

Political Violence A | POU33091

Year	Junior Sophister
ECTS Credits	5
Contact Hours	20 hours of lectures, 5 hours of tutorials
Pre-requisite	N/A
Semester	1
Module Leader & Lecturer	Dr Liam Kneafsey
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Module Outline

Learning Outcomes:

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

- Understand how, and under what conditions, the social construction of identity can contribute to civil conflict
- Appreciate how other structural factors, such as poverty, lead to civil conflict
- Evaluate how different research methodologies generate different types of insight into the causes of civil conflict
- Explain variation in the organisation, purpose, and production of violence by insurgencies and states
- Identify the psychological processes that underlie participation in violence
- Assess the necessary factors that affect the likelihood of conflict resolution in a divided society

Module Learning Aims:

This module aims to build students' understanding of the causes, nature, organisation, justification and resolution of violent conflict

Module Content:

This module examines how, and to what end, violence is practiced. We address directly some of the biggest and oldest questions in the study of comparative politics: why are some societies prone to civil conflict, while others are not? When do political actors resort to violence over a peaceful solution to conflict? Why are some societies prone to political violence, while others are not? Why do individuals participate in collective violence? How, if at all, do the perpetrators of political violence justify their actions? And how, and under what conditions, does violence end?

Assessment

Participation 5%

1 mid-term essay 35%

1 end-of-term essay 60%

Recommended Reading List

Tilly, Charles. 2003. *The Politics of Collective Violence*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press

Weinstein, Jeremy. M. 2006. *Inside rebellion: The politics of insurgent violence*. Cambridge University Press

Kalyvas, Stathis. 2006. *The Logic of Violence in Civil War*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press

Chenoweth, Erica, and Maria J. Stephan. 2011 *Why civil resistance works: The strategic logic of nonviolent conflict*. Columbia University Press