

## Political Violence B | POU33102

Year	Junior Sophister
ECTS Credits	5
Contact Hours	20 hours of lectures, 5 hours of tutorials
Pre-requisite	Nil
Semester	2
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:

- Identify the key determinants of civil conflict in a range of empirical settings, including the countries of the Mano river basin, Ukraine, Rwanda, Northern Ireland, Colombia, Syria and Sri Lanka
- Explain how the design of political institutions can undermine political stability and, conversely, encourage cooperation between competing social groups in various periods and settings
- Identify the processes by which societies become polarised in different historical and cultural contexts
- Evaluate the strengths and limitations of theoretical approaches to explaining the practice of political violence as applied to a variety of case studies

#### Module Learning Aims:

This module aims to build students' understanding of the casual mechanics underlying conflicts across a variety of settings and periods, the character of the violence in these conflicts, and the prospects for resolution.

#### Module Content:

Drawing on major theoretical approaches to the explanation of violence, we apply these theoretical frameworks to an empirical examination of political violence in a range of periods and settings, including Rwanda, Sri Lanka, Ukraine, Syria, Ireland, Sierra Leone, and others. We explore how and to what extent the major approaches in the scholarship explain the reality of conflict in different, regional, cultural, and historical contexts.

### Assessment

Tutorial Attendance and Discussion: 5%

1 Essay Assignment: 35%

1 Essay Assignment: 60%

## Recommended Reading List

Rabinovich, I., & Valensi, C. (2021). *Syrian requiem: The civil war and its aftermath*.

Princeton University Press

Prunier, Gérard. 1998. *The Rwanda Crisis: History of a Genocide*. London: Hurst

Tessler, Mark. 2009. *A History of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict*. Indiana University Press

Price, Robert. 1991. *The Apartheid State in Crisis: Political Transformation in South Africa*.

Oxford: Oxford University Press

O'Leary, Brendan and John McGarry. 1996. *The Politics of Antagonism: Understanding*

*Northern Ireland*