northwestern university DEPARTMENT OF ART HISTORY

Ouarter/Year

Course Number

Day/Time

Instructor

Winter 2017

ART-HIST 390/ HUM 370-4-20 TR 11:00-12:20

Gunter

Course Title

Archeology and Nationalism



Archaeology and nationalism have been closely intertwined at least since the idea of the nation-state emerged in the wake of the French Revolution.

Archaeology offers nationalist agendas the possibility of filling in national historical records and extending the past into prehistory; its results can be displayed in museums or at entire sites, potentially reaching a new audience outside the written word. In turn, nationalism contributed significantly to the emergence of archaeology as a modern discipline.

Drawing on new critical approaches and examples selected from a wide geographical range, this course explores the role of archaeology in the creation and elaboration of national identities. Issues include the institutionalization of archaeology; the development of museums and practices of display and interpretation; the creation of archaeological sites as national monuments and tourist destinations; cultural property legislation and repatriation of artifacts; and archaeology and monuments under totalitarian regimes.

Required Textbooks

Assessments

Readings will be made available on Canvas

Class participation (30%), reading responses (20%), presentation (20%), research paper (30%)