

MULTICULTURALISM AND ITS CRITICS

POLITICAL SCIENCE 104

MICRO-ESSAY #6

Write a 750-word micro-essay on the question below. Your essay is due in CLA 251 by 4pm on THURSDAY April 21. Be sure to include a title that captures the point of your argument, and to use the claim-objection-rejoinder format. Use single space and try to print on both sides of a single sheet of paper.

Multiculturalism is under attack in Europe. Angela Merkel says the policy is a failure in Germany. David Cameron recently rejected it in favor of “muscular liberalism.” Just last week (April 7), the French held a conference on “Islam and secularism” and concluded that public displays of religion violated the civic tradition in France. The Dutch openly discriminate against Muslims in deciding which refugees to take. Most countries struggle with the idea of exceptions to general rules groups for national minority groups like the Roma. Immigrants are expected to conform to national majority preferences and the *jus sanguinis* is the standard for citizenship in practice if not in the law.

Write an essay using Ian Buruma’s portrait of the “Holy War” in Amsterdam and the Netherlands generally to assess whether Dutch liberals like Theo Van Gogh and Pim Fortuyn were (and other are) justified in their approach to Muslim immigrants.