

POL 126: Ethnicity and Conflict

Course Meetings: Monday and Wednesday, 2:10-3:30. Kerr Hall 293

Instructor: Jaime Jackson

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Office Hours: Wednesdays 9:00-11:00am and by appt.

Course Objectives

This course provides an introduction to contemporary research on the relationship between ethnicity and civil conflict. We will examine cutting-edge studies from political science, economics, and sociology, on the causes and consequences of intrastate armed conflict or civil war, with an emphasis on, but not limited to, ethnic conflict. In addition, we will explore the use of non-violent strategies or ethnic protest. Thus, we will study both ethnic and non-ethnic conflict, as well as both violent and nonviolent strategies. Our focus will be on post-World War II conflicts, and we will look at cross-national (or macro-level) studies as well as within-country (or micro-level) research. The goal is to inform students of the different methodological approaches to the systematic study of civil war and resistance, and to think critically of extant academic work.

Required Readings

There is no required text book for this course. All required readings are articles. One article will be assigned daily and made available on Canvas. The assigned article for each day **MUST** be read before arriving to class.

Grading

Your grade for my course will be based on four elements: Participation, Quizzes, Assignments, and Final Paper. The grade breakdown is as follows:

Class Participation (15%) - Participation in my class includes class discussion, in-class activities (including two group simulations), and attendance. Attendance to class is mandatory as is participation in class discussion. Opportunities will be provided to participate through oral or written discussion so that everyone feels comfortable participating.

Quizzes (10%) - There will be two quizzes administered at random times during the quarter that will assess your knowledge and comprehension of course readings. They will each include an opportunity for extra credit to be added to one of your homework assignments.

Assignments (40%) - You will have two homework assignments during the quarter that will be directly related to your final paper project. These assignments will ask you to work towards par-

ticular sections of your final project and will provide opportunities for me to give you feedback and assistance with the final project. Late assignments will be docked 5% for each day they are late, and will not be accepted three days after the deadline.

Final Paper (35%) - Your final paper will be a research design paper that addresses a topic related to civil conflict, ethnic conflict, or ethnic protest. This will take the place of a final exam. The paper will include what we consider to be the "up front" portion of a full research paper (Intro, Lit Review, Theory), as well as a plan for how you would test your theory if you had the opportunity. Detailed final paper requirements are available on Canvas.

All written work must reflect your own scholarship, in line with the UC Davis Code of Academic Conduct. For guidelines avoiding plagiarism see the SJA at <http://sja.ucdavis.edu/>. You are expected to be aware of these guidelines, ignorance of guidelines does not excuse a violation.

Course Policies

E-mail and Office Hours: Guidelines for e-mail correspondence with the instructor: (1) include the course in the subject line along with subject; (2) 24-hour response time during the week, 48-hour response time over the weekend; (3) please use the e-mail you would like your response to come to; (4) include any attachments you wish to have reviewed or that you have referred to in the body of the text; (5) check the discussion board on Canvas prior to submitting e-mail questions; (6) consider posting to the discussion board on Canvas if you have a general question; (7) create a prioritized list of your questions for office hours visits.

Attendance, Participation, and Weekly Readings: Class attendance and the corresponding assignments are mandatory. All students should come to prepared to participate in class discussion.

Grade Appeals: Students will have one week from when grades are posted to appeal their grade. All appeals must include a typed, double spaced statement explaining why you are requesting a grade appeal, and you must justify with evidence from your exam, paper, or summaries. If you choose to appeal your grade, the instructor reserves the right to increase or decrease the existing grade.

Academic Honesty

As a University of California student, you have agreed to abide by the University's academic honesty policy. Cheating and other violations of academic honesty are serious offenses. Students are expected to work independently on all graded assignments. Please refer to the UC Davis policy on integrity of scholarship for further details. Students who engage in cheating will earn an F (no pass) grade.

Students with Disabilities

Any student who, because of a disability, may require some special arrangements in order to meet any of the course requirements should contact the instructor as soon as possible to make necessary accommodations. It is the responsibility of the student to request accommodation for individual learning needs. UC Davis will make every attempt to accommodate all qualified students with disabilities.

Laptops and tablets are permitted in-class for note-taking and in-class activities only. Please do not disrupt your classmates by surfing the web or engaging in other activities.

Course Outline:

April 2nd - Course Introduction

April 4th - What is Civil War? Reading: Sambanis, Nicholas. (2004). "What is Civil War? Conceptual and Empirical Complexities of an Operational Definition." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 48(6): 814-858.

April 9th - Macro-Level Explanations Reading: Collier, Paul and Anke Hoeffler. (2004). "Greed and Grievance in Civil Wars." *Economic Papers* 56(4): 563-595.

April 11th - Macro-Level Explanations Reading: Denny, Elaine K. and Barbara F. Walter. (2014). "Ethnicity and Civil War." *Journal of Peace Research* 51(2): 199-212.

April 16th - Micro-Level Explanations for Nonviolence Reading: Touquet, Hellen. (2015). "Non-ethnic Mobilisation in Deeply Divided Societies, the Case of the Sarjevo Protests." *Europe-Asia Studies*, 67(3): 388-408.

April 18th - Micro-Level Explanations for Violence Reading: Cederman, Lars-Erik, Andreas Wimmer, and Brian Min. (2010). "Why Do Ethnic Groups Rebel? New Data and Analysis." *World Politics* 62(1): 87-119.

April 23 - Macro-Level Explanations for Resistance Reading: Stephan, Maria and Erica Chenoweth. (2008). "Why Civil Resistance Works: The Strategic Logic of Nonviolent Conflict." *International Security* 30(1): 7-44.

April 25th - Macro-Level Explanations for Ethnic Protest Reading: Naghshpour, Shahdad and Joseph St. Marie. (2008). "Globalization Discontent: The Effects of Globalization on Ethnic Protest." *Peace Economics, Peace Science, and Public Policy* 14(3): 1-29.

April 30th - Comparing Ethnic and Non-Ethnic Wars Reading: Moore, Will H. (2017). "What do We Know as a Field About the Determinants of Ethnic Conflict?" *Ethnopolitics*, 16(1): 56-59.

May 2nd - GUEST SPEAKER Unpacking the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict. Is it a civil war and what is the role of violent and nonviolent methods? Assignment #1 Due on Canvas.

May 7th - NO CLASS

May 9th - External Actors in Ethnic Wars Reading: Cederman, Lars-Erik, Luc Girardin, and Kristian Skrede Gleditsch. (2009). "Ethnonationalist Triads: Assessing the Influence of Kin Groups on Civil Wars." *World Politics* 61(3): 403-437.

May 14th - External Dimension of Ethnic Protest Reading: Olzak, Susan. (1998). "Ethnic Protest in Core and Periphery States." *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, 21(2): 187-217.

May 16th - External Actors in Violent and Nonviolent Conflict Reading: Jackson, Jaime. (2018). "Helping Hands or Hand Grenades: External Support and the Dynamics of Violent and Nonviolent Resistance." *Working Paper*.

May 21st - Fragmentation and Ethnic Conflict Reading: Cunningham, Kathleen. (2011). "Divide and Conquer or Divide and Concede: How do States Respond to Internally Divided Separatists?" *American Political Science Review*. 105(2).

May 23rd - Fragmentation and Ethnic Conflict Reading: Findley, Michael and Peter Rudloff. (2012). "Combatant Fragmentation and the Dynamics of Civil Wars." *British Journal of Political Science* 42(4): 879-901. Assignment #2 Due on Canvas.

May 28th - NO CLASS. MEMORIAL DAY

May 30th - Utilitarianism in Ethnic Protest Reading: Zunes, Stephen. (2013). Op-Ed: "Mandela's Utilitarianism and the Struggle for Liberation." *openDemocracy*. Link available in Readings.

June 4th - Bargaining and Ethnic Conflict Reading: Jenne, Erin. (2004). "A Bargaining Theory of Minority Demands: Explaining the Dog that Did Not Bite in 1990s Yugoslavia." *International Studies Quarterly*, 48(4): 729-754.

June 6th - Termination of Ethnic Conflict Reading: Lederman, Lars-Erik, Kristian Skrede Gleditsch, and Julian Wucherpfennig. (2017). "Predicting the Decline of Ethnic Civil War: Was

Gurr Right and for the Right Reasons?" Journal of Peace Research, 54(2): 262-274.

June 11th - FINAL PAPER DUE