Ethnic Conflicts in Comparative Perspective - 27994- POLS 30592 – 01
Spring 2010 Syllabus
Political Science Department lecture
Edward J. DeBartolo Hall 215, 09:30 am - 10:45 pm, TR
3   Credit Hours
Professor Alexander Bligh
Department of Political Science
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Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday, 11:15-12:00 a.m., 1:00-1:45 p.m.
and by appointment.

Course Description

Most nations today may be considered as multi-cultural, that is: they are comprised of at least two distinct societies based on different cultures. About 5000 ethnic groups are found today in about 200 nations. It is evident that in spite of the high hopes since the collapse of the Communist Block the number of ethnic conflicts increased dramatically. At present about 300 conflicts are registered. Each and every one of them is unique and yet there are some similarities which unite most of them. This course maps the main conflicts, studies the roots and claims of the protagonists, and based on the recognition of the similarities attempts to define a model of ethnic conflicts and some features of possible solutions.

Course Structure: Two 75-minute classes per week

Prerequisites: None

Required Textbooks

Brown, Michael, *Ethnic Conflict and International Security* (1993).

Brown, Michael and Sean Lynn-Jones, *Nationalism and Ethnic Conflict* (1997).

Grading

Component	Percentage
Class participation	10%
Mid-term Essay exam	20%
Home essay I	20%
Home essay II	20%
Final Examination May 3, 2010; 1030-1230	30%

<u>Paper</u>
- To be submitted electronically by e-mail to: <u>abligh@nd.edu</u> as attachment.
- The subject line should be clearly marked: last name, first name, course subject, assignment # (Doe, John, Ethnic Conflicts, assignment #01).
- Must be double spaced and typed up on Word Processing software. Maximum length: 10-12 pages (including notes and bibliography).
- **The papers are due on February 16, 2010 and April 13, 2010 respectively until midnight.**
- Failure to submit the paper on time will automatically result in a deduction of half a letter grade for each week or part of it the paper is late.
- The student should maintain a complete copy of the paper, including all appendixes for the student's records.

<u>Class discussions</u>

Most topics will be discussed during more than one class. 3-4 classes during the semester will be devoted to contemporary ethnic issues.
Each class reading material is divided between required (in bold fonts) reading and optional reading.

<u>SECTION ONE: DEFINITIONS</u>

Week 1: What is Ethnicity?

Tilley, Virginia. "The terms of the debate: Untangling language about ethnicity and ethnic movements." *Ethnic & Racial Studies* **20, no. 3 (July 1997): 497-522.**

Thomas Hylland Eriksen,"Ethnic identity, national identity and intergroup conflict: The significance of personal experiences", In Ashmore, Jussim, Wilder (eds.): *Social*

identity, intergroup conflict, and conflict reduction, pp. 42-70. Oxford: Oxford University Press. 2001

Fenton, Steve, *"Beyond Ethnicity: The Global Comparative Analysis of Ethnic Conflict."*, *International Journal of Comparative Sociology* 45, no. 3/4 (July 2004): 179-194.

Weeks 2-3: Ethnicity, Nationalism and violence.

Brubaker, Rogers, Laitin, David D., "Ethnic And Nationalist Violence.", *Annual Review of Sociology* **24 , no. 1 (1998), , 423-453.,**

Fox, Jonathan, "Trends in Low Intensity Ethnic Conflict in Democracies States in the Post-Cold War Era: A Large N Study.", *Review of International Affairs* **2, no. 3; (Spring 2003) , 54-70.**

Fox, Jonathan, "Nationalism versus civilisations: an assessment of alternate theories on the future of ethnic identity and conflict." *National Identities* 5, no. 3 (November 2003): 283-307.

Week 4: Building nationalism; Ethnicity as fundamental element in Europe Nationalism in 19th century; Primordialism.

James, Carolyn C., and Özgür Özdamar. "Religion as a Factor in Ethnic Conflict: Kashmir and Indian Foreign Policy." *Terrorism & Political Violence* **17, no. 3 (September 2005): 447-467.**

Roudometof, Victor. "Terrible Fate: Ethnic Cleansing in the Making of Modern Europe – By Benjamin Lieberman." *Historian* 69, no. 2 charts (Summer 2007): 385-386.

Week 5: Constructivism and Instrumentalism.

Definitions, Linkage with "relative deprivation" (Subjective value, cognitive-psychological influence); is the conflict really unavoidable?; Utilization of historic traditions and current conditions by political actors.

Juergensmeyer, Mark." "The New Religious State." *Comparative Politics* **27, no. 4 (1995): 379-91.**

Jeff Malpas & Gary Wickham , "Democracy and Instrumentalism.", *Australian Journal of Political Science* **33, no. 3 (Nov. 1998): 345-362.**

Hayman, P.A. "Speaking rights to theory (Essay)." *Alternatives: Global, Local, Political.* 32, no. 4 (Oct-Dec 2007): 393-417.

Week 6: Ethnicity and Religion.

The influence of religion on ethnic conflicts (Middle East, Ireland, Shi'ite versus Sunni in Iraq, Sunni versus Kurds, Shi'ite versus Kurds, Central Asia).

Hasenclever, Andreas, and Volker Rittberger, "Does Religion Make a Difference? Theoretical Approaches to the Impact of Faith on Political Conflict," *Millennium* **29, no. 3 (2000): 641-674.**

Or:

A R M Imtiyaz; Ben Stavis**, "Ethno-political conflict in Sri Lanka",** *Journal of Third World Studies;* Fall 2008; 25, 2; 135-152.

Kurth, James, "Religion and Ethnic Conflict--In Theory.", *Orbis* 45, no. 2 (Spring 2001): 281-295.

SECTION TWO: ETHNIC CONFLICTS AND THE INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL SYSTEMS.

Week 7: Ethnicity in the International System.

Historical background – colonialism, contacts between indigenous and "the white man" (Australia, USA); Differences in superpowers approach towards ethnicity in Africa, Asia and South America; Colonial super powers contribution to current ethnic conflicts.

Robin M. Williams Jr. ,"The Sociology of Ethnic Conflicts: Comparative International Perspectives", *Annual Review of Sociology*. **20 (1994), 1-14.**

Stavenhagen, Rodolfo. "Ethnic conflicts and their impact on international society." *International Social Science Journal* 50, no. 157 (September 1998): 433-445.

Saideman, Stephen M. "Overlooking the Obvious: Bringing International Politics Back into Ethnic Conflict Management." *International Studies Review* 4, no. 3 (Fall 2002): 63-86.

Week 8: Post Soviet lessons: Building communism, Communist approach towards ethnic minorities.

Manz, Beatrice F. "Multi-ethnic Empires and the formulation of identity." *Ethnic & Racial Studies* 26, no. 1 (January 2003): 70-101.

Stepanov, Valery. "Ethnic tensions and separatism in Russia." *Journal of Ethnic & Migration Studies* 26, no. 2 (April 2000): 305-332
Walker, Lee. "Toward an improved analysis of Soviet ethnic relations." *Theory & Society* 20, no. 5 (October 1991): 711-721.

Week 9: The "Old" Soviet Union and later: The reawakening of ethnic feelings; Impact on other regions (especially the Balkans).

New states in central Asia: issues of identity (Muslims, ex-Russians, democracy, all of it together?); ethnicity and the Central Asian republics (Kyrgyzstan, Azerbaijan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan).

Roudometof, Victor. "The Consolidation of National Minorities in Southeastern Europe." *Journal of Political & Military Sociology* 24, no. 2 (Winter 1996): 189-207

Yamskov, A. N. "Ethnic conflict in the Transcausasus." *Theory & Society* 20, no. 5 (October 1991): 631-660.

Balalovska, Kristina. "Between 'the Balkans' and 'Europe': A Study of the Contemporary Transformation of Macedonian Identity†." *Journal of Contemporary European Studies* 12, no. 2 (August 2004): 193-214.

Trisko, Jessica N. "Coping with the Islamist threat: analysing repression in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan." *Central Asian Survey* 24, no. 4 (December 2005): 373-389.

SECTION THREE: TYPOLOGY OF CONFLICTS.

Week 10: Typology of conflicts: Separation and independence.

Trumbore, Peter F., ″Victims or Aggressors? Ethno-Political Rebellion and Use of Force in Militarized Interstate Disputes.″, *International Studies Quarterly* 47, no. 2 (June 2003): 183-201.

Bercovitch, Jacob, DeRouen, Karl, "Managing Ethnic Civil Wars: Assessing the Determinants of Successful Mediation.", *Civil Wars* 7, no. 1 (Spring 2005): 98-116.

Montalvo, José G., Reynal-Querol, Marta, "Ethnic Polarization, Potential Conflict, and Civil Wars.", *American Economic Review95*, no. 3 (June 2005): 796-816.

Week 11: Typology of conflicts: Power, autonomy and impact.

Cornell, Svante E. "The devaluation of the concept of autonomy: national minorities in the former Soviet Union." *Central Asian Survey* 18, no. 2 (June 1999): 185-196.

Pétric, B.-M. "Uzbekistan Is Not a Society Based on the Ethnic Principle, But It Can Become That." *Anthropology & Archeology of Eurasia* 44, no. 4 (Spring 2006): 64-69.

Week 12: Typology of conflicts: Survival.

The Ukrainian case: theory and practice: National Russian or ethnic Ukrainian?

Golden, Kathie Stromile. *What is Ethnicity? A Comparative Analysis of Conflict in Post-Communist Societies.* Transaction Publishers (1999), 137-153.

Rogers, J. Daniel. "The Contingencies of State Formation in Eastern Inner Asia." *Asian Perspectives: Journal of Archeology for Asia & the Pacific* 46, no. 2 (Fall 2007): 249-274.

SECTION FOUR: SOLUTIONS (?) AND CONCLUSIONS..

Week 13: Possible approaches to political settlements: Consociational democracy and other approaches.

Smooha, S. "Guest Editor's Introduction: Types of democracy and modes of conflict management in ethnically divided societies." *Nations & Nationalism* 8, no. 4 (October 2002): 423-431.

Arend Lijphart, "Consocuational Democracy", *World Politics* 21, no.10 (1969): 207-225.

Week 14: Concluding discussion - Failing Solutions and possible approaches to political settlements – the interventionist dimension.

Carment, David. "Assessing state failure: implications for theory and policy." *Third World Quarterly* 24, no. 3 (June 2003): 407-427.

Kaufman, Stuart, "Preventive Peacekeeping, Ethnic Violence, and Macedonia," *Studies in Conflict and Terrorism* 19 (1996): 226-246.

Weeks 15-16: *TBA.*