), pp. 29-31, 44-45, 72-73, 75-77, 79-81, 84-85.

Thursday, 17 July: Modern Political Identity: Imperialism and Nationalism

Theodor Herzl, *A Jewish State*. Trans. S. D'Avigdor (New York: Maccabean Publishing, 1904), pp. 16-19, 24-29, 97-102.

Jawaharlal Nehru, *The Discovery of India* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1990), pp. 384-87, 391-95, 543-46.

Frantz Fanon, *The Wretched of the Earth*, excerpts in Elie Kedourie, ed., *Nationalism in Asia and Africa* (New York: Meridian Books, 1970), pp. 488-95, 497, 508-11, 535-36).

Tuesday, 22 July: Anti-Modern Identity. Fundamentalism

Ayatollah Khomeini, "Islamic Government," in Kemal H. Karpat, ed., *Political and Social Thought in the Contemporary Middle East*, rev. ed. (New York: Praeger, 1982), pp. 501-10.

Elaine Sciolino, "Portrait of the Arab as a Young Radical," *New York Times*, The Week in Review, 22 September 2002.

Richard T. Antoun, *Understanding Fundamentalism: Christian, Islamic and Jewish Movements* (Walnut Creek, Ca.: Altamira Press, 2001), pp. 1-36.

Thursday, 24 July: Post-Modern Political Identity

Georg S_ensen, *Changes in Statehood: The Transformation of International Relations* (London: Palgrave, 2001), pp. 72-91.

Jürgen Habermas, "Citizenship and National Identity; Some Reflections on the Future of Europe," *Praxis International*, 12 (April 1992), pp. 1-18.

Tuesday, 29 July: The Sociological Critique of the Individual

Erving Goffman, *Presentation of Self in Everyday Life* (New York: Doubleday, 1959).

Thursday, 31 July: The Psychological Critique of the Individual

James W. Pennebaker and Becky L. Banasik, "On the Creation and Maintenance of Collective Memories: History as Social Psychology," in James W. Pennebaker, Dario Paez and Bernard Rimé, *Collective Memory of Political Events: Social Psychological Perspectives* (Mahwah, N.J.: Lawrence Erlbaum, 1997), pp. 3-20.

Alessandro Portelli, "Uchronic Dreams: Working-Class Memory and Possible Worlds," in *The Death of Luigi Trastulli and Other Stories: Form and Meaning in Oral History* (Albany: State University of New York Press, 1991), pp. 99-116.

Tuesday, 5 August: Identity as Performance 1

Sophocles, *Oedipus the King*, <http://classics.mit.edu/Sophocles/oedipus.html>

Thursday, 7 August: Identity as Performance 2

Film: *The Perfumed Nightmare*, produced by Kidlat Tahimik

Tuesday, 12 July: Identity as Performance

A traditional and modern Passover *Haggadah* and materials on *Kwanza*
That will be distributed in class.

14 July, Tuesday, 19 July: Student Presentations