

POP88364 — Consequences of Political Violence

Module Information	
Module Code	POP88364
Module Title	Consequences of Political Violence
Department	Political Science
Module Personnel	Dr Dino Hadzic
Academic Year	2026–27
Credit Weighting	5 credits
Semester	Semester 2
Contact Hours	10 hours of seminars (5 meetings)

Module Content	
Module Description	How does political violence alter preferences, identities, and social relations? Which consequences endure, and which dissipate over time? This module explores how exposure to violence shapes individuals, communities, and societies. Given the seminar format and the breadth of the field, the module focuses selectively on five core topics rather than attempting a comprehensive survey: (a) the effects of violence on political engagement, (b) its consequences for social preferences, including trust and intergroup attitudes, (c) its effects on political preferences and electoral behavior, (d) the long-run legacies of colonial violence, and (e) the gendered consequences of armed conflict. Students engage directly with the primary research literature, with the aim of identifying the major empirical and theoretical insights in each area and considering opportunities for extending this research.
Module Learning Aims	This module aims to introduce students to the literature on the consequences of political violence, with a focus on individual- and community-level outcomes. It develops students' ability to engage critically with primary research, identify unresolved questions in the field, and formulate feasible research designs to address them. The module also aims to cultivate the seminar discussion and scholarly writing skills essential for postgraduate research.

Module Content

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

- Analyze how exposure to political violence affects individual and collective political engagement.
- Evaluate the evidence on how violence shapes social preferences, including trust, cooperation, and intergroup attitudes.
- Assess how political violence influences electoral behavior, voting patterns, and broader political attitudes.
- Critically evaluate the long-run political and economic legacies of colonial violence.
- Analyze the gendered consequences of armed conflict, including effects on women's political representation and post-conflict institutional outcomes.
- Identify gaps in existing research and formulate original, theoretically grounded research questions.
- Design a feasible research project – including theory, hypotheses, and research design – suitable for development into an MSc dissertation.

Assessment

Assessment Components

Research Paper/Proposal: 50%
Response Papers: 30%
Participation: 20%

Additional Information

Prerequisites

None

Co-requisites

None