***British Society and Culture: Race, Ethnicity and Religion***

Courses: Mon 14.15-15.45, Amb 129

Lecturer: Karáth Tamás PhD

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The BA program in general invites you to encounters with modern British society at several points of your studies (UK Civilization seminar, British History lecture and other courses related to modern cultural studies and literature). Rarely do these courses elaborate on a theme in its broader context. This course will engage with the notion of diversity in modern British society from the perspective of race, ethnicity and religion. We will discuss the complex meanings of the title terms and see its uses in literature and political rhetoric.

**Methods**

The seminar will be based on the discussion of home readings and group work. Students will be involved in co-teaching as moderators of the discussion of home readings.

**Requirements and description of tasks**

Non-graded requirements:

1. Class attendance (no more than 2 absences)
2. Reading the assigned texts

Graded requirements:

1. Moderating one of the assigned texts in the in-class discussion. Moderators have to bring to class three questions (eventually discussion issues) related to the text. Questions and discussion issues have to be sent to me via e-mail the week before the class. Moderators also have to write a first draft and a revised version of the critical summary of their texts. Deadline of first drafts: 9 November; deadline of revised version: 23 November. (Only the revised version will be graded.)
2. End-of-term test: The material of the test is based on the seminar readings (cf. syllabus).

**Assessment of the course**

The course is not valid if you miss more than two classes. Please respect deadlines. Late submissions will not be accepted, and will be graded with the fail mark. The final grade will be the average of the graded tasks of the seminar. Averages of .5 will be rounded according to your contributions to group discussions.

**Syllabus**

Sep 7 - Introducing the seminar and assigning the tasks

Sep 14 – Case study 1: The Rushdie affair

Reading: Salman Rushdie, “The New Empire within Britain”

<http://public.wsu.edu/~hegglund/courses/389/rushdie_new_empire.htm>

Sep 21 – **No class**

Sep 28 – Case study 2: East Is East (film, dir. by Daniel O’Donnell)

Oct 5 – Discussion of the film (East Is East), raising issues of race, ethnicity and religion

Oct 12 – Coming to terms: Race and ethnicity

Reading: Nicholas Abercrombie and Alan Warde, eds. *Contemporary British Society.* 3rd ed. Cambridge: Polity Press, 2000; Chapter 8: “Ethnicity and Racism”, pp. 226-63

Oct 19 – Post-WWII immigration history

Readings: (1) Pintér Károly, *Introduction to Britain* (Piliscsaba: PPKE, 2010) Chapter 8.4 (Ethnic minorities, pp. 127-32)

(2) Dominic Casciani, “Census 2011: Rapid change amid rapid immigration” BBC News, <http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-20681551>

(3) Mark Easton, “What is the UK’s optimum population?” BBC News, <http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-18854762>

Oct 26 – **Autumn break**

Nov 2 – **Autumn break**

Nov 9 – Religious diversity

Reading: Steve Bruce, “Religious Culture in Contemporary Britain,” in David Morley and Kevins Robins, eds., *British Cultural Studies*. Oxford: OUP, 2001, pp. 195-206

Nov 16 – Muslims in Britain

Reading: Iftikhar Malik, “Islam and Britain: Old Cultures, Odd Encounters” and “Muslims in Britain: Multiculturalism and the Emerging Discourse” in Iftikhar Malik, *Islam and Modernity: Muslims in Europe and the United States.* London: Pluto Press, 2004, pp. 64-119.

Nov 23 – Race, ethnicity and politics

Readings: (1) Enoch Powell’s “Rivers of blood” speech

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/comment/3643823/Enoch-Powells-Rivers-of-Blood-speech.html>

(2) Margaret Thatcher’s “Cheltenham speech” (3 July 1982)

<http://www.margaretthatcher.org/speeches/displaydocument.asp?docid=104989>

(3) Shane Brighton, “British Muslims, Multiculturalism and UK Foreign Policy: ‘Integration’ and ‘Cohesion’ in and beyond the State” *International Affairs* 83 (2007): 1-17, <http://www.jstor.org/stable/4122037>

Nov 30 – Multiculturalism

Reading: Tariq Modood: Post-Immigration ’Difference’ and Integration: The Case of Muslims in Western Europe, pp. 9-22

<http://www.ed.ac.uk/polopoly_fs/1.82423!/fileManager/Triq%20Modood.pdf>

Dec 7 – **End-of-term test**

*Enjoy the seminar and the readings. Good luck for the semester.*