



“We are not them!” Identity Clashes in Europe

Bachelor (final year) & Master course (ECTS: 7)

13.00 – 15.30 (CET Ljubljana)

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Course objectives and learning outcomes:

Europe is strongly defined by common values and putatively similar cultures among its nations. More and more people, however, question these values and the “European Spirit”, which thus leads to clashes on both a political, economic and societal level. The module aims to discuss the meaning of identities and how they are used in politics and society. It looks at current developments mainly at the geographical borders of the continent to explain the centrifugal forces that seem to tear Europe apart.

Students are able to:

- Define key concepts of identity and identification through discursive practices;
- Explain these concepts through their own, subjective position;
- Recognize elements of identity and identification in everyday culture;
- Discuss the importance of identity in current European developments;
- Interpret current issues in European politics through the perspective of identity politics;
- Use these concepts to explain European challenges in current affairs;

Judge the current developments in European politics as a result of identity politics and to differentiate different and diverging trends.

Prerequisites for attending the course:

None

Course syllabus/Daily topics:

PROGRAMME DAY	ACTIVITY/TOPIC/SESSION
Monday, 5 July	LSS Welcome session (no lectures)
Tuesday, 6 July	Identity: Concepts, Definitions
Wednesday, 7 July	Discursive practices
Thursday, 8 July	Europe and its identities
Friday, 9 July	Identity politics
Monday, 12 July	Case Study: Poland
Tuesday, 13 July	Case Study: Ukraine
Wednesday, 14 July	Identity construction in popular culture
Thursday, 15 July	Case Study: Russia (Music, Fashion)



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Monday, 19 July	Case Study: Russia (Advertisement, TV)
Tuesday, 20 July	Conclusion
Wednesday, 21 July	No lectures (preparation for final examination)
Thursday, 22 July	Final examination / Project presentations
Friday, 23 July	Meeting hours with students & LSS Farewell session

Online teaching methods and tools/software used:

Lecture, interactive discussion. Analysis of media (TV series, advertisements, fashion, music videos).

Course materials/List of readings:

Will be provided by lecturer. Includes introduction to “identity” and specific case studies.

Online examination methods and evaluation criteria (weighted categories):

Group presentation including handout and written summary

Grading scale:

DEFINITION	%	LOCAL SCALE	ECTS SCALE	Grade (USA)
exceptional knowledge without or with negligible faults	92-100	10	A	A+, A, A-
very good knowledge with some minor faults	85-91	9	B	B+, B
good knowledge with certain faults	77-84	8	C	B
solid knowledge but with several faults	68-76	7	D	C+, C, C-
knowledge only meets minimal criteria	60-67	6	E	D+, D
knowledge does not meet minimal criteria	<60	5	F	