

POU33102 — Political Violence B: Political Violence and Conflict in Comparative Context

Module Information	
Module Code	<i>POU33102</i>
Module Title	<i>Political Violence B: Political Violence and Conflict in Comparative Context</i>
Department	<i>Political Science</i>
Year Group	<i>Junior Sophister</i>
Module Personnel	<i>Liam Kneafsey</i>
Academic Year	<i>2026-27</i>
Credit Weighting	<i>5 ECTS</i>
Semester	<i>Semester 2</i>
Contact Hours	<i>2 lectures per week; One tutorial biweekly</i>

Module Content	
Module Description	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.
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 Content

Indicative Reading / Resources

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

Khalidi, Rashid. 2020. *The Hundred Years' War on Palestine: A History of Settler Colonialism and Resistance, 1917–2017*. Metropolitan Books.

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*

Assessment

Assessment Components

Participation (10%); Essay (30%); Final Comparative Case Study Paper (60%)

Additional Information

Prerequisites

None

Co-requisites

None