Home

Assignments

Discussions

Grades

People

Pages

Files

Syllabus

Modules

Collaborations

Chat

Zoom Conferencing

GU Library

Health Resources

University Policies

Accessibility Resources

MSB

View All Pages

Week 6: Ethnic Diversity (10/7-10/13)

SLAVIC 101: The Rise and Fall of Yugoslavia

Milos Giljen

This week, we'll delve into the South Slavic ethnicities of Yugoslavia, guided by insights from Maria Todorova's "Imagining the Balkans." We'll examine how the dynamics of the Balkans, as discussed in Todorova's work, have influenced our understanding of the cultural nuances of these ethnic groups. Our discussions will focus on how these diverse cultural identities have interacted, contributing to both conflict and cooperation within the region. Through an analysis of Todorova's perspectives and our module eLearning, you'll deepen your appreciation of the complex cultural landscapes of the Balkans and develop skills to articulate and explore these dynamics effectively.

Week 6: Ethnic Diversity

Assigned Readings

- Todorova, M. N. (2009). *Imagining the Balkans*(Updated ed.). Oxford University Press.
  - Entire book
  - Updated Edition (2023)

Additional Readings (Optional)

- Bugarski, R. (2012). Language, identity and borders in the former Serbo-Croatian area ⮕. *Journal of Multilingual and Multicultural Development, 33*(3), 219–235. https://doi.org/10.1080/01434632.2012.663376
- Hodson, R., Sekulic, D., & Massey, G. (1994). National Tolerance in the Former Yugoslavia ⮕. *The American Journal of Sociology, 99*(6), 1534–1558. https://doi.org/10.1086/230453
- Petkovski, F. (2022). On the Creation and Dissemination of Folkloric Discourse: Dance Research, Nationalism, and the Former Yugoslavia. ⮕

Assessments

- Group Presentation (via Assignment Board): 10/21 at 9 AM ET

Video Resources (Optional)

- Kolo, traditional folk dance (Serbia) ↪
- How to Make Dalmatian Peka: A Traditional Recipe (Croatia) ↪

Agenda

Class Outline

- **5:00 PM to 5:50 PM**: Group discussion of Todorova's book (see discussion topics below)
  - *Balkanization Concept*: How does Todorova argue that the term "Balkanization" has influenced Western views of the Balkans? Discuss whether this portrayal is fair or overly simplistic.
  - *Historical Narratives' Impact*: How have historical narratives shaped the political and cultural identities of the Balkan countries? Consider their role in reinforcing stereotypes and national identity struggles.
  - *Comparative Analysis*: Can you identify similarities between how the Balkans and other stereotypically viewed regions are perceived by external powers? Discuss the effects of these perceptions on international relations and domestic policies.
- **5:50 PM to 6:00 PM**: Break
- **6:00 PM to 7:40 PM**: Individually work on completing the module eLearning
  - Feel free to ask the instructor questions if you get stuck
- **7:40 PM to 8:00 PM**: Group presentation introduction
  - Everyone will be assigned to 6 different groups corresponding to each Yugoslav republic
  - Each group member will be assigned one of the five cultural topics to research
  - Project requirements and expectations will be explained

Module eLearning

The South Slavic Republics:

Culture, Religion, Identity

Begin Module

Home

Assignments

Discussions

Grades

People

Pages

Files

Syllabus

Modules

Collaborations

Chat

Zoom Conferencing

GU Library

Health Resources

University Policies

Accessibility
Resources

MSB

Group Presentation

Start Assignment

Due Oct 21 by 9am   **Points** 25   **Submitting** a website url

Group Presentation

Purpose

This assignment aims to explore the diverse cultural, historical, linguistic, and religious landscapes of the former Yugoslav republics. Each group will delve into a specific republic, creating a rich multimedia presentation using VoiceThread that showcases their comprehensive research.

Task

Group Formation and Republic Assignment

The class will be divided into six groups, with each group assigned to research one of the following Yugoslav republics:

1. Bosnia and Herzegovina
2. Croatia
3. Macedonia
4. Montenegro
5. Serbia
6. Slovenia

Research Areas

Each group member will choose one of the following topics to focus their research on, contributing this information to the group's overall presentation:

Home

Assignments

Discussions

Grades

People

Pages

Files

Syllabus

Modules

Collaborations

Chat

Zoom Conferencing

GU Library

Health Resources

University Policies

Accessibility
Resources

MSB

- **History**: Major historical events and their impact on the republic and its people.
- **Cuisine**: Traditional dishes and their cultural significance.
- **Culture**: Arts, music, holidays, and other cultural expressions.
- **Religion**: The role of religion in society and how it influences daily life.
- **Language**: Overview of the language(s) spoken and any linguistic issues or interesting facts.

VoiceThread Presentation Creation

- **Media Compilation**: Each group will gather images, videos, documents, and other relevant media illustrating their research.
- **VoiceThread Setup**: Using VoiceThread, each group will create an interactive presentation that includes:
  - Slides for Each Topic: Separate slides dedicated to history, cuisine, culture, religion, and language.
  - Narrative and Analysis: Each group member will narrate their slides, providing insights and analysis on their topic.
  - Engagement Features: Encourage class interaction by posing questions or providing prompts on different slides to facilitate discussion.

Presentation

- **Live Presentation**: Each group will present their VoiceThread to the class. This should include a walkthrough of the slides with real-time narration.
- **Discussion and Feedback**: After each presentation, the class will have the opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback through VoiceThread's comment feature.

Technical Requirments

- **VoiceThread Account**: Each student must have access to VoiceThread. Group members should collaborate within the same project to ensure continuity.
- **Hardware Requirements**:
  - **Computer**: Reliable access to a computer with internet connectivity is required.
  - **Microphone**: Use a good quality microphone for recording clear audio for your narrations.
  - **Headphones**: Recommended for better audio playback during editing.
- **Software and Tools**:
  - **VoiceThread**: For creating and managing the presentation. Familiarize yourself with adding and editing slides, audio, and comments.
  - **Image and Video Editing Software** (optional but recommended):
    - **Adobe Photoshop**: For editing images.
    - **Adobe Premiere** or **iMovie**: For editing video clips before uploading them to VoiceThread.
  - **Audio Editing Software** (optional):

- **Supported Media Formats**:
  - Ensure all images, videos, and audio files are compatible with VoiceThread requirements.
- **Internet Connectivity**: A stable and high-speed internet connection is required for uploading multimedia content and presenting live.

Submission

Submit the link to your completed VoiceThread presentation using this assignment page. Make sure each member of the group submits the voicethread link to their individual assignment canvas page.

- **Group Presentation Due:** Oct 21, 2024, 9:00 AM

Additional Notes

- **Prepare Thoroughly**: Ensure that you start your research early and coordinate with your group members regularly to distribute tasks evenly and integrate all components smoothly.
- **Respect Intellectual Property**: Only use copyright-free or properly licensed images and videos. Cite all sources appropriately within your presentation.
- **Practice Presentation**: Before the actual presentation, run through the entire VoiceThread with your group to ensure all media and narrations are in place and flow logically.
- **Consent and Ethics**: Obtain consent from any individuals involved in your research or featured in your media. Ensure ethical standards are upheld in your presentation.
- **Seek Feedback**: Do not hesitate to ask for feedback from your instructor or peers during the planning and creation phases of your project. Utilize this input to refine your presentation.

Criteria

Group Presentation Rubric (25 Points Possible)

Criterion	Excellent (5 Points)	Good (4 Points)	Satisfactory (3 Points)	Needs Improvement (2 Points)
Research Depth	In-depth and perceptive investigation; surpasses expectations; yields a thorough comprehension	Sufficient investigation encompassing essential elements yet missing complexity in certain sectors	Fundamental investigation fulfilling basic criteria; select facets remain underdeveloped	Lacking substantial investigation; deficient in complexity and scope across numerous vital segments

Pages

Files

Syllabus

Modules

Collaborations

Chat

Zoom Conferencing

GU Library

Health Resources

University Policies

Accessibility
Resources

MSB

		certain sectors		segments
Clarity & Organization	Presentation stands out for its exceptional clarity, structured logic, and ease of comprehension; stellar integration of media	Presentation maintains clarity with adequate structure; commendable media application	Presentation attains a moderate level of clarity and structure; media usage meets acceptable standards	Presentation suffers from a lack of clarity and structure; media utilized ineffectively
Creativity & Engagement	Highly creative and engaging; uses media effectively to enhance presentation	Creative and somewhat engaging; makes good use of media	Some creativity and engagement; adequate use of media	Lacks creativity and engagement; poor or no use of media
Alignment with Course Outcomes	Presents a precise and unambiguous relevance to course outcomes; significantly elevates comprehension of the key themes	Generally adheres to course outcomes; aids in the comprehension of the central themes	Shows a moderate correspondence to course outcomes; establishes a connection to the central themes	Exhibits little to no relevance to course outcomes; fails to facilitate comprehension of the key themes
Teamwork & Collaboration	Exhibits outstanding group collaboration with uniform contribution from every participant	Effective group cooperation with the majority of members contributing; negligible issues	Acceptable group cooperation; contribution levels vary among members	Ineffective group collaboration with notable deficiencies in participation and teamwork

◄ Previous