

Brief Course Outline

Course Title: **Non-State Peoples and State Form**

Course Number and Section

GSI

3518F 550

Instructor Name(s): Niloofar Golkar

Instructor Email(s): ngolkar@uwo.ca

Disclaimer: Information in the brief course outline is subject to change. The syllabus posted on OWL Brightspace is the official and authoritative source of information for the course.

Course Description:

This course considers relations between sovereign states and self-determining non-state peoples. The course provides an interdisciplinary examination of the evasions, negotiations and resistances that characterize non-state peoples' responses to attempts to consolidate state authority in colonial and neocolonial settings.

The main objective of the course is to help students developing a critical understanding of the state and state formation as an ongoing cultural and political process and to relate such understanding to the collective practices of non-state peoples, particularly those of Indigenous and tribal peoples. The course also introduces the case study of Palestine and Kurdistan to understand the historical dimensions of the ongoing quest for self-determination.

Learning Outcomes: one outcome per entry

- Identify critical approaches to the study of the modern state by focusing on the notion "state formation" as a cultural and political process.
- Mobilize (i.e., apply) critical approaches to state formation to study collective practices of nonstate peoples
- Analyze and demonstrate critical awareness on the ways in which non-state peoples have resisted and/or accommodated to state imperatives
- Politics from below, how to build community

Textbooks and Course Materials:

Pappe, Ilan. 2022 (3rd ed.). A History of Modern Palestine. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Mora, Mariana. 2017. Kuxlejal Politics: Indigenous Autonomy, Race, and Decolonizing Research in Zapatista Communities. Austin: University of Texas Press.

Dirik, Dilar. 2022. The Kurdish Women's Movement: History, Theory, Practice. London: Pluto Press.

Methods of Evaluation: one assignment per entry

Assignment	Due Date mm/dd/yy	Weight - %
Movement Journal	10/09/2026	15
Radical Imagination Outline Biblio	11/20/2026	15%
Final Assignment	12/08/2026	25%
Attendance		10%
Class Participation		25%
Presentation		10%

Monday, August 24, 2026

Huron Brief Course Outline 2026/27

In-course Costs \$040.00

For Textbooks and Course Materials (below), you are required to include the cost of each textbook or other learning material.

Note whether there are any restrictions that would prevent a student from using a second-hand copy. Here is some suggested text:

- Required textbook: [author, title, edition, publisher, date]. Cost: [insert amount].
 - Or include the weblink of the textbook’s publisher site that includes the cost information.
- Students need to purchase this edition. Second-hand or older editions will not be sufficient.
- OR Students are welcome to purchase second-hand or earlier editions of this textbook.
- This course has an optional field trip that costs [insert amount].
- This course has a required field component that costs [insert amount].

In solidarity with the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak, and Chonnonton peoples on whose traditional treaty and unceded territories this course is shared.