

Civil Wars

POS 6933 Section 02A7

Fall 2014

Dr. Benjamin Smith

002 Anderson | bbsmith@ufl.edu

Office hours: T1245-145pm R 1145am-145pm

T: 352.273-2345

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>

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.

- Kalyvas, Stathis. *The Logic of Violence in Civil War*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006.
- Lischer, Sarah Kenyon. 2006. *Dangerous Sanctuaries: Refugee Camps, Civil War, and the Dilemmas of Humanitarian Aid*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press.
- Ron, James. *Frontiers and Ghettos: State Violence in Serbia and Israel*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2003.
- Wood, Elisabeth Jean. *Insurgent Collective Action and the Civil War in El Salvador*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2003

September 4: Concepts and Overview

- Blattman, Christopher, and Edward Miguel. "Civil War." *Journal of Economic Literature* 48, no. 1 (3, 2010): 3-57.
- Kalyvas, Stathis N. "'New' and 'Old' Civil Wars: A Valid Distinction?" *World Politics* 54, no. 1 (October 2001): 99-118.
- Sambanis, Nicholas. "What Is Civil War? Conceptual and Empirical Complexities of an Operational Definition." *The Journal of Conflict Resolution* 48, no. 6 (December 2004): 814-858.
- Tarrow, Sidney. "Inside Insurgencies: Politics and Violence in an Age of Civil War." *Perspectives on Politics* 5, no. 03 (2007): 587-600.

September 11: Origins of Civil War in States.

- Vreeland, James Raymond. "The Effect of Political Regime on Civil War: Unpacking Anocracy." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 52, no. 3 (June 1, 2008): 401-425.
- Skocpol, Theda. *States and Social Revolutions: A Comparative Analysis of France, Russia, and China*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1979. Chapter 1.
- Goodwin, Jeff. *No Other Way Out: States and Revolutionary Movements, 1945-1991*. Cambridge, U.K: Cambridge University Press, 2001. Chapters 1 and 2.
- Fearon, James D., and David D. Laitin. "Ethnicity, Insurgency, and Civil War." *The American Political Science Review* 97, no. 1 (February 2003): 75-90.

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

- Cederman, Lars-Erik, Andreas Wimmer, and Brian Min. "Why Do Ethnic Groups Rebel? New Data and Analysis." *World Politics* 62, no. 1 (2010): 87-119.
- Darden, Keith. "Resisting Occupation: Lessons from a Natural Experiment in Carpathian Ukraine," MS 2009 (<http://keithdarden.files.wordpress.com/2009/11/darden-naturalexperiment.pdf>).
- Kaufman, Stuart J. "Symbolic Politics or Rational Choice? Testing Theories of Extreme Ethnic Violence." *International Security* 30, no. 4 (2006): 45-86.
- Petersen, Roger. *Understanding Ethnic Violence: Fear, Hatred, and Resentment in Twentieth-Century Eastern Europe*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2002. Chapters XX.

September 25: Origins of Civil War in Security Dilemmas and Commitment Problems.

- Posen, Barry R. "The security dilemma and ethnic conflict." *Survival* 35, no. 1 (1993): 27-47.
- James D. Fearon, "Commitment Problems and the Spread of Ethnic Conflict," in *The International Spread of Ethnic Conflict*, ed. David Lake and Donald Rothchild (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1998), pp. 107-126.
- Barbara Walter, "Why Governments Fight Some Separatists but Not Others," *American Journal of Political Science*, Vol. 50, No. 2 (Apr., 2006), pp. 313-330.
- Warren Zimmerman, "The Last Ambassador," *Foreign Affairs*, March/April 1995, pp. 2-20.

October 2: Origins of Civil War in Resources, Climate and Geography Part 1.

- Collier, Paul, Anke Hoeffler, and Dominic Rohner. "Beyond greed and grievance: feasibility and civil war." *Oxford Economic Papers* 61, no. 1. Oxford Economic Papers (2009): 1-27.
- Ross, Michael L. "How Do Natural Resources Influence Civil War? Evidence from Thirteen Cases." *International Organization* 58, no. 1 (2004): 35-67.
- Valli Koobi et al, "Do Natural Resources Matter for Interstate and Intrastate Armed Conflict?" *Journal of Peace Research* 51, 2: 227-43.
- Edward Aspinall, "The Construction of Grievance: Natural Resources and Identity in a Separatist Conflict," *Journal of Conflict Resolution* Volume 51 Number 6 December 2007 950-972.
- 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.

- Homer-Dixon, Thomas F. "On the Threshold: Environmental Changes as Causes of Acute Conflict." *International Security* 16, no. 2 (Autumn 1991): 76-116.
- Nils Petter Gleditsch, "Whither the weather? Climate change and conflict," *Journal of Peace Research* 49(1): 3-9.
- Cullen Hendrix and Idean Salehyan, "Climate change, rainfall, and social conflict in Africa," *Journal of Peace Research* 49(1) 35-50.
- Tor A Benjaminsen, Koffi Alinon, Halvard Buhaug, and Jill Tove Buseth. "Does climate change drive land-use conflicts in the Sahel?" *Journal of Peace Research* 2012 49(1):97-111

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

- Marta Reynal-Querol, "Ethnicity, Political Systems and Civil Wars," <http://web.worldbank.org/archive/website01241/WEB/IMAGES/ETHNICIT.PDF>
- David D. Laitin, "Secessionist Rebellion in the Former Soviet Union," *Comparative Political Studies*, Vol. 34, No. 8, October 2001, pp. 839-861.
- Erin Jenne, "A Bargaining Theory of Minority Demands: Explaining the Dog that Did Not Bite in 1990s Yugoslavia," *International Studies Quarterly*, Vol. 48, No. 4, December 2004, pp. 729-754.
- Sergey Khrychikov and Hugh Miall, "Conflict Prevention in Estonia: The Role of the Electoral System," *Security Dialogue*, Vol. 33, No. 2, June 2002, pp. 193-208.

October 23: Dynamics of Civil Wars: Joining and Recruitment

- Elizabeth Wood. *Insurgent Collective Action*. all.
- Humphreys, Macartan, and Jeremy M. Weinstein. "Who Fights? The Determinants of Participation in Civil War." *American Journal of Political Science* 52, no. 2 (April 2008): 436-455.
- 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.

- Staniland, Paul. "Organizing Insurgency," *International Security*, Vol. 37, No. 1 (Summer 2012), pp. 142–177
- Lawrence, Adria. "Triggering Nationalist Violence: Competition and Conflict in Uprisings against Colonial Rule," *International Security* (2010).
- Kristin M. Bakke, Kathleen Gallagher Cunningham, and Lee J. M. Seymour, "A Plague of Initials: Fragmentation, Cohesion, and Infighting in Civil Wars." *Perspectives on Politics*, 10, 2: 265-83.
- 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
- Kalyvas. *Logic of Violence*. Chapter 5.

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

- Kalyvas, *Logic of Violence*. Chapters 1, 7-9.
- Laia Balcells, "Rivalry and Revenge: Violence against
- Civilians in Conventional Civil Wars," *International Studies Quarterly* (2010) 54, 291–313.

November 20: Ending Civil Wars.

- Walter, Barbara F. "The Critical Barrier to Civil War Settlement." *International Organization* 51, no. 03 (1997): 335-364.
- Fortna, Page. "Does Peacekeeping Keep Peace? International Intervention and the Duration of Peace After Civil War." *International Studies Quarterly* Vol. 48, No. 2, June 2004, pp. 269-92.
- Toft, Monica Duffy. "Ending Civil Wars: A Case for Rebel Victory?" *International Security* 34, no. 4 (2010): 7-36.

December 4: Ending Civil Wars: Consequences.

- Lischer. *Dangerous Sanctuaries: Refugee Camps, Civil War, and the Dilemmas of Humanitarian Aid*. All.
- Blattman, Christopher. "From Violence to Voting: War and Political Participation in Uganda." *American Political Science Review* 103, no. 2 (2009): 231-247.
- Wood, Elisabeth Jean. "The Social Processes of Civil War: The Wartime Transformation of Social Networks." *Annual Review of Political Science* 11, no. 1 (6, 2008): 539-561.

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