Syllabus

Insurgency Terrorism and Civil War - 58390

Last update 07-11-2016

HU Credits: 4

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: international relations

Academic year: 0

Semester: 1st Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Dr. Devorah Manekin

Coordinator Email: d.manekin@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: Tuesday, 2:30-3:30

Teaching Staff:
Dr. Devorah Sarah Manekin
Course/Module description:
This course focuses on internal conflicts, the most prevalent form of political violence today. We will discuss explanations for conflict onset, conflict dynamics, and conflict termination. We will examine the strategies of non-state armed groups and the ways in which states respond to their challenges. The course is organized thematically, but we will survey a variety of conflicts through course readings.

Course/Module aims:
1. To learn the main topics and research in the area of internal conflict;
2. To analyze and critique concepts and theories regarding such conflicts;
3. To improve the ability to read and understand social science literature
4. To better understand different methods for academic research about conflict, the difference between these methods and other forms of writing (e.g. journalism, NGO reports), and the strengths and limitations of different methods.

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:
Students who successfully complete this course should be able to (1) distinguish between different definitions for insurgency, terrorism, and civil war (3) better understand why and when internal conflicts break out, and what causes their dynamics to vary (4) identify and critically analyze different methodologies in social science

Attendance requirements(%):
90%

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Lecture + active discussion in class

Course/Module Content:
Part I: Introduction and concepts
1. Introduction
2. Concepts - civil wars
3. Concepts - insurgency and terrorism
4. Method - how will we study internal conflict?
Part II: Civil war onset
5. Greed or grievances?
6. Natural resources
7. Ethnic conflict
8. Back to grievances
9. Civil war duration  
Part III: Conflict dynamics  
10. Who fights?  
11. Insurgent organization  
12. Civilians during insurgency  
13. Counterinsurgency  
14. Patterns of violence a: selective vs. indiscriminate violence  
15. Patterns of violence b: organization and discipline  
16. Patterns of violence c: sexual violence  
17. Patterns of violence d: extra-lethal violence  
Part IV: Terrorism  
18. Terrorism: external aspects  
19. Terrorism: internal aspects  
20. Effectiveness  
21. Policy implications  
Part V: Conflict termination  
22. Conflict outcomes  
23. Conflict’s aftermath  
24. The Syrian Civil War  
25. Review and conclusion

**Required Reading:**

1. Introduction  
2. Concepts - Civil Wars  


3. Definitions: Terrorism and Insurgency  


4. How will we study internal conflict?
5. Greed or grievances?


6. Resources


7. Ethnicity


8. Back to grievances


9. Civil war duration


10. Who fights?


11. Organization of insurgency


12. Civilians in conflict

13. Counterinsurgency

14. Violence patterns A

15. Violence patterns B

OR


16. Violence patterns C

17. Violence patterns D

18. Terrorism: external aspects

19. Terrorism: internal aspects

20. Effectiveness
21. Policy implications
And ONE of the following:

22. Conflict outcomes

Staniland, Paul. “States, Insurgents, and Wartime Political Orders.” Perspectives on Politics (June 2012).

23. Conflict's aftermath

24. The Syrian Civil War: Readings TBD

Additional Reading Material:
See course website

Course/Module evaluation:
End of year written/oral examination 45 %
Presentation 0 %
Participation in Tutorials 25 %
Project work 0 %
Assignments 30 %
Reports 0 %
Research project 0 %
Quizzes 0 %
Other 0 %

Additional information:
The full and final syllabus can be found on the course website.