

PO8050: International Conflict¹

Department of Political Science

Lecturer: Dino Hadzic

Meeting Schedule: Thursdays 9.00-11.00am in Arts C6.002

Office: TRiSS C6.004

Office Hours: Fridays 10.00am-noon during teaching weeks

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This module is an introduction to the causes and consequences of violent conflict between and within countries. It will be taught in seminar style where active participation by the students is essential to successful learning outcomes. In that vein, I will lecture intermittently, usually at the beginning or end of the meeting period in order to synthesize that week's readings (all of which will be available on Blackboard). I will also prepare discussion questions before every meeting in order to stimulate discussion and keep the conversation going in case it stalls. However, I ultimately want the discussion to cover those parts of each week's readings/topic that students find most interesting and engaging. The best way to achieve that is to have students guide as much of the discussion as possible. Therefore, please arrive to the meetings having completed the week's readings and prepared to engage with your peers.

ASSESSMENT

Students will be assessed through three components: participation, four response papers (and an optional fifth one), and a final research paper. All written work should be submitted through Turnitin on Blackboard. More details for each component are provided below:

Participation (20% of final mark): participation and attendance is essential to doing well in this module. Students should arrive to the meetings ready to discuss the readings and engage with their peers. In particular, when doing each week's readings, students should think about feasible research extensions to what is covered that week.

Response Papers (40% of final mark): students are required to submit four response papers throughout the semester. Each paper should be at most 500 words long and each will be worth 10% of the final mark (for 40% total). The fifth response paper is optional. Should a student decide to submit five response papers, only the best four will count toward the final mark. Each paper should be related to a topic covered in the module. At least two of the response papers should be submitted by 11.59pm on October 28, 2019. The remaining response papers should be submitted by 11.59pm on November 25, 2019. However, should a student decide to do so, they can submit the response papers as early as they wish so long as they meet the minimum of two submissions by October 28. In these response papers, the student should:

1. Identify a research question.

¹This module is based on and adapted from a previous one developed by Thomas Chadeaux. I am indebted to him for helping me put this syllabus together.

2. Describe how they would answer that question. What they propose can be ambitious but should also be feasible for the student to execute.

For these response papers, please do not write a summary of a particular week's readings. Instead, the purpose of the response papers is to begin brainstorming ideas for potential research projects, the research paper for this module, or perhaps even the dissertation. Note that for late submissions I will deduct five points per day. Under no circumstances will response papers be accepted after the end of the term.

Research Paper (40% of final mark): the research paper is due by 11.59pm on November 29, 2019. It should not exceed 2,000 words in length, including footnotes but not the list of references. I have no preference for any particular citation style, but please make sure you use citation procedures consistently throughout. You should double-space the essay and provide the word count at the beginning. The paper should outline a research design for a larger project, be creative, and also feasible for the student to carry out. The paper should follow a clear structure:

1. What is the motivating question?
2. How does the project relate to existing work?
3. What are the hypotheses? These should flow naturally from good theory.
4. What relevant data are available, or could feasibly be collected?
5. What methods would be used to test the hypotheses? This could include any combination of comparative case studies, interviews, statistical analysis, etc.

Because the research paper is due at the end of the term, I will not accept late submissions.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Violations of academic integrity (cheating, plagiarism, representing someone else's work as your own, etc.) will not be tolerated. In that vein, please follow best practices as described in the College Calendar (<https://libguides.tcd.ie/friendly.php?s=plagiarism/calendar>). Also, please complete the university's online tutorial on avoiding plagiarism as soon as possible (<https://libguides.tcd.ie/friendly.php?s=plagiarism/ready-steady-write>).

TERM OUTLINE

Week 1 (12 September): Introduction	3
Week 2 (19 September): The End of War?	3
Week 3 (26 September): Bargaining and Conflict	3
Week 4 (3 October): Economic Interdependence and Conflict	4
Week 5 (10 October): Terrorism I	4

Week 6 (17 October): Terrorism II	4
Week 7 (24 October): Reading Week	5
Week 8 (31 October): Civil Wars I	5
Week 9 (7 November): Civil Wars II	5
Week 10 (14 November): International Intervention and Peacekeeping	5
Week 11 (21 November): WMDs	6
Week 12 (28 November): Conflict Outcomes	6

SCHEDULE AND READINGS

Week 1 (12 September): Introduction

Week 2 (19 September): The End of War?

- Gat, Azar. 2013. "Is War Declining – And Why?" *Journal of Peace Research* 50(2): 149–157.
- Gleditsch, Nils Petter, Steven Pinker, Bradley A. Thayer, Jack S. Levy, and William R. Thompson. 2013. "The Decline of War." *International Studies Review* 15(3): 396–419.
- Ikenberry, G. John. 2014. "The Illusion of Geopolitics: The Enduring Power of the Liberal Order." *Foreign Affairs* 93(3): 80–90.
- Kagan, Donald, Eliot A. Cohen, Charles F. Doran, and Michael Mandelbaum. 1999. "Is Major War Obsolete? An Exchange." *Survival* 41(2): 139–152.
- Mead, Walter Russell. 2014. "The Return of Geopolitics: The Revenge of the Revisionist Powers." *Foreign Affairs* 93(3): 69–79.

Week 3 (26 September): Bargaining and Conflict

- Fearon, James D. 1995. "Rationalist Explanations for War." *International Organization* 49(3): 379–414.
- Gartzke, Erik. 1999. "War Is in the Error Term." *International Organization* 53(4): 567–587.
- Powell, Robert. 2006. "War as a Commitment Problem." *International Organization* 60(1): 169–203.
- Reed, William, David H. Clark, Timothy Nordstrom, and Wonjae Hwang. 2008. "War, Power, and Bargaining." *Journal of Politics* 70(4): 1203–1216.

Week 4 (3 October): Economic Interdependence and Conflict

- Bussmann, Margit. 2010. "Foreign Direct Investment and Militarized International Conflict." *Journal of Peace Research* 47(2): 143–153.
- Copeland, Dale C. 1996. "Economic Interdependence and War: A Theory of Trade Expectations." *International Security* 20(4): 5–41.
- Gartzke, Erik, Quan Li, and Charles Boehmer. 2001. "Investing in the Peace: Economic Interdependence and International Conflict." *International Organization* 55(2): 391–438.
- Gartzke, Erik and Yonatan Lupu. 2012. "Trading on Preconceptions: Why World War I Was Not a Failure of Economic Interdependence." *International Security* 36(4): 115–150.

Week 5 (10 October): Terrorism I

- Aksoy, Deniz. 2014. "Elections and the Timing of Terrorist Attacks." *Journal of Politics* 76(4): 899–913.
- Atran, Scott. 2003. "Genesis of Suicide Terrorism." *Science* 299(5612): 1534–1539.
- Abrahms, Max. 2006. "Why Terrorism Does Not Work." *International Security* 31(2): 42–78.
- Kydd, Andrew and Barbara F. Walter. 2002. "Sabotaging the Peace: The Politics of Extremist Violence." *International Organization* 56(2): 263–296.
- Pape, Robert A. 2003. "The Strategic Logic of Suicide Terrorism." *American Political Science Review* 97(3): 343–361.
- Rose, William, Rysia Murphy, and Max Abrahms. 2007. "Does Terrorism Ever Work? The 2004 Madrid Train Bombings." *International Security* 32(1): 185–192.

Week 6 (17 October): Terrorism II

- Berrebi, Claude and Esteban F. Klor. 2006. "On Terrorism and Electoral Outcomes: Theory and Evidence from the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 50(6): 899–925.
- Berrebi, Claude and Esteban F. Klor. 2008. "Are Voters Sensitive to Terrorism? Direct Evidence from the Israeli Electorate." *American Political Science Review* 102(3): 279–301.
- Getmansky, Anna and Thomas Zeitzoff. 2014. "Terrorism and Voting: The Effect of Rocket Threat on Voting in Israeli Elections." *American Political Science Review* 108((3): 588–604.
- Grossman, Guy, Devorah Manekin, and Dan Miodownik. 2015. "The Political Legacies of Combat: Attitudes Toward War and Peace Among Israeli Ex-Combatants." *International Organization* 69(4): 981–1009.

- Kibris, Arzu. 2011. “Funeral and Elections: The Effects of Terrorism on Voting Behavior in Turkey.” *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 55(2): 220–247.

Week 7 (24 October): Reading Week

Week 8 (31 October): Civil Wars I

- Cederman, Lars-Erik, Andreas Wimmer, and Brian Min. 2010. “Why Do Ethnic Groups Rebel? New Data and Analysis.” *World Politics* 62(1): 87–119.
- Collier, Paul and Anke Hoeffler. 2004. “Greed and Grievance in Civil War.” *Oxford Economic Papers* 56(4): 563–595.
- Fearon, James D. and David D. Laitin. 2003. “Ethnicity, Insurgency, and Civil War.” *American Political Science Review* 97(1): 75–90.
- Gagnon, V. P. Jr. 1994/1995. “Ethnic Nationalism and International Conflict: The Case of Serbia.” *International Security* 19(3): 130–166.

Week 9 (7 November): Civil Wars II

- Stedman, Stephen John. 1997. “Spoiler Problems in Peace Processes.” *International Security* 22(2): 5–53.
- Greenhill, Kelly M. and Solomon Major. 2006/2007. “The Perils of Profiling: Civil War Spoilers and the Collapse of Intrastate Peace Accords.” *International Security* 31(3): 7–40.
- Walter, Barbara. 1997. “The Critical Barrier to Civil War Settlement.” *International Organization* 51(3): 335–364.
- Walter, Barbara. 2009. “Bargaining Failures and Civil War.” *Annual Review of Political Science* 12(1): 243–261.

Week 10 (14 November): International Intervention and Peacekeeping

- Costalli, Stefano. 2013. “Does Peacekeeping Work? A Disaggregated Analysis of Deployment and Violence Reduction in the Bosnian War.” *British Journal of Political Science* 44(2): 357–380.
- Greig, J. Michael and Paul F. Diehl. 2005. “The Peacekeeping-Peacemaking Dilemma.” *International Studies Quarterly* 49(4): 621–645.
- Lo, Nigel, Barry Hashimoto, and Dan Reiter. 2008. “Ensuring Peace: Foreign-Imposed Regime Change and Postwar Peace Duration, 1914-2001.” *International Organization* 62(4): 717–736.
- Regan, Patrick M. 2002. “Third-Party Interventions and the Duration of Intrastate Conflicts.” *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 46(1): 55–73.

Week 11 (21 November): WMDs

- Fuhrmann, Matthew. 2009. "Spreading Temptation: Proliferation and Peaceful Nuclear Cooperation Agreements." *International Security* 34(1): 7–41.
- Kroenig, Matthew. 2009. "Exporting the Bomb: Why States Provide Sensitive Nuclear Assistance." *American Political Science Review* 103(1): 113–133.
- Price, Richard. 1995. "A Genealogy of the Chemical Weapons Taboo." *International Organization* 49(1): 73–103.
- Sagan, Scott D. 1996-1997. "Why Do States Build Nuclear Weapons?: Three Models in Search of a Bomb." *International Security* 21(3): 54–86.

Week 12 (28 November): Conflict Outcomes

- Arreguín-Toft, Ivan. 2001. "How the Weak Win Wars: A Theory of Asymmetric Conflict." *International Security* 26(1): 93–128.
- Fortna, Virginia Page. 2003. "Scraps of Paper? Agreements and the Durability of Peace." *International Organization* 57(2): 337–372.
- Johnson, Carter. 2008. "Partitioning to Peace: Sovereignty, Demography, and Ethnic Civil Wars." *International Security* 32(4): 140–170.
- Toft, Monica Duffy. 2010. "Ending Civil Wars: A Case for Rebel Victory?" *International Security* 34(4): 7–36.
- Werner, Suzanne and Amy Yuen. 2005. "Making and Keeping Peace." *International Organization* 59(2): 261–292.