



# Nations Matter: Culture, History and the Cosmopolitan Dream

By Craig Calhoun

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**Nations Matter: Culture, History and the Cosmopolitan Dream** By Craig Calhoun

Craig Calhoun, one of the most respected social scientists in the world, re-examines nationalism in light of post-1989 enthusiasm for globalization and the new anxieties of the twenty-first century. *Nations Matter* argues that pursuing a purely postnational politics is premature at best and possibly dangerous.

Calhoun argues that, rather than wishing nationalism away, it is important to transform it. One key is to distinguish the ideology of nationalism as fixed and inherited identity from the development of public projects that continually remake the terms of national integration. Standard concepts like 'civic' vs. 'ethnic' nationalism can get in the way unless they are critically re-examined – as an important chapter in this book does.

This book is essential reading for undergraduate and postgraduate students of sociology, history, political theory and all subjects concerned with nationalism, globalization, and cosmopolitanism.

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