Politics of Civil Wars (INR6938.0001)
Credit: 3 Units

Professor Nikola Mirilovic

University of Central Florida

Fall 2013
Time: Tue 6:00PM - 8:50PM
Location: Business Administration (BA1) O207

Office	Phillips Hall 302 J
Office hours	Tue 12:00 PM-1:15 PM, 4:45-5:45 PM; Thu 11:30 AM-1:15 PM; or by appointment.
Voice	(407) 823-5082
Email	Via the course page in Canvas
Required book	Antony Beevor, *The Battle for Spain: The Spanish Civil War 1936-1939*. ISBN 978-0143037651. Stathis Kalyvas, *The Logic of Violence in Civil War*. ISBN 978-0521670043. Jeremy Weinstein, *Inside Rebellion: The Politics of Insurgent Violence*. 978-0521677974

Course description: In the contemporary world, civil wars occur more frequently and are associated with more casualties than interstate wars. In this course we explore the causes of civil war onset, the dynamics of violence within civil wars, and the international aspects of civil wars and of their resolution. We will address questions such as the links between nationalism and civil war and the determinants of external intervention into civil wars.

Course Goals: 1) Students will learn the fundamental perspectives and the key analytical tools needed to understand civil war onset, patterns of violence committed during civil wars, and the relevant international aspects of civil wars. 2) Students will further their knowledge of key facts relevant to the study of civil war. 3) Students will improve their writing, analytical and research skills.

Requirements: The final grade will be based on class participation, two short papers, a research design presentation, and a final paper. Participation will count for 10% of the final grade. The two short papers (5 pages each, double spaced, standard fonts and margins) will count for 40% of the final grade (20% each). The first paper is due on October 15, the second paper is due on November 5. The papers will assess your writing and analytical skills.

The final paper (15 pages, double spaced, standard fonts and margins) will count for 45% of your final grade. It is due on December 3. The final paper is a research design for an original research project on the politics of civil wars. The research design should include a research question, key hypotheses, an explanation of the relevant causal logic, a discussion of alternative arguments and a literature review, and an explanation for how the hypotheses will be tested.

Research design presentations (5% of the final grade) will be held in class on November 19. Students will formally present their research design project to their colleagues.

Class Participation: active participation is expected in every class. Students should be prepared to identify, explain and critique arguments from the readings.

Course Correspondence and Canvas: All correspondence with the instructor will be via Canvas. I will usually respond to your message within 48 hours on business days.

Paper Lateness Policy: The penalty for submitting a paper late is 10 points (one letter grade) for each calendar day of lateness (i.e., an A paper submitted a day late will receive a grade of B; if submitted two days late it will receive a grade of C, etc.). Papers submitted after graded papers have been returned to the other students will not be accepted.

UCF Disability Statement: The University of Central Florida is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. This syllabus is available in alternate formats upon request. Students with disabilities who need accommodations in this course must contact the professor at the beginning of the semester to discuss needed accommodations. No accommodations will be provided until the student has met with the professor to request accommodations. Students who need accommodations must be registered with Student Disability Services, Ferrell Commons Room 132, phone (407) 823-2371, TTY/TDD only phone (407) 823-2116, before requesting accommodations from the professor.

UCF Rules of Conduct: As reflected in the UCF creed, integrity and scholarship are core values that should guide our conduct and decisions as members of the UCF community. Plagiarism and cheating are very serious academic offenses. Please refer to the University's Rules of Conduct (available at: http://www.osc.sdes.ucf.edu) for more information on these issues. Failure to comply with university rules may subject violator(s) to appropriate action by university authorities and/or appropriate civil authorities. The penalty for students who plagiarize or cheat on an exam or an assignment will include a grade of F on that exam or assignment.

University Writing Center (UWC) support: UWC (location: Colbourn 105) offers writing support to UCF students from first-year to graduate in every discipline. Trained peer consultants provide help at every stage of the writing process, including understanding assignments, researching, drafting, revising, incorporating sources, and learning to proofread and edit. The UWC's purpose is not merely to fix papers or to make better writers, but to teach writers strategies to navigate complex situations for writing, both in and outside the University. Consultations are available for individuals and small groups. To make the best use of the UWC, visit far enough before your due date to allow yourself time to revise

after your consultation, browse the writing resources on our website, and arrange a regular weekly appointment if you'd like long-term help. You may schedule a 45-minute appointment by phone or by using the TutorTrac scheduler on our website; walk-in consultations are also available.

Grading Scale:

Letter Grade	Points
A	93 – 100 points
A-	90 – 92 points
B+	87 – 89 points
B	83 – 86 points
B-	80 – 82 points
C+	77 – 79 points
C	73 – 76 points
C-	70 – 72 points
D+	67 – 69 points
D	63 – 66 points
D-	60 – 62 points
F	59 and below

Part I: Introduction, Definitions, Cases and Global Trends

Week 1: August 20: Introductory session

No readings

Week 2: August 27: Defining Civil War and Global Trends

Nils Petter Gleditsch, et al. 2002. "Armed Conflict 1946-2001: A New Dataset." *Journal of Peace Research* 39(5): 615-637.

Nicholas Sambanis. 2004. "What Is Civil War?: Conceptual and Empirical Complexities of an Operational Definition." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 48(6): 814-858.

Stathis Kalyvas. 2001. "New and Old Civil Wars: A Valid Distinction?" *World Politics* 54(1):99-118.

Mark Gersovitz and Norma Kriger. 2013. "What Is a Civil War? A Critical Review of Its Definition and (Econometric) Consequences." *The World Bank Research Observer* 28:159–190.

Week 3: September 3: Spain

Antony Beevor, *The Battle for Spain: The Spanish Civil War 1936-1939*.

Week 4: September 10: Sri Lanka

Benedikt Korf. 2005. "Rethinking the Greed–Grievance Nexus: Property Rights and the Political Economy of War in Sri Lanka." *Journal of Peace Researc.* 42(2): 201-217.

Neil DeVotta. 2009. "The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam and the Lost Quest for Separatism in Sri Lanka." *Asian Survey*. 49(6): 1021-1051.

James Fearon and David Laitin. 2011. "Sons of the Soil, Migrants, and Civil War." *World Development* 39(2): 199–211.

Sirimal Abeyratne. 2004. "Economic Roots of Political Conflict: The Case of Sri Lanka." *The World Economy* 27(8): 1295–1314.

Week 5: September 17: Yugoslavia

V. P. Gagnon, Jr. 2004. *The Myth of Ethnic War: Serbia and Croatia in the 1990s.* Chapters 4 and 5.

Robert Kaplan. 1994. *Balkan Ghosts*. Pp. 3-49, 71-76.

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

Woodward, Susan. 1995. *Balkan Tragedy: Chaos and Dissolution After the Cold War*. pp. 1-21, 223-251.

Part II: Causes of Civil War Onset and Patterns of Civil War Violence

Week 6: September 24: Understanding Nationalism

Anthony Smith. 1986. *The Ethnic Origins of Nations*. Pp. 1-46, 129-153, 209-226.

Ernest Gellner. 1983. *Nations and Nationalism.* Pp. 1-62, 88-109, 137-143.

Week 7: October 1: Nationalism, Ethnicity and Conflict

Donald Horowitz. 1985. *Ethnic Groups in Conflict*. Chapters 4 and 5.

Nicholas Sambanis. 2001. "Do Ethnic and Nonethnic Civil Wars Have the Same Causes?" *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 45(3):259-282.

Consuelo Cruz. 2000. "Identity and Persuasion: How Nations Remember Their Pasts and Make Their Futures," *World Politics* 52(3): 275-312.

Week 8: October 8: Grievances and Opportunities

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

Paul Collier and Anke Hoeer. 2004. "Greed and Grievance in Civil War." *Oxford Economic Papers* 56: 563-595.

Michael Ross. 2004. "How Do Natural Resources Influence Civil War?: Evidence from Thirteen Cases." *International Organization,* 58(1): 35-67.

Tedd Gurr. 1993. "Why Minorities Rebel: A Global Analysis of Communal Mobilization and Conflict since 1945" *International Political Science Review* 14(2): 161-201.

Week 9: October 15: Violence Patterns (Part I)

Stathis Kalyvas. 2006. *The Logic of Violence in Civil War*.

NOTE: first paper due

Week 10: October 22: Violence Patterns (Part II)

Jeremy Weinstein. 2007. *Inside Rebellion: The Politics of Insurgent Violence*.

Week 11: October 29: Civil War and Mass Killings

T. David Mason and Dale A. Krane. 1989. "The Political Economy of Death Squads: Toward a Theory of the Impact of State-Sanctioned Terror." *International Studies Quarterly* 33(2): 175-198.

Jason Lyall. 2009. "Does Indiscriminate Violence Incite Insurgent Attacks?" *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 53(3):331-362.

Matthew Krain. 1997. "State Sponsored Mass Murder: The Onset and Severity of Genocides and Politicides."*Journal of Conflict Resolution* 41(3):331-360.

Michael Mann. 2005. *The Dark Side of Democracy: Explaining Ethnic Cleansing*, pp. 1-33.

Part III: International Elements

Week 12: November 5: International Intervention, Diasporas and Conflict

Dylan Balch-Lindsay, Andrew Enterline, and Kyle Joyce. 2008. "Third-Party Intervention and the Civil War Process." Journal of Peace Research 45(3): 345–363.

Saideman, Stephen M. 2001. *The Ties That Divide: Ethnic Politics, Foreign Policy, and International Conflict*. pp. 1-29.

Charles King and Neil J. Melvin, 1999. "Diaspora Politics Ethnic Linkages, Foreign Policy, and Security in Eurasia" *International Security* 24(3): 108-138.

Stephen Van Evera, 1994. "Hypotheses on Nationalism and War" *International Security* 18(4): 5-39.

NOTE: second paper due at the beginning of class.

Week 13: November 12: Civil War and Secession

Barbara Walter. 2006. "Building Reputation: Why Governments Fight Some Separatists but Not Others." *American Journal of Political Science* 50(2):313-330.

Chaim Kaufmann. 1996. "Possible and Impossible Solutions to Ethnic Civil Wars." *International Security* 20(4):136-175.

Saideman, Stephen M. 1997. "Explaining the International Relations of Secessionist Conflicts: Vulnerability vs. Ethnic Ties," *International Organization* 51(4): 721-753.

Herbst, Jeffrey. 1989. "The Creation and Maintenance of National Boundaries in Africa*" International Organization*. 43(4): 673-692.

Week 14: November 19: Research Design Presentations

Week 15: November 26: International Recognition

Stephen Krasner. 1999. *Sovereignty: Organized Hypocrisy*. Chapters TBA.

Bridget Coggins. 2011. "Friends in High Places: International Politics and the Emergence of States from Secessionism." *International Organization* 65 (433-67).

Nikola Mirilovic, David Siroky, and Joshua Caron. "Contested Recognition: Quantitative Evidence from Cases of Disputed Sovereignty."

NOTE: The final paper is due December 3. Please submit a hard copy at the political science department office (HPH 3rd Floor) by 2 pm.