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G53.3500, section 1  
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## *Civil Wars*

In this seminar we will study the mechanisms underlying the emergence of civil wars and distinct dynamics of violence in civil wars. Course readings will draw on a wide range of methodological approaches and cases. The principal requirement will be a research paper or proposal on a topic related to civil wars.

Thursday 10:00AM-12:00PM, Politics Department Rm 700.

Pre-requisites: Comparative Politics G53.1500.01 (PhD section)

Note: this course is intended for Politics Department PhD students. Others admitted only on permission of the instructor.

Office Hours: Wednesdays 4:30 - 6:30 (sign up on office door), Rm. 715, Politics Department, 726 Broadway, 998-8534

Requirements: Class members will be expected to participate actively in class. Over the course of the semester, each participant will write five reviews reviewing the week's readings and raising questions for discussion. Rather than summarizing the reading, reviews should critically assess it, analyzing research design, method, and evidence presented and raising questions for class discussion. Reviews should be no more than two single-spaced pages. The review should be sent by email to the instructor and other class members by 7:00 a.m. Thursday. Late reviews will not be read.

The principal writing requirement is a research paper exploring some topic related to civil wars or a research proposal on a related topic. In either case, the topic must be approved by the instructor. Participants will submit ancillary materials throughout the term, including an initial statement of the puzzle or argument, a bibliography, an outline, and a first draft.

### **Course Materials:**

Required books (available for purchase at the NYU Book Center):

- Stephen Ellis. 1999. *The Mask of Anarchy: The Destruction of Liberia and the Religious Dimension of an African Civil War*. New York University Press.
- James Ron. 2003. *Frontiers and Ghettos: State Violence in Serbia and Israel*. University of California.
- Charles Tilly. 2002. *The Politics of Collective Violence*. Cambridge.
- Elisabeth J. Wood. 2003. *Insurgent Collective Action and Civil War in El Salvador*. Cambridge.

1. September 4. Introduction

2. September 11. Case Study: El Salvador

Elisabeth J. Wood. 2003. *Insurgent Collective Action and Civil War in El Salvador*. Cambridge.

3. September 18. Case Study: Liberia

Stephen Ellis. 1999. *The Mask of Anarchy: The Destruction of Liberia and the Religious Dimension of an African Civil War*. New York University Press.

4. September 25. Contrasting methods of analysis and methodological challenges in civil war research I

Paul Collier and Anke Hoeffler. 2001. Greed and Grievance in Civil War. Unpublished paper; World Bank. [October 21, 2001 version].

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

Nicolas Sambanis. 2002. What is a Civil War? Conceptual and Empirical Complexities of an Operational Definition. Yale University, unpublished paper.

Michael Ross. How Does Natural Resource Wealth Influence Civil War? Unpublished paper.

Stathis Kalyvas. 2001. 'New' and 'Old' Civil Wars. A Valid Distinction? *World Politics* 54: 99-118.

Recommended:

Richard Snyder. Does Lutable Wealth Breed Disorder? A Political Economy of Extraction Framework. Unpublished Paper.

Nicholas Sambanis. 2002. A Review of Recent Advances and Future Directions in the Literature on Civil War. *Defense and Peace Economics* 13(2): 215-43.

Nicholas Sambani. 2003. Using Case Studies To Expand the Theory of Civil War. World Bank: Conflict Prevention and Reconstruction Unit, Working Paper No. 5

*State Failure Task Force Report: Phase III Findings*. September 30, 2003. (online)

5. October 2. Contrasting methods of analysis and methodological challenges in civil war research II

Elisabeth J. Wood. 2002. Ending Civil Wars: A Model of Robust Negotiated Settlements. Unpublished paper.

Joshua Epstein. 2002. Modeling Civil Violence: An Agent-based Computational Approach. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 9(3): 7243-50.

Stathis Kalyvas. N.d. Chapter 2 of *Logic of Collective Violence*. Unpublished manuscript.

6. Week of October 9 (day and time to be determined). Forms, mechanism, and dynamics of violence

Charles Tilly. 2002. *The Politics of Collective Violence*. Cambridge.

Recommended:

Roger Gould. 1991. Collective Violence and Group Solidarity: Evidence from a Feuding Society. *American Sociological Review*. 64: 356-80.

Robert Bates, Avner Greif, and Smita Singh. 2002. Organizing Violence. *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 46(5): 599-628.

Scott Gates. 2002. Recruitment and Allegiance: The Microfoundations of Rebellion. *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 46(1): 111-30.

Paul Azam and Anke Hoeffler. 2002. Violence Against Civilians in Civil Wars: Looting or Terror? *Journal of Peace Research* 39(4): 461-85.

7. October 16. Ethnic violence

Daniel L. Byman. 2002. Ethnic Conflict in Today's World and Causes of Ethnic Conflict. Chapters 1 and 2 of *Keeping the Peace: Lasting Solutions to Ethnic Conflicts*. Johns Hopkins University Press.

Rogers Brubaker and David D. Laitin. 1998. Ethnic and Nationalist Violence. *Annual Review of Sociology* 24: 423-52.

Jack Snyder and Robert Jervis. 1999. Civil War and the Security Dilemma. In Barbara F. Walter and Jack Snyder, eds., *Civil Wars, Insecurity, and Intervention*. Columbia.

James Fearon. Commitment Problems and the Spread of Ethnic Conflict. In David Lake and Donald Rothchild, eds. *The International Spread of Ethnic Conflict: Fear Diffusion, and Escalation*.

James D. Fearon and David Laitin. 2000. Violence and the Social Construction of Ethnic Identity. *International Organization* 54(4): 845-77.

Recommended:

James Fearon. 1995. Rationalist Explanations for War. *International Organization*. 49(3):379-414.

Roger Petersen. 2002. *Understanding Ethnic Violence: Fear, hatred, and Resentment in Twentieth-Century Eastern Europe*. Cambridge. 2002.

Ashutosh Varshney. 2002. *Ethnic Conflict and Civic Life: Hindus and Muslims in India*. Yale.

Russell Hardin. *One For All: The Logic of Group Conflict*. Princeton, 1995.

Beverly Crawford and Ronnie D. Lipschutz, eds. *The Myth of Ethnic Conflict: Politics, Economics and Cultural Violence*. Berkeley, 1999.

Norman M. Naimark. 2001. *Fires of Hatred. Ethnic Cleansing in Twentieth-Century Europe*. Harvard.

Barry Posen. 1993. The Security Dilemma and Ethnic Conflict. *Survival* 35(1): 27-47.

Monica Duffy Toft. 2003. *The Geography of Ethnic Violence*. Princeton.  
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Ravi Bhavnani and David Backer. 2002. Localized Ethnic Conflict and genocide: Accounting for Differences in Rwanda and Burundi. *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 44(3) 283-306

Kay B. Warren. 1993. *The Violence Within. Cultural and Political Opposition in Divided Nations*. Westview.

#### 8. October 23. Violence against collaborators

Stathis Kalyvas. 2000. The Logic of Violence in Civil War. Unpublished paper.

Stathis Kalyvas. 2002. The Logic of Violence in Civil War: Ethnic and Non-Ethnic Civil Wars. Unpublished paper.

Stathis Kalyvas and Matthew Kocher. 2003. Violence and Control in Civil War: An Analysis of the Hamlet Evaluation System. Paper presented to the APSA annual meeting.

#### 9. October 30. State violence

James Ron. 2003. *Frontiers and Ghettos: State Violence in Serbia and Israel*. University of California.

#### Recommended:

Matthew Krain. 1997. State-sponsored Mass Murder: The Onset and Severity of Genocides and Politicides. *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 41(3): 331-60.

Benjamin Valentino. 2000. Final Solutions: The Causes of Mass Killings and Genocides. *Security Studies* 9(3): 1-59.

Charles Tilly. 1985. War Making and State Making as Organized Crime. In Peter R. Evans, Dietrich Rueschmeyer, and Theda Skocpol, eds., *Bringing the State Back In*. Cambridge.

William Reno. 2003. The Changing Nature of Warfare and the Absence of State-Building in West Africa. In *Irregular Armed Forces and Their Role in Politics and State Formation*. Diane E. David and Anthony W. Pereira, eds. Cambridge.

Barbara Harff. 2003. No Lessons Learned from the Holocaust? Assessing Risks of Genocide and Political Mass Murder since 1955. *American Political Science Review* 97(1):57-73.

Donna della Porta. 1995. *Social Movements, Political Violence and the State*. Cambridge.

Mark Mazower. 2002. Violence and the State in the Twentieth Century. *American Historical Review*. 197(4): 1158-78.

William Stanley. 1996. *The Protection Racket State*. Temple.

10. November 6. Patterns of Sexual Violence I

Joshua S. Goldstein. 2002. Conquest: sex, rape, and exploitation in wartime. Chapter 6 of *War and Gender*. Cambridge.

Cynthia Enloe. 2000. When Soldiers Rape. Chapter 4 of *Maneuvers: The International Politics of Militarizing Women's Lives*. California.

Christopher C. Taylor. 2002. The Cultural Face of Terror in the Rwandan Genocide of 1994. In *Annihilating Difference. The Anthropology of Genocide*. Ed Alexander Laban Hinton. California.

Recommended:

Antony Beevor. 2002. *The Fall of Berlin 1945*. Penguin Books.

11. November 13. Patterns of Sexual Violence II

Readings to be announced. LaShawn Jefferson, Director of Women's Rights Division of Human Rights Watch will speak to class participants.

12. November 20. Typology of Civil Wars

Harry Eckstein. 1965. On the Etiology of Internal Wars. *History and Theory* 4(2):133-63.

James D. Fearon. 2001 Why Do Some Civil Wars Last So Much Longer than Others? Unpublished paper.

Sambanis, Nicholas. 2001. Do Ethnic and Non-Ethnic Civil Wars Have the Same Causes? A Theoretical and Empirical Inquiry (Part 1). *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 45(3): 259-282.

Steve R. David. 1997. Internal War: Causes and Cures. *World Politics* 49(4): 552-76.

13. Week of November 27 (meeting date and time to be determined). Dynamics of violence: models

Nicholas Sambanis and Annalisa Zinn. 2002. The Escalation of Self-Determination Movements: From Protest to Rebellion. Unpublished paper.

Roger Petersen. 2002. Chapters 2-4 of *Understanding Ethnic Violence: Fear, hatred, and Resentment in Twentieth-Century Eastern Europe*. Cambridge. 2002.

Scott Straus. 2003. Order in Dis-Order: A Micro-Perspective on Violence in Rwanda. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the APSA.

Recommended:

Martha Minow. 2002. *Breaking the Cycles of Hatred: Memory, Law, and Repair*. Princeton.

14. December 4. Conclusion: research presentations

Papers due: December 19, by email attachment. No late papers accepted unless approved beforehand by the instructor.