



Research Seminar
Spring Term 2010-2011

Discourses of Collective Identity in Modern Europe

Organised by Pavel Kolář and Martin van Gelderen

Tuesdays, 1.00 pm–3.00 pm – Sala Triaria

Many research projects at the EUI deal, in one way or the other, with debates on identity—from the identity of the modern self to national identity and the European identity. The central aim of this series of seminars is to explore a number of classic and contemporary debates on concepts of collective identity as developed and employed in the humanities in general and in the study of history in particular. Beginning with the constitution and reshaping of the “modern self”, we will examine debates on some of the most crucial types of modern collectivities such as nation, class, religion, and utopian politics. In methodological terms, we will concentrate on how identities are established discursively in and through historical and biographical narratives. An additional aim of the seminar series is to integrate case studies from and approaches to both early modern and modern European history, to build some bridges and have stimulating conversations at lunchtime.

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| 11 January | Approaches to Identities in Modern Europe | Shmuel Eisenstadt /Bernhard Giesen , The Construction of Collective Identity, in: <i>European Journal of Sociology</i> 36, 1995, 72-102. Chris Lorenz , Representations of Identity, in: Stefan Berger/Chris Lorenz (eds), <i>The Contested Nation</i> , Basingstoke 2008, 24-59. |
| 18 January | Narrating the Modern Self | David Hume , ‘Of Essay-Writing’ and ‘Of the Study of History’ in <i>Essays, Moral, Political, and Literary</i> , Indianapolis: LibertyClassics, 1985, 533-537 and 563-568. James Battersby , Narrativity, Self and Self-representation, in <i>Narrative</i> , Vol. 14, No. 1, 2006, 27-44. Dror Wahrman , The Ancient Régime of Identity, in <i>The Making of the Modern Self</i> , New Haven 2004, 166-197. |
| 25 January | The Soviet Self | Jochen Hellbeck , Forging the Revolutionary Self, and The Making the a Leader, in <i>Revolution on My Mind</i> , Cambridge 2006, 1-14 and 254-268. Alexei Yurchak , Necro-Utopia: The Politics of Indistinction and the Aesthetics of the Non-Soviet, in <i>Current Anthropology</i> 49, 2008, 199-224. |



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| | | Khrushchev , On the Personality Cult and its Consequences (selected parts), |
| 1 February | National Identity: The Futile Quest for Britishness | <p>Colin Kidd, <i>British Identities before Nationalism: Ethnicity and Nationhood in the Atlantic World, 1600-1800</i>, Cambridge 1999, Introduction and chapter 4.</p> <p>Linda Colley, 'Britishness and Otherness: An Argument', <i>The Journal of British Studies</i>, Vol. 31, No. 4, Britishness and Europeanness: Who Are the British Anyway? (Oct., 1992), 309-329.</p> <p>Stefan Collini, 'Writing the National History: Trevelyan and After', in <i>English Pasts: essays in Culture and History</i>, Oxford 1999, 9-29.</p> |
| 8 February | Class Identity Revisited | <p>Gareth Stedman Jones, Class, Experience', and Politics, in <i>Languages of Class</i>, Cambridge 1983, 16-22 (Joyce, Class, 150-154).</p> <p>Patrick Joyce, Narratives of Class, in <i>Class</i>, Oxford 1995, 322-332.</p> <p>Geoff Eley/Keith Nield Introduction, in <i>The Future of Class in History. What's Left of the Social?</i> Ann Arbor 2007, 1-17.</p> |
| 15 February | Utopia | <p>Louis Marin, Frontiers of Utopia: Past and Present, in <i>Critical Inquiry</i> 19, 1993, 397-420.</p> <p>Susan Buck-Morss, Revolutionary Time, in <i>Dreamworld and Catastrophe. The Passing of Mass Utopia in East and West</i>, 2002, 42-69.</p> <p>Raymond Williams, Utopia and Science Fiction, <i>Problems in Materialism and Culture</i>, London 1980, 196-212.</p> |
| 22 February | Religion | <p>Gareth Stedman Jones. Millennium and Enlightenment: Robert Owen and the Second Coming of the Truth, ms.</p> <p>Hugh McLeod, <i>Religion and the Peoples of Western Europe 1789-1989</i>, Oxford 1998, 132-154.</p> <p>Martin Schulze Wessel, The Impact of Religion on the Revolutions in France (1789) and Russia (1905/17), in: Manfred</p> |



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| | | Hildermeier (ed), <i>Historical Concepts between Eastern and Western Europe</i> , New York 2007, 48-58. |
| 1 March | Subversion | <p>Mikhail Bakhtin, <i>Rabelais and His World</i> (Introduction).</p> <p>Alf Lüdtke, Energizing the Everyday: On the Breaking and Making of Social Bonds in Nazism and Stalinism, in: M. Geyer / Sh. Fitzpatrick (Hg.), <i>Beyond Totalitarianism: Stalinism and Nazism Compared</i>, Cambridge 2009, 266-301.</p> <p>or</p> <p>From ties that bind to ties that relieve. Eigensinn and Bindung among industrial workers in 20th century Germany. In: Yehuda Elkana, Ivan Krastev, Elisio Macamo, Shalini Randeria (Hg.): <i>Unraveling ties. From social cohesion to cartographies of connectedness</i>. Frankfurt am Main/ New York 2002, 179-198.</p> |
| 8 March | Postmodern Identities: The Making of Celebrity | Fred Inglis , <i>A Short History of Celebrity</i> , Princeton, 2010, Chapter 9: From Each According to His Ability: Sport, Rock, Fashion and the Self, 217-246 |



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