Class 8a: Nationalism

- Nations, states, and nation-states
- Centripetal and centrifugal forces
- State boundaries and shapes
From culture…

• Languages and dialects
  – Cause or symbol of cultural difference
  – Diffusion by migration or conquest
• Religious beliefs and practices
  – Spatial distribution, diffusion, landscape
…to territory

- Languages and territory
  - Official languages, multilingualism

- Religion and territory
  - Religion as differentiator
  - Control of sacred sites
  - Freedom to practice religion
Political geography

• How is space divided into territories?
• Distribution of political phenomena
• Spatial patterns of control
• Conflicts over territories and borders
States and sovereignty

- Independent political unit
- Permanent population, defined territory
- Control over internal and foreign affairs (sovereignty)
- Recognized by other states
States and sovereignty

• 193 states worldwide
• Ex.: South Africa, Australia, Vanuatu
• Not states: Colonies, protectorates (Puerto Rico)
• Special cases: Taiwan, Antarctica
State shapes

• Your responsibility!
• Describe compact, prorupt, elongated, fragmented, and perforated states
• Exclaves and enclaves
• An example of each
What is a nation?

• Group with a common culture
• Occupying a particular territory
• Strong sense of unity
• “An imagined political community”
Nation-states

• When a nation and a state are the same
• A sovereign territory with a distinct nation, or people
• Stronger in theory than reality
• Examples:
States without a nation

• Multinational states (Switzerland, U.S.)
• May still exhibit nationalism
• Newly independent states (Africa, Central Asia)
• Common identity may be less contentious
Nations without states

• Distinct group of people without sovereign territory
• Kurds, Basques, First Nations, Palestinians
• Often seek autonomy or independence
Israel and Palestine

- Under Muslim control since Crusades
- WWI: Great Britain mandate
- Jewish migration allowed; increase during and after WWII
- UN partition in 1947
Israel and Palestine

• Independence in 1948
• War the next day
• 1949 armistice line current international standard
Israel and Palestine

• 1967 Six-Day War
  – Israel’s preemptive war
  – Sinai Peninsula, Gaza, West Bank

• 1973 Yom Kippur War (Ramadan War)
  – Israel defends itself
  – U.S. support leads to oil crisis
Israel and Palestine

• 1979 Camp David Accords
  – Peace with Egypt
  – First recognition of Israel by Arab state
• 1981 Golan Heights annexed
• 1994 start of a Palestinian state
Obstacles to peace

• Jewish settlements in West Bank
• Jerusalem
• Physical geography
  – Topography and security
  – Water
Separatist movements

- Territory (homeland)
- Nationality
- Peripheral location
- Social and/or economic inequality
Centripetal forces

- Holding a state together
- Nationalism
  - Self-identification with the state
  - Acceptance of national goals
  - Iconography:
Centripetal forces

• Central institutions
  – Schools, churches, military

• Infrastructure
  – Transportation and communication networks
Centrifugal forces

- Destabilize a state
- Nationalism
  - Persecution by majority
  - Desire for autonomy
- Geographic fragmentation
Balkan Peninsula

- History of ethnic, religious, linguistic diversity
- Ruled by Austria-Hungary, Ottomans
- Assassination sparked WWI
- Yugoslavia created by Allies
Balkan Peninsula

- WWII: Croatians welcome Germans
- Soviets and Tito liberate the country
- Communist dictatorship 1953-1980
- Six autonomous republics
- Five nationalities, four languages, three religions (two alphabets)
Balkan Peninsula

• New countries: Slovenia, Croatia, Macedonia, Yugoslavia (Serbia)

• Bosnia and Herzegovina
  – 40% Bosnian Muslim, 32% Serbian, 18% Croatian (4.2 million total)
  – Ethnic cleansing of Bosnian Muslims
Balkan Peninsula

- 250,000 dead; 2.7 million refugees of 4.2 million (half returned)
- Dayton Accords (1995)
  - Two republics
  - Rotating presidency
Balkan Peninsula

- Multinational state: Yugoslavia
- Nations: Serbia, Bosnia
- States: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia
- Nation-state: Slovenia