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

*Welcome to this course!*

Courses: Thu 10:15-11:45, Amb 114

Lecturer: Karáth Tamás PhD

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Office hours: Thu 9:00-10:00 and 11:45-12:30, Amb 133

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:

* Class attendance (no more than 3 absences)
* Reading the assigned texts

Graded requirements:

* 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: 7 April; deadline of revised version: 5 May.** (Only the revised version will be graded.)
* 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 three classes. Please respect deadlines. Late submissions will not be accepted, and will be graded with the fail mark. The final grade will be the weighted average of the graded tasks of the seminar, in which the summary counts with 40% and the end-of-term test with 60%. Averages of .5 will be rounded according to your contributions to group discussions.

**Syllabus**

Feb 11 - Introducing the seminar and assigning the tasks

Feb 18 – 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>

Feb 25 – Case study 2: East Is East (film, dir. by Daniel O’Donnell); Discussion of the film, raising issues of race, ethnicity and religion

March 3 – 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

March 10 – 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>

March 17 - Race, ethnicity and political rhetoric

 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>

March 24 –**Easter holidays**

March 31 – **Easter holidays**

April 7 – Interracial and interethnic tensions

 Reading: “Reading the Riots: Investigating England’s Summer of Disorder” (by The Guardian and the London School of Economics) (excerpts)

<http://eprints.lse.ac.uk/46297/1/Reading%20the%20riots%28published%29.pdf>

April 14 – “Reading the Riots” 2: follow-up discussion from the previous class

April 21 – 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

April 28 – Muslims in Britain

Reading: Islamophobia: A Challenge for Us All (Runnymede Trust, 1997) (excerpts)

<http://www.runnymedetrust.org/publications/17/32.html>

May 5 – 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](http://www.ed.ac.uk/polopoly_fs/1.82423%21/fileManager/Triq%20Modood.pdf)

May 12 – **End-of-term test**

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