This course will introduce you to the study of civil wars—internal wars predominantly between states and domestic actors—and to the various approaches to this topic in political science. This research program spans the subfields of international and comparative politics and thus the course will explore civil war from both broad fields.

In addition to reading the course materials carefully and coming each week prepared to discuss them in detail, your major assignment will be writing. Exactly what you write, and in which format, are questions about which I am flexible and I want us to find ways to make your writing project in this course maximally productive to each of you and your own developing research agendas as scholars. To that end, I will meet with each of you early in the semester to agree on the structure of your own writing plans. These could include a variety of different writing options, from a stand-alone research paper of approximately 10,000 words, to several shorter analytic papers focused on the course readings, to the preparation of a dissertation prospectus or research design on some aspect of civil wars. These will be settled on during consultations between students and me and I am happy to accommodate different writing priorities as we begin the fall semester.

Course requirements:

- **Participation**: 25% (includes leading discussion during two weeks)
- **2 response papers**: 25% total. These may be turned in during any meeting week but at least one must be submitted on or before October 16.
- **Major paper**: 50%

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found in the online catalog at: [https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx](https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx)

*Readings.* I have structured this course keeping in mind the need to have a reading load that is manageably as opposed to unmanageably heavy; weekly readings run 200-300 pages in general, more for books, fewer for sets of articles (which generally take longer given a stand-alone argument in each). What this means is that I expect each of you to have done ALL of the readings in advance.

*Participation.* One of the central aims of our PhD program is to train you in the profession of political science. In this profession, you will need to talk, in order to present your own ideas, in order to comment on/challenge/encourage the improvement of your colleagues’ ideas and your own, and so forth. As such, participation constitutes 25% of the grade in this
course, and it is not a freebie. If you earned perfect grades on all written assignments but sat quietly throughout the semester, you would receive a C, a failing grade in this program. I expect active and regular participation in all discussions. Sitting quietly in a seminar is analogous to turning in a paper consisting of blank pages. In addition to regular contribution to weekly discussions, each of you will introduce the readings for two weekly meetings. We will talk more later about what this involves.

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Student Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation.

Information on UF policies for grading may be found here: https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course based on 10 criteria. These evaluations are conducted online at https://evaluations.ufl.edu. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at https://evaluations.ufl.edu.

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Honor Code (http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obliged to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with me.

Important contact information for university counseling services and mental health services: 392-1575, http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx. For the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

**Required readings: The following books are available online and at local bookstores.**

September 4: Concepts and Overview


September 18: Origins of Civil War in Ethnicity and Identity.


- Benjamin Smith, “Oil Wealth, Order and Conflict,” manuscript to be circulated by email.

October 9: Origins of Civil War in Resources, Climate and Geography Part 2.


October 16: Origins of Non-Wars, or the Exploration of Dogs that Don’t Bark


October 23: Dynamics of Civil Wars: Joining and Recruitment

- Günes Murat Tezcür, Ordinary People, Extraordinary Risks: Participation in a Rebellion. Manuscript. To be distributed by email.
October 30: Dynamics of Civil Wars: Insurgent Organizations.

- Wickham-Crowley, Timothy P. “A Qualitative Comparative Approach to Latin American Revolutions.” *International Journal of Comparative Sociology*; Jan 1, 1991; 32, 1

November 6: Dynamics of Civil Wars: Counterinsurgency

- Ron. *Frontiers and Ghettos*. All

November 13: Dynamics of Civil Wars: Patterns of Violence.


November 20: Ending Civil Wars.


December 4: Ending Civil Wars: Consequences.


Final papers due December 15 at turnitin.com by noon.