

## CONFLICT AND WORLD POLITICS

GVPT 808B  
Spring 2010  
W 12:30-3:15  
TYD 1136

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Tu 10-12 & by app't

### Introduction

This graduate seminar is an important part of an initiative to develop a new research program within CIDCM that focuses on the integrated study of civil, transnational and international conflict. It is the first course in a two-course sequence. While this course centers on reading and critically evaluating significant literatures, the follow-up seminar (808c) will focus on student research projects, including hopefully dissertation ideas and topics. More specifically, the primary objectives of this seminar are to: a) identify the strengths and weaknesses of existing work, b) think about what questions could be addressed in future research and how to design new research projects, c) help prepare PhD students for their prelim in world politics, and d) help students identify possible topics of interest which they may pursue as part of their agenda for future research.

For this seminar the syllabus will be divided into three central topics:

**Emergence and Onset of Violence:** The readings in this section will center on theories and findings that are relevant to both domestic and international conflicts and help to draw out possible inter-relationships between the two.

**Conduct and Termination of War:** In the second section we will focus on a common set of questions that can be asked about what factors shape the duration, outcome, and termination of civil and international wars.

**Post-War Recovery and Stability:** In this final section once again we will examine literatures that are potentially useful in explaining common research questions cutting across civil and international conflicts such as the impact of third party peacekeeping and peacebuilding and the duration of post-war peace.

This seminar then fits centrally into the larger vision of the research agenda of the Program for the Integrated Study of Civil, Transnational and International Conflict in which the unifying approach is to:

- 1) Develop and draw upon common theoretical concepts and arguments to address similar questions about the dynamics of civil, transnational, and international conflict.
- 2) Pay close attention to how domestic conflict outcomes influence transnational and international conflict and vice versa.
- 3) Focus on deriving deductive arguments with well-specified hypotheses.
- 4) Collect new and original data sets that can be tested with sophisticated statistical methods when possible.

In sum, this seminar is integral to the larger goal of establishing within CIDCM a coherent program for the study of civil and international conflict that will:

- A) Stimulate and sustain first-rate scholarship by faculty and graduate students
- B) Enhance graduate training and mentorship
- C) Promote the national and international reputation of the University of Maryland as a center of excellence in social science research.

### **Course Requirements**

Course requirements are as follows:

1. Weekly participation in seminar discussion = 50%
2. Three short research design papers = 25%
3. A final in-class exam = 25%

Active participation in the weekly seminar meetings is essential to the success of the seminar. As a result, I expect students to: (a) carefully read the assigned materials, and (b) be well prepared and willing to contribute to the give-and-take of the seminar discussions. Three short research papers (about 5 double spaced pages) are also required over the course of the term. The papers are due generally at the end of each of the three major sections of the course syllabus. As a result, students will have the opportunity and be required to write proposals for research projects that address the full range of topics listed in the syllabus. At the end of the semester a final exam will cover all of the assigned readings and test whether students have developed a sound understanding of key concepts, theories, and empirical findings.

### **Please Note**

The Student Honor Council encourages any individuals teaching a course Spring semester to include the following information in the course syllabus: The University of Maryland, College Park has a nationally recognized Code of Academic Integrity, administered by the Student Honor Council. This Code sets standards for academic integrity at Maryland for all undergraduate and graduate students. As a student you are responsible for upholding these standards for this course. It is very important for you to be aware of the consequences of cheating, fabrication, facilitation, and plagiarism. For more information on the Code of Academic Integrity or the Student Honor Council, please visit <http://www.studenthonorcouncil.umd.edu/whatis.html>.

For more information contact:

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The following books have been ordered at the University Bookstore:

Dan Reiter and Allan Stam, **Democracies at War**  
Barbara Walter, **Reputation and Civil War**.  
Bruce Russett and John Oneal, **Triangulating Peace**  
Dan Reiter, **How Wars End**.  
Idean Salehyan, **Rebels Without Borders**

## Seminar Readings

### Week 1, January 27

Introduction

#### SECTION I: THE ONSET OF CRISES, ARMED CONFLICTS, AND WAR

### Week 2, February 3

*Topic: Overview of Widely Used Conflict Data Sets*

#### **A: International Armed Conflict Data Sets:**

COW interstate wars (<http://www.correlatesofwar.org/datasets.htm>)

COW MIDs (<http://www.correlatesofwar.org/datasets.htm>)

ICB (<http://www.cidcm.umd.edu/icb/dataviewer/>)

Uppsala armed conflict data set ([http://www.pcr.uu.se/research/UCDP/our\\_data1.htm](http://www.pcr.uu.se/research/UCDP/our_data1.htm))

PRIO data set on battle deaths ([http://www.prio.no/CSCW/Datasets/Armed-Conflict/Battle Deaths/](http://www.prio.no/CSCW/Datasets/Armed-Conflict/Battle_Deaths/))

#### **B: Civil War Data Sets:**

COW Civil War Dataset (<http://www.correlatesofwar.org/datasets.htm>)

PRIO Center for Study of Civil War homepage (<http://www.prio.no/cscw/>)

PRIO CSCW Datasets (<http://new.prio.no/CSCW-Datasets/>)

Sambanis Civil War Dataset (<http://pantheon.yale.edu/~ns237/index/research.html#Data>)

Gleditsch et al data set (<http://privatewww.essex.ac.uk/~ksg/eacd.html>)

#### **C: Other Domestic Conflict Data Sets:**

POLITY (<http://www.cidcm.umd.edu/polity/data/>)

MAR (<http://www.cidcm.umd.edu/inscr/mar/>)

EPR (<http://dvn-iq.harvard.edu/dvn.dv/epr>)

State Failure (<http://globalpolicy.gmu.edu/pitf/>)

#### **D: Human Rights Data Sets:**

Political Terror Scale (<http://www.unca.edu/politicalscience/images/Colloquium/faculty-staff/gibney.html>)

The CIRI Human Rights Data Project (<http://ciri.binghamton.edu/>)

### Week 3-4, February 10 & 17

*Topic: Territorial Conflict*

A: International

Paul Huth, "Territory: Why Are Territorial Disputes between States a Central Cause of International Conflict?" in John Vasquez ed., **What Do We Know About War?**, 85-110.

Paul Hensel et al., “Bones of Contention” **Journal of Conflict Resolution** 52,1 (2008):117-43.

M. Taylor Fravel, **Strong Borders, Secure Nation**, chs.1,4.

Tanisha Fazal, **State Death**, chs.3,4,7.

B: Internal

Lars-Erik Cederman et al., “Why Do Ethnic Groups Rebel?” **World Politics** 62,1 (2010):87-119.

Nils Weidmann, “Geography as Motivation and Opportunity” **Journal of Conflict Resolution** 53,4 (2009):526-43.

Matthew Fuhrmann and Jaroslav Tir, “Territorial Dimensions of Enduring Internal Rivalries” **Conflict Management and Peace Science** 26,4 (2009):307-30.

Stephen Saideman and Erin Jenne, “The International Relations of Ethnic Conflict” in Manus Midlarsky ed., **Handbook of War Studies III**, 260-79.

Idean Salehyan, **Rebels Without Borders**, chs.1-3.

Kristian Gleditsch et al., “Fighting at Home, Fighting Abroad” **Journal of Conflict Resolution** 52,4 (2008):479-506.

**Weeks 5-6, February 24 & March 3**

***Topic: Is there a Democratic Peace?***

A: International

Bruce Russett and John Oneal, **Triangulating Peace**, chs.2-3.

Paul Huth and Todd Allee, **The Democratic Peace and Territorial Conflict in the Twentieth Century**, chs.4-5, 7,9.

Douglas Ghibler, “Bordering on Peace” **International Studies Quarterly** 51,3 (2007):509-32.

Edward Mansfield and Jack Snyder, **Electing to Fight**, chs.3,6.

Vipin Narang and Rebecca Nelson, “Who Are Those Belligerent Democratizers?” **International Organization** 63,2 (2009):357-80.

Edward Mansfield and Jack Snyder, "Pathways to War in Democratic Transitions" **International Organization** 63,2 (2009):380-90.

B: Internal

Nils Petter Gleditsch, Havard Hegre, and Havard Strand, "Democracy and Civil War" in Manus Midlarsky ed., **Handbook of War Studies III**, 155-92.

Christian Davenport, **Bullets and Ballots: State Repression and the Promise of Democratic Peace**, chs.2,4-5.

Jack Snyder, **From Voting to Violence**, chs.2,6.

## **Week 7, March 10**

*Topic: Economics and Conflict*

A: International

Bruce Russett and John Oneal, **Triangulating Peace**, ch.4

Han Dorussen, "Heterogeneous Trade Interests and Conflict" **Journal of Conflict Resolution** 50,1 (2006):87-107.

Patrick McDonald, **The Invisible Hand of Peace**, chs.3-5.

B: Internal

Havard Hegre and Nicholas Sambanis, "Sensitivity Analysis of Empirical Results on Civil War Onset" **Journal of Conflict Resolution** 50,4 (2006):508-35.

Macartan Humphreys and Jeremy Weinstein, "Who Fights? The Determinants of Participation in Civil War" **American Journal of Political Science** 52,2 (2008):436-55.

Havard Hegre et al., "Poverty and Civil War Events" **Journal of Conflict Resolution** 53,4 (2009):598-623.

Margit Bussmann and Gerald Schneider, "When Globalization Discontent Turns Violent" **International Studies Quarterly** 51,1 (2007):79-98.

## **MARCH 12: FIRST RESEARCH DESIGN PAPER DUE**

**Spring Break, March 17**

## Week 8, March 24

### *Topic: Deterrence and Coercive Bargaining*

A: International

As general theoretical background reading see James Fearon, "Rationalist Explanations of War" **International Organization** 49,3 (1995):379-414.

Paul Huth, **Extended Deterrence and the Prevention of War**, chs.2-4.

Paul Huth, "Deterrence and International Conflict" **Annual Review of Political Science** vol.2, 25-48.

Kenneth Schultz, **Democracy and Coercive Diplomacy**, ch.6.

B: Internal

As general theoretical background see Mark Lichbach, "Internal Wars over the State" in Manus Midlarsky ed., **Handbook of War Studies III**, 100-54.

Barbara Walter, **Reputation and Civil War**, chs.2,4-5,8.

James Fearon and David Laitin, "Ethnicity, Insurgency, and Civil War" **American Political Science Review** 97,1 (2003): 75-90.

## SECTION II: THE CONDUCT AND TERMINATION OF WARS

## Week 9, March 31

### *Topic: Victory and Defeat in War*

A: International

Dan Reiter and Allan Stam, **Democracies at War**, chs.1-3.

Michael Desch, "Democracy and Victory" **International Security** 27,2 (2002):5-47.

Alexander Downes, "How Smart and Tough are Democracies?" **International Security** 33,4 (2009):9-51.

B: Internal

David Mason, Joseph Weingarten, and Patrick Fett, "Win, Lose, or Draw" **Political Research Quarterly** 52,2 (1999):239-68.

Halvard Buhaug et al., "Geography, Rebel Capability, and the Duration of Civil Conflict" **Journal of Conflict Resolution** 53,4 (2009):544-69.

David Cunningham et al., "It Takes Two" **Journal of Conflict Resolution** 53,4 (2009):544-69.

Stephen Gent, "Going In When It Counts" **International Studies Quarterly** 52,4 (2008):713-36.

## **Week 10, April 7**

### ***Topic: Civilian Consequences of War***

#### A. International

Alexander Downes, **Targeting Civilians in War**, chs.1-2.

Benjamin Valentino, Paul Huth, and Sarah Croco, "Covenants Without the Sword" **World Politics** 58,3 (2006):339-77.

#### B. Internal

Stathis Kalyvas, **The Logic of Violence in Civil War**, ch.6.

Jeremy Weinstein, **Inside Rebellion**, ch.6.

Scott Straus, **The Order of Genocide**, chs.2,6.

Benjamin Valentino, Paul Huth, and Dylan Balch-Lindsay, "Draining the Sea" **International Organization** 58,2 (2004):375-407.

Kristine Eck and Lisa Hultman, "One-Sided Violence Against Civilians in War" **Journal of Peace Research** 44,2 (2007):233-46.

## **Week 11, April 14**

### ***Topic: War Termination***

#### A. International

H.E. Goemans, **War and Punishment**, chs.2-3.

Kristopher Ramsay, "Settling it on the Field" **Journal of Conflict Resolution** 52,6 (2008):850-79.

Dan Reiter, **How Wars End**, chs.2-3,9-10.

Sarah Croco, "Peace at What Price?" manuscript.

B. Internal

Barbara Walter, **Committing to Peace**, chs.2,4.

Navan Bapat, “Insurgency and the Opening of Peace Processes” **Journal of Peace Research** 42,6 (2005):699-717.

## **APRIL 19: SECOND RESEARCH DESIGN PAPER DUE**

### **SECTION III: POST-WAR PEACEBUILDING**

#### **Weeks 12-13, April 21 & 28**

*Topic: International Efforts to Build and Sustain the Peace*

A. International

Suzanne Werner and Amy Yuen, “Making and Keeping Peace” **International Organization** 59,2 (2005): 261-92.

Virginia Page Fortna, **Peace Time**, chs.1,5-6.

Nigel Lo, Barry Hashimoto, and Dan Reiter, “Ensuring Peace” **International Organization** 62,4 (2008):717-36.

B. Internal

Monica Duffy Toft, **Securing the Peace**, chs.1-4.

Virginia Page Fortna, **Does Peacekeeping Work?**, chs.4-5.

Thomas Chapman and Philip Roeder, “Partition as a Solution to Wars of Nationalism” **American Political Science Review** 101,4 (2007):677-91.

Carter Johnson, “Partitioning to Peace” **International Security** 32,4 (2008):140-70.

Nicholas Sambanis and Jonah Schulhofer-Wohl, “What’s in a Line?” **International Security** 34,2 (2009):82-118.

#### **Week 14, May 5**

*Topic: Democratization and Regime Change*

Michael Doyle and Nicholas Sambanis, **Making War & Building Peace**, chs.2-3.

Bruce Bueno de Mesquita and George Downs, "Intervention and Democracy" **International Organization** 60,3 (2006):627-49.

Mehmet Gurses and T David Mason, "Democracy out of Anarchy" **Social Science Quarterly** 89,2 (2008):315-36.

Roland Paris, **At War's End**, chs.9-10.

Jeffrey Pickering and Mark Peceny, "Forging Democracy At Gunpoint" **International Studies Quarterly** 50,3 (2006):539-60.

**MAY 7: THIRD RESEARCH DESIGN PAPER DUE**

**Week 15, May 12**

***IN-CLASS FINAL EXAM***