

PO8050: International Conflict

Department of Political Science

Lecturer: Dino Hadzic

Meeting Schedule: Thursdays 10:00-noon in ARTS 2043

Office Hours: By appointment (please email at dhadzic@tcd.ie)

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 your active participation 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 are 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 you find most interesting and engaging. The best way to achieve that is to have you guide as much of the discussion as possible. Therefore, please attend the meetings having completed the week's readings and be prepared to engage with your peers.

Assessment

You will be assessed through three components: attendance/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:

Attendance/Participation (20% of final mark): attendance and participation is essential to doing well in this module. Therefore, I will take attendance at the beginning of each meeting. You should be ready to discuss the readings and engage with your peers.

Response Papers (40% of final mark): you are required to submit four response papers throughout the semester. Each paper should be at most 500 words long (not including the list of references) and each will be worth 10% of the final mark (for 40% total). The fifth response paper is optional. Should you 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, and you are free to write multiple response papers on the same general topic (i.e., bargaining and conflict, terrorism, civil war, etc.). At least two of the response papers should be submitted by **11:59pm on November 5, 2021**. The remaining response papers should be submitted by **11:59pm on December 3, 2021**. However, should you decide to do so, you can submit the response papers as early as you wish so long as you meet the minimum of two submissions by **November 5**. In these response papers, you should:

1. Pose a research question. This will usually entail identifying a gap in the literature. In other words, you should develop a research question that is connected to existing literature but has not yet been answered. In doing this, you will provide a **brief** literature review, i.e., only summarize existing literature to the extent you have to in order to identify the gap and pose the research question.

2. Develop your theoretical intuitions about what kind of relationship the study would uncover. This discussion should naturally produce one or two hypotheses. I recommend against posing more than two hypotheses given space constraints.

3. Describe how you would answer that question. This will entail a brief description of the data you would use (or would need), how you would operationalize key variables, and what kind of research design you would adopt. What you propose can be ambitious but should also be feasible for you 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 December 17, 2021**. 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 you to carry out. You can take a previous response paper and develop it into your research paper, although you are not required to do so. The structure of the paper should resemble that of the response papers except each section should be more developed, i.e., more extensive literature review, more developed theory/hypotheses, more involved discussion of data and research design, etc.

Note that for late submissions I will deduct five points per day. Under no circumstances will the paper be accepted after the end of the term. You can find examples of good response papers and a research paper on Blackboard in the "Examples" folder.

Module Content on Blackboard

I have uploaded the following content to Blackboard:

- Syllabus: can be found in the "Syllabus" folder.
- Examples of response papers and research paper: can be found in the "Examples" folder.
- Each week's readings: can be found in the appropriately named folder. For example, readings for bargaining and conflict are in the "Week 2: Bargaining and Conflict" folder.
- Turnitin assignments for response papers and research paper: can be found in the "Assessment" folder.

As is the case every year, some students are not yet officially registered/enrolled in the module and so will not have access to Blackboard until a later date. If that case, here is a link to a Dropbox folder containing the relevant content:

- <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/1u8x2rfsrlccu78/AAAjI9rMIIdMnHThoLwmFtQQRa?dl=0>

Also, if you have not been able to register/enroll by an assessment deadline (or want to submit early), you should email me your work directly. After you have gained access to Blackboard, I will ask you to go back and upload your work to Turnitin as a plagiarism check.

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>).

Disability-Related Accommodations

Students who require any disability-related accommodations are encouraged to register with the Trinity Disability Service (<https://www.tcd.ie/disability/>).

Term Outline

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Week 11 (25 November): Repression	6
Week 12 (2 December): Human Rights	6

Schedule and Readings

Week 1 (16 September): Introduction

Week 2 (23 September): Bargaining and Conflict

- Fearon, James D. 1995. "Rationalist Explanations for War." *International Organization* 49(3): 379–414.
- Kydd, Andrew H. 2010. "Rationalist Approaches to Conflict Prevention and Resolution." *Annual Review of Political Science* 13(1): 101–121.
- Reed, William, David H. Clark, Timothy Nordstrom, and Wonjae Hwang. 2008. "War, Power, and Bargaining." *Journal of Politics* 70(4): 1203–1216.

- Walter, Barbara F. 2009. “Bargaining Failures and Civil War.” *Annual Review of Political Science* 12(1): 243–261.

Week 3 (30 September): Borders and Conflict

- Carter, David B. and H. E. Goemans. 2011. “The Making of the Territorial Order: New Borders and the Emergence of Interstate Conflict.” *International Organization* 65(2): 275–309.
- Chapman, Thomas and Philip G. Roeder. 2007. “Partition as a Solution to Wars of Nationalism: The Importance of Institutions.” *American Political Science Review* 101(4): 677–691.
- Gibler, Douglas M. and Alex Braithwaite. 2013. “Dangerous Neighbours, Regional Territorial Conflict and the Democratic Peace.” *British Journal of Political Science* 43(4): 877–887.
- Johnson, Carter. 2008. “Partitioning to Peace: Sovereignty, Demography, and Ethnic Civil Wars.” *International Security* 32(4): 140–170.

Week 4 (7 October): Economic Interdependence and Conflict

- Barbieri, Katherine. 1996. “Economic Interdependence: A Path to Peace or a Source of Interstate Conflict?” *Journal of Peace Research* 33(1): 29–49.
- Martin, Philippe, Thierry Mayer, and Mathias Thoenig. 2008. “Make Trade Not War?” *The Review of Economic Studies* 75(3): 865–900.
- Rosecrance, Richard and Peter Thompson. 2003. “Trade, Foreign Investment, and Security.” *Annual Review of Political Science* 6(1): 377–398.
- Schultz, Kenneth A. 2015. “Borders, Conflict, and Trade.” *Annual Review of Political Science* 18(1): 125–145.

Week 5 (14 October): Terrorism and Elections

- Aksoy, Deniz. 2014. “Elections and the Timing of Terrorist Attacks.” *Journal of Politics* 76(4): 899–913.
- 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.
- Kibris, Arzu. 2011. “Funeral and Elections: The Effects of Terrorism on Voting Behavior in Turkey.” *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 55(2): 220–247.

Week 6 (21 October): Terrorism and Leadership

- Falk, Erika and Kate Kenski. 2006. "Issue Saliency and Gender Stereotypes: Support for Women as Presidents in Times of War and Terrorism." *Social Science Quarterly* 87(1): 1–18.
- Holman, Mirya R., Jennifer L. Merolla, and Elizabeth J. Zechmeister. 2011. "Sex, Stereotypes, and Security: A Study of the Effects of Terrorist Threat on Assessments of Female Leadership." *Journal of Women, Politics and Policy* 32(3): 173–192.
- Holman, Mirya R., Jennifer L. Merolla, and Elizabeth J. Zechmeister. 2016. "Terrorist Threat, Male Stereotypes, and Candidate Evaluations." *Political Research Quarterly* 69(1): 134–147.
- Merolla, Jennifer L. and Elizabeth J. Zechmeister. 2009. "Terrorist Threat, Leadership, and the Vote: Evidence from Three Experiments." *Political Behavior* 31(4): 575–601.

Week 7 (28 October): Reading Week

Week 8 (4 November): Civil War Motivations

- 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.
- Weidmann, Nils B. 2011. "Violence 'from above' or 'from below'? The Role of Ethnicity in Bosnia's Civil War." *Journal of Politics* 73(4): 1178–1190.

Week 9 (11 November): Civil War Dynamics

- Cunningham, David E. 2006. "Veto Players and Civil War Duration." *American Journal of Political Science* 50(4): 875–892.
- Denny, Elaine K. and Barbara F. Walter. 2014. "Ethnicity and Civil War." *Journal of Peace Research* 51(2): 199–212.
- Lacina, Bethany. 2006. "Explaining the Severity of Civil Wars." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 50(2): 276–289.
- Walter, Barbara F. 1997. "The Critical Barrier to Civil War Settlement." *International Organization* 51(3): 335–364.

Week 10 (18 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 (25 November): Repression

- Davenport, Christian. 2007. “State Repression and Political Order.” *Annual Review of Political Science* 10(1): 1–23.
- Hill Jr., Daniel and Zachary M. Jones. 2014. “An Empirical Evaluation of Explanations for State Repression.” *American Political Science Review* 108(3): 661–687.
- Rozenas, Arturas and Yuri M. Zhukov. 2019. “Mass Repression and Political Loyalty: Evidence from Stalin’s ‘Terror by Hunger’.” *American Political Science Review* 113(2): 569–583.
- Young, Lauren E. 2018. “The Psychology of State Repression: Fear and Dissent Decisions in Zimbabwe.” *American Political Science Review* 113(1): 140–155.

Week 12 (2 December): Human Rights

- Carey, Sabine C. 2007. “European Aid: Human Rights Versus Bureaucratic Inertia?” *Journal of Peace Research* 44(4): 447–464.
- Hafner-Burton, Emilie M. 2012. “International Regimes for Human Rights.” *Annual Review of Political Science* 15(1): 265–286.
- Peterson, Timothy M. and Leah Graham. 2011. “Shared Human Rights Norms and Military Conflict.” *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 55(2): 248–273.
- Poe, Steven C. 1991. “Human Rights and the Allocation of US Military Assistance.” *Journal of Peace Research* 28(2): 205–216.