Politics of Civil Wars (INR6068.0001)
Credit: 3 Units

Professor Nikola Mirilovic

University of Central Florida
Spring 2016
Time: Thu 6:00PM - 8:50PM
Location: Howard Phillips Hall (HPH) O305G

Office	Phillips Hall 311 D
Office hours	Tue 12:00 PM-1:15 PM; Thu 3:00 PM-5:45 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 lead to 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 research design. Participation will count for 15% of the final grade. The short papers (6 pages, double spaced, standard fonts and margins) will each count for 20% of the final grade. The papers will assess your writing and analytical skills. The research design (15 pages, double spaced, standard fonts and margins) is 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, clearly identifying the data and the methods. The research design accounts for 40% of the final grade.

Research presentations (5% of the final grade): students will formally present their research 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.

Academic Activity and Financial Aid: As of Fall 2014, all faculty members are required to document students' academic activity at the beginning of each course. In order to document that you began this course, please complete the following academic activity no later than Friday, August 28 by 5:00 pm: on the course page on Webcourses, post a brief description (up to a paragraph) of why you are interested in taking this course. Failure to do so will result in a delay in the disbursement of your financial aid (but this academic activity is not graded and has no impact on your final grade).

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, Student Resource Center, 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: January 14: Introductory session
No readings

Week 2: January 21: 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.

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

Week 3: January 28: Spain

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

Week 4: February 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 Research.* 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: February 11: 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): 27-47.

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

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

Week 6: February 18: Civil War Onset

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

Paul Collier and Anke Hoeffler. 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.

Michael Mousseau. 2012. "Capitalist Development and Civil War." *International Studies Quarterly* 56: 470–483.

Week 7: February 25: Violence Patterns (Part I)

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

NOTE: first paper due at the beginning of class

Week 8: March 3: Violence Patterns (Part II)

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

Week 9: March 10: No class (spring break)

Week 10: March 17: Paper 2 due (to be uploaded by 11:59 PM)

No class (Professor attending a conference)

Week 11: March 24: 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.

Week 12: March 31: Research design presentations

Week 13: April 7: Research design presentations

Part III: International Elements

Week 14: April 14: International Intervention, Secession, and Civil War

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.

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 15: April 21: International Recognition

Stephen Krasner. 1999. *Sovereignty: Organized Hypocrisy*. pp. 3-72, 220-238.

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

Nikola Mirilovic and David Siroky. 2015. "Two States in the Holy Land?: International Recognition and the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict" *Politics and Religion* 8(2): 263-285

NOTE: Research design project is due at the beginning of class.

Note: This syllabus is subject to change at the instructor's discretion if necessary. Changes to the syllabus, if any, will be announced in class and the updated syllabus will be posted on Canvas.