

## **GPA 425 Challenges to National Integration**

**Pre requisites:** None

### **Course Description:**

This course seeks to debate and define the notion of national integration which has been integral to nation-building efforts in most of the developing countries after the two World Wars. Perceived as a challenge to the cohesion of the new states, particularly those societies that were diverse, multi-ethnic, multilingual and multicultural in character, national integration was posited as the best way to develop a strong sense of national identity that would counteract the influence of subnational and centrifugal forces. By taking this course, the students would learn about different processes of national integration, the difficulties faced in forging national integration. Pakistan would be used as a case study of the failure in national integration.

### **Learning Objectives:**

- To develop a holistic understanding of the notion of national integration.
- To expose and explain the tensions inherent in processes of state building and nation building.
- Contrast and compare challenges of national integration experienced by mature democracies and transitional democracies.
- To explore why national integration project in Pakistan failed.

### **Learning Outcomes:**

After completing the course, students should be able to:

- Learn about national integration as a state/societal project.
- Learn about the role that language, ethnicity, geography, media, and religion play in processes of national integration.
- Learn about some of the key factors that caused the failure of national integration in Pakistan.
- Learn about the role of state in the national integration project

### **Course contents:**

Different dimensions of the concept of national integration; examine functional and neo-functional theories of national integration, along with theories of modernization

and assimilation. It would pay special attention to the role of ethnic, linguistic and cultural factors in both impeding and enhancing processes of national integration. Role of religion and media would also be highlighted. It would also critically evaluate the tensions inherent in the state building and nation-building processes.

**Textbooks:**

1. Weiner, Myron, (1965), "Political Integration and political development," *The Annals of the American Academy of Social Sciences*, 358: 52-64.
2. Rehman, Tariq. (2000), *Language and Politics in Pakistan* Karachi. Oxford University, Press.
3. Jehan, Rounaq. (1972) *Pakistan: A Failure in National Integration*. London, Oxford University Press.
4. Jayawardane, Amal. Ed. (2006). *Perspectives on National Integration in Sri Lanka*. Colombo, NIPU.
5. Hashmi, Arshi Saleem (2015). *Issues of National Integration and Harmony in Pakistan*. Islamabad, NDU.