

Unbound Prometheus – Summer 2017  
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## Social History and Diasporas: Greece and the Balkans

### Course Description:

This course examines nationalism, migration, and ethnicity as forces shaping the identities, settlement patterns, and institutional development of Greek and Balkan people. The course will direct attention to political, social, educational, and religious institutions that shaped conflicting discourses on personhood and nation in Greece and the Balkans. In doing so, the course aims to provide analytic frameworks and concepts to examine current social, cultural, political, and economic developments as Greek and Balkan people engage and transact on wider European, transnational, and global stages.

### Course objective and audience:

This course is aimed at students interested in the study of modern Greece and the Balkans from the perspectives of social history and cultural anthropology. The emphasis in the course is on nationalism, ethnicity, conflict, and migration as they have shaped identities and institutions in Greece and the Balkans.

### Required Texts:

Benedict Anderson, *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origins and Spread of Nationalism*

Thomas W. Gallant, *Modern Greece: From the War of Independence to the Present*, Second Edition

Anastasia N. Karakasidou, *Fields of Wheat, Hills of Blood: Passages to Nationhood in Greek Macedonia 1870-1990*

These books should be purchased prior to the arrival of students in Greece.

### Recommended Texts:

Barbara Jelavich, *The History of the Balkans: Twentieth Century*

Stathis N. Kalyvas, *Modern Greece: What Everyone Needs to Know*

George White, *Nationalism and Territory: Constructing Group Identity in Southeastern Europe*

### Assignments:

Students are expected to read the assigned text according to a class schedule that will be posted in advance of the first class meeting. Each class session will include a

lecture, discussion, and in-class writing assignment. A comprehensive final essay will be assigned on the last day of class and must be submitted via email to [fkostarelos@govst.edu](mailto:fkostarelos@govst.edu) by the due date (three weeks after the last class session). Class discussion and written assignments aim to engage and develop critical thinking, analytic writing, and reflection on concepts and approaches framed in the assigned reading.

Evaluation and Grades:

Class participation: 20 points

In class written assignments 40 points

Comprehensive take home final essay, 40 points (due three weeks after the course concludes)

Topics and Assignments: Assigned readings will be posted in advance of the class session.

### Week 1

Monday Social History, Cultural Anthropology, and the study of migration and diasporas.

Tuesday Nation States and Imagined Communities

Wednesday The Social Construction of National and Ethnic Identities in Greece and the Balkans

Thursday Ethnicity, Nationalism, Conflict and War in the Twentieth Century

Friday Review of concepts and analytic approaches.

### Week 2

Monday Greek/Balkan Institutions and Settlement Patterns

Tuesday Greek/Balkan Agrarian Life

Wednesday Greek/Balkan Urbanization

Thursday Greek/Balkan Tradition, Modernization, and Secular Authority

Friday Review of concepts and analytic approaches.  
Comprehensive final essay assigned, due three weeks after the final class session.