Nationalism has been a puzzling phenomenon for classical sociological modernization theories as well as for liberal political thought. Since the 1980s there has been a wave of theorizing nationalism as a specifically modern phenomenon. Current theories tend to be less universalistic in their claims and pay more attention to varieties of nationalist ideologies and projects. Since the 1990s some political theorists have defended liberalized version of nationalism as a necessary basis for democratic community, social justice, or individual autonomy, while others have argued for postnational and cosmopolitan conceptions of political community. This seminar will examine both explanatory and normative theories of nationalism and its alternatives.

5 October 2009 8:45-10:45 What is a Nation?


Joseph Llobera, Recent Theories of Nationalism, WP 164, Institut de Ciències Polítics i Socials, Barcelona.


12 October 2009 8:45-10:45 Modernist Theories of Nationalism


Further reading:
19 October 8:45-10:45 Perennialism and Ethno-Symbolism


26 October 8:45-10:45 Nationalism and Democracy in 19th century liberalism


9 November 2009 8:45-10:45 Nation and Political Community


Further reading:

16 November 2009 8:45-10:45 Liberal Nationalism


23 November 2009 8:45-10:45 National Minorities and Plurinational States


25 November 2009 2:00-5:00 pm Workshop
with guest speakers Gwendolyn Sasse, James Hughes and Nenad Stojanovic

7 December 2009 8:45-10:45 Territorial and Cultural National Autonomy


14 December 8:45-10:45 Nationalism, Globalisation and European Integration

