Peoples, Nations, Classes, Races, Ethnies
Human Classification, Social Analysis, and Political Action
from Herder to Gumilëv

Ph.D. Program “Global History and Governance”
2020-2021

Please note that this is not a definitive text. Do not circulate outside the School

Office Place: SSM, Largo San Marcellino 10, 80138 Napoli
Office hours: by appointment
Time: Tuesday, 11-13 (but for the discussion of papers)
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Course requirements in view of the final grade:
1. Regular attendance -15 per cent.
2. Participation in discussions based on suggested readings -35 per cent.
   (Please note: each participant will have to intervene at least once in each session)
3. A final essay on a specific topic to be agreed with Professor Graziosi by the end of April,
   5,000-6,000 to 8,000 words for Ph.D. and graduate students, 2,500 to 3,000 words for 
   undergraduates -50 per cent.

NB. When possible, reading materials will be available in the Global Histori and Governance 
Onedrive shared folder.
SESSIONS

I. Background: Human Unity and Differentiation
(March 16, 2021: 11-13 am)

II. Peoples, Nations, Nationalities, and Social Hierarchies from the Enlightenment to Thierry
(March 23, 2021: 11-13 am)

III. Mazzini, Mancini, Mamiani: The Italian Solution and its Impact
(March 30, 2021: 11-13 am)

IV. Linguistics, Anthropology, Sociology, and the Darwinian Revolution
(April 13, 2021: 11-13 am)

V. From Marx and Engels to Lenin and Stalin: Classes, Peoples, or Nations?
(April 20, 2021: 11-13 am)

VI. WWI and its Aftermath: Self-Determination, its Promises, and its Problems
(April 27, 2021: 11-13 am)

VII. Socialism, Nationalism, and their Hybrids: Building, Un-Building, and Destroying Peoples, 1918-1948
(May 4, 2021: 9-11 am)

VIII. Decolonization and its Impact: The Re-emergence of Race
(May 11, 2021: 11-13 am)

IX. Papers’ Presentation & Discussion
(June 22, 2021: 15-18 pm)

X. Papers’ Presentation & Discussion
(June 29, 2021: 15-18 pm)
I. Background: Human Unity and Differentiation
(March 16, 2021: 11-13 am)

1. Introduction
   - A few words about the instructor
   - Presentation of the course
   - Organization of the course (Please note: each participant will have to intervene at least once in each session)
   - Readings
   - Presentations and papers (NB. Choice of papers by participants to be agreed with the instructor by Session 4)

2. How I got here

3. General overview and background of the phenomenon

Readings:

1. Mandatory for everybody

2. Plus one of the following options:


   2c Claude Nicolet, Le métier de citoyen dans la Rome républicaine, Paris: Gallimard, 1976: 71-121;

II. Peoples, Nations, Nationalities, and Social Hierarchies from the Enlightenment to Thierry
(March 23, 2021: 11-13 am)

1. *The Enlightenment and Human Classification between Philosophy and Science*

2. *Rousseau and Herder*

3. *Corsica and Poland*

4. *Revolutions*

5. *Alexander I and Metternich*

6. *Napoleon and Nationality*

7. *In Defeated France: The National explains the Social*

8. *Hegel*

Readings:

1. **Mandatory for everybody**

or


2. **Plus one of the following options:**

2a

2b

III. Mazzini, Mancini, Mamiani: The Italian Solution and its Impact
(March 30, 2021: 11-13 am)

1. Background
2. Mazzini
3. Mancini
4. Mamiani
5. Italy’s International Impact and Legacy

Readings:

1. Mandatory for everybody

or

T. Mamiani, Dell’ottima congregazione umana e del principio di nazionalità, in D’un nuovo diritto europeo, Torino: Marzorati, 1859: 359-442.

2. Plus one of the following options:
2a

2b

2c
IV. Linguistics, Anthropology, Sociology, and the Darwinian Revolution
(April 13, 2021: 11-13 am)

1. Linguistics

2. A Wrong Door: Anthropology and Descriptive Classification

3. Sociology

4. Statisticians and Censuses

5. A Misunderstood Revolution: Darwin

6. The New, Pseudo-Scientific Racial Ideology

Readings:

1. Mandatory for everybody

or


2. Plus one of the following options:

2a
Anna Morpurgo Davies, La linguistica dell’Ottocento, Bologna: Il Mulino, 1996, capp. VI e VII: 181-262

2b

2c (reserved to those who did not choose it as a mandatory reading)

2d
V. From Marx and Engels to Lenin and Stalin: Classes, Peoples, or Nations?  
(April 20, 2021: 11-13 am)

1. Before Marx and Engels

2. 1848-49: Classes or Peoples?

3. Poles, Irish, Self-Determination and the Problem of Revolution

4. Kautsky, Bernstein and Bauer

5. Socialism in One Country

6. The Colonial Question

7. Corradini and his Impact, from Turkey to Japan

8. Lenin and Stalin

9. Internationalists and Class Purity

Readings:

1. Mandatory for everybody
O. Bauer, La questione nazionale (a cura di Nicolao Merker), Roma: Editori riuniti, 1999  

or

J. Stalin, Il Marxismo e la questione nazionale (1913), parts I-IV,  
https://www.marxists.org/reference/archive/stalin/works/1913/03.htm;


2. Plus one of the following options:

2a

2b

2c
VI. WWI and its Aftermath: Self-Determination, its Promises, and its Problems
(April 27, 2021: 11-13 am)

1. The Impact of the War-Revolution

2. The Mancini-Wilson Moment: The National Prevails?

3. Self-determination and the League of Nations

4. Mandates and the Colonial World

5. Critics: Weber, Mises, Namier, Toynbee, and Hayes

6. Demography, Races, and the Decline of the West

7. Huxley: Races and Ethnic Groups

Readings:

V.I. Lenin, The Right of Nations to Self-Determination (1914),
https://www.marxists.org/archive/lenin/works/1914/self-det/


or

W. Wilson, The Fourteen Points Speech, 8 gennaio 1918,
https://wwi.lib.byu.edu/index.php/President_Wilson's_Fourteen_Points;


2. Plus one of the following options:

2a


2b
2c 

2d 
VII. Socialism, Nationalism, and Their Combinations: Building, Un-Building, and Destroying Peoples, 1918-1948
(May 4, 2021: 9-11 am)


2. India’s Nations, Religions, “Ethnic” Nationalities, Tribes, and Castes towards Self-Government and Self-Determination

3. Atatürk’s Turkey

4. Soviet Unbuilding

5. The Intellectual Reaction:
   • Totalitarianism
   • The Discovery of Genocide

6. Lemkin as Radical Critic of Group Destruction

Readings:

1. Mandatory for everybody


or


2. Plus one of the following options:

2a

2b
A. Graziosi, India and the Soviet Model. The Linguistic State Reorganization and the Problem of Hindi in the 1950s, in M. Flier, A. Graziosi (eds.), The Battle for
VIII. Decolonization and its Impact: The Re-emergence of Race
(May 11, 2021: 11-13 am)

1. The National and Social Revolution Conquers the World: Herder Triumphant, 1945-1975
   - Decolonization and Cold War
   - Nationalisms, Socialisms and “Self-determination” - The “Peoples”’ Triumph?
   - The Left between Marx and Herder
   - Maos’ China and the War of Races
   - Race in America
   - In the Socialist Bloc
   - L’Africa che svela il problema e sposta il discorso

   - The Big Bang, 1978-1991
   - Historians Rediscovering the Obvious
   - Primitive Nationalism and the Default Answer to the Crisis of the “Social”
   - 1990s: Mass Categorical Violence and the Boom of Genocide Studies
   - Globalization, Demography, Migrations
   - The Search for Solution: Ethnofederalism, Collective Rights and their Problems (Hegel and Mill)

3. The Crisis of the Modern

Readings:

1. Mandatory for everybody

J. Stalin, Marxism and Linguistics, New York: International Publishers, 1951 -
Benedict Anderson, Imagined Communities. Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism

or

William H. McNeill, Poliethnicity and National Unity in World History, Toronto: University of
Toronto Press, 1985: 1-85

or

Walker Connor, Ethno-nationalism. The Quest for Understanding, Princeton: Princeton University

2. Plus one of the following options:

2a. J. Fisch, The Right of Self-Determination of Peoples. The Domestication of an Illusion, New York:

F. Fanon, *I dannati della terra* (1961), Cap. IV. “Sulla cultura nazionale”: 171-197, [https://laboratorioodradek.files.wordpress.com/2013/05/fanon-i-dannati-della-terra.pdf](https://laboratorioodradek.files.wordpress.com/2013/05/fanon-i-dannati-della-terra.pdf);

2c.

2d.

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**IX. Papers’ Presentation & Discussion** (June 22, 2021: 15-18 pm)

Name, Title

**X. Papers’ Presentation & Discussion** (June 29, 2021: 15-18 pm)

Name, Title