

BIRKBECK
(University of London)

BA EXAMINATION FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS
Nationalism, Ethnicity and Religious Conflict

SCHOOL OF POLITICS AND SOCIOLOGY

DATE OF EXAMINATION:
DURATION OF PAPER:

1. What is the relationship between states and nations?
2. What are the key contested issues in nationalism theory? Discuss with reference to major schools of thought.
3. Why are nearly all states multi-ethnic?
4. What is the relationship between a dominant ethnic group and a nation?
5. Is there a rise in Far Right politics in the West today? Why or why not.
6. What are the links between ethnicity and secession?
7. Provide an example of consociationalism and federalism, and discuss how each operates.
8. How significant are demographics in explaining nationalism and ethnic conflict?
9. What is the relationship between race and nationalism?
10. Do you believe that the EU will supersede the nation-states of today? Why or why not?

11. Either

Are ethnic communities being replaced by lifestyle enclaves as the primary focus of identity in post-industrial societies?

Or

Marx & Engels spoke of the 'withering away of the state' and the survival of cultures only as 'ethnographic monuments.' Does cosmopolitanism logically necessitate the eventual disappearance of the world's ethnic groups and nations?

12. Either

What explains the shift in consciousness from Arab nationalism to political Islam?

Or

Can liberalism and nationalism be reconciled?