

BUILDING DEMOCRACY AND PEACE
POLITICAL SCIENCE 3520
Winter 2014

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Office Hours: Wednesdays, 10:00-12:00; 1:00-3:00, and by appointment
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COURSE DESCRIPTION

Since the 1970s the trend has been for the number of countries governed by dictators to decrease as more and more countries adopt democracy – and we hope that this trend will continue. But, contrary to what some people think, the transition is not an easy one. The process is just as likely to fail as it is to succeed particularly when a country is just coming out of conflict, and therefore where trust is lacking, and anger and a desire for revenge may be the dominant emotions.

How can conflict be ended, and how can a country move toward peace? How can peace be made permanent? What steps should be taken to demobilize troops and get them back into civilian life? Does the international community have a role to play in the transition, and do international courts play a useful role in punishing those who have perpetrated crimes during the conflict? After a tentative peace has been achieved, what then? How can a functioning democracy be built? What exactly is democracy? Many people point to the presence of elections to indicate the presence of democracy. Is this sufficient? Other people argue that democracy is much more than elections – it's also about rule of law, rights and governing in the public good.

What political structure should be adopted and how should it be implemented? These are questions that are fundamental to new political entities but the answers are often rushed in the transition. Who should be involved in a constitution-writing process, and what are the elements that must be included? Can outsiders help the transition to democracy or must the process be indigenous? These are just some of the questions that this course will address.

The course is designed as part lecture and part seminar. Students will do some work in groups and are expected to participate in discussions.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By the end of the course students should be able to:

- define the concepts of democracy, peace and conflict;
- describe the difficulties of making the transition from war/conflict to democracy;
- explain the debate about peace versus justice;
- outline the elements of democratic governance;
- outline the role of international institutions in democratic transitions; and
- discuss the contemporary efforts to democratize that are in the news.

REQUIRED READINGS

There is no required textbook – readings are available online. Required readings are listed in the section “Class Schedule and Readings” below. Readings are available at the website location indicated. Students are expected to read the readings for each class. **If you have a problem accessing a reading, please talk to the professor.**

PLAGIARISM

Dalhousie University defines plagiarism as “the submission or presentation of the work of another as if it were one’s own.” Penalties for plagiarism can be severe. Prior to submitting any paper in a course, all students should read the Policy on Academic Integrity contained in the Dalhousie University Calendar or on the Dalhousie website. Ignorance of such policies is no excuse for violations.

Dalhousie University subscribes to SafeAssign a computer-based service which checks for originality in submitted papers. Any paper submitted by a student at Dalhousie University may be checked for originality to confirm that the student has not plagiarized from other sources. The Dalhousie Senate has affirmed the right of any professor to require that student papers be submitted in both written and electronic format, and to submit any paper to a check such as that performed by SafeAssign. **Plagiarism is considered a serious academic offence which may lead to loss of credit, suspension or expulsion from the university, or even to the revocation of a degree.** It is essential that there be correct attribution of authorities/sources from which facts, statistics and exact words and opinions have been derived.

As a student, you are required to keep an electronic copy of any paper you submit, and the course professor may require you to submit that electronic copy on demand. Copies of student papers checked by this process will be retained by SafeAssign.

STUDENT ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES

Students with disabilities are encouraged to register as quickly as possible at the Student Accessibility Services (SAS) office if they wish to receive academic accommodations. To do so, students can phone (494-2836), email (access@dal.ca), drop in at the Mark A. Hill Accessibility Centre or visit the website (www.studentaccessibility.dal.ca). All forms are now available on the website. Please note that the onus is on the student, not on the professor, to make the arrangements to write exams at the SAS office.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

CRITICAL ARTICLE REVIEWS

Students will write **two** 1,000-1,200 word *critical* article reviews selected from the articles provided below. Note that a critical review does not mean that you have to *be critical of* the article, it simply means that you read it with a questioning mind and examine the merits/ shortcomings of its argument and assumptions, rather than simply summarizing it.

CRITICAL ARTICLE REVIEW #1 (20%) (due 25 February 2014)

Article 1

Clifford Orwin, "Humanitarian Military Intervention: Wars for the End of History," *Social Philosophy and Policy*, Vol. 23, Issue 1 (January 2006), pp. 196-217.

OR

Article 2

Edward Luttwak, "Give War a Chance," *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 78, No. 4 (1999), 36-44, available at https://www.mcgill.ca/files/familymed/S01_Luttwak_Give_War_a_Chance.pdf.

CRITICAL ARTICLE REVIEW #2 (20%) (due 25 March 2014)

Article 1

Russell Brand, "Russell Brand on Revolution," *New Statesman*, 24 October 2013, available at www.newstatesman.com/print/politics/2013/10/russell-brand-on-revolution [**WARNING: This article contains some bad language!**].

OR

Article 2

Peter Harris, "A Close Call for International Law," Canadian International Council (CIC), OpenCanada.org, 15 October 2013.

GROUP ASSIGNMENT (15%) (due 11 February 2014)

Students will be divided into groups and will discuss an assigned topic in class. Based on these discussions the group will present its findings in class, and then based on the feedback from class, write up a 2-3 page (single-spaced) assessment of the topic, and submit it as a group. More instructions will be handed out in class.

DEBATE (15%) (throughout the course)

Each student will be responsible for taking part in a debate in class. The debate will be on a topic provided by the instructor in the first class. Students will be assigned a ‘pro/agree’ or ‘con/disagree’ position on the topic. The two students assigned to each debate topic **will work together** to come up with their arguments. On the day of the debate, the two students will attempt to convince the class of the merits of their particular position. They will be allocated a maximum of 10 minutes each. **Students must submit a written summary of their presentation on the day of their debate.**

FINAL EXAM (30%) (as scheduled by the Registrar)

The final exam will be scheduled by the Registrar during the exam period of **9-26 April 2014. Do not make plans to leave Halifax until the exam schedule has been posted.** Students are expected to be at the exam in the time scheduled – unless students can provide an acceptable written doctor’s note.

The exam will include material from lectures, readings and discussion in class. The format will be explained by the professor in class.

Assignment	Due Date	Worth
Group Assignment	11 February 2014	15%
Critical Article Review #1	25 February 2014	20%
Critical Article Review #2	25 March 2014	20%
Debate	throughout course	15%
Final Examination	as scheduled by the Registrar (Exam period is 9-26 April)	30%

MARKING SCHEME

A+ = 87+

A = 81 - 86%

A- = 78 - 80%

B+ = 76 - 77%

B = 72 - 75%

B- = 69 - 71%

C+ = 66 - 68%

C = 62 - 65%

C- = 59 - 61%

D = 50-58%

F = 0 - 49%

CLASS SCHEDULE AND READINGS

CLASS 1: INTRODUCTION

(7 January 2014)

CLASS 2: CONTEXT: FROM WAR TO PEACE

(14 January 2014)

Christopher S. Chivvis, "The Dayton Dilemma," *Survival*, Vol. 52, No. 5 (2010), pp. 47-74, available at <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/pdf/10.1080/00396338.2010.522096>.

"Civil Wars: How to Stop the Fighting, Sometimes," *The Economist*, 9 November 2013, available at www.economist.com/news/briefing/21589431-bringing-end-conflicts-within-states-vexatious-history-provides-guide.

Roland Paris, "Afghanistan: What Went Wrong?" *Perspectives on Politics*, Vol. 11, Issue 2 (June 2013), Review Essay, American Political Science Association, pp. 538-548.

David H. Petraeus, "How We Won in Iraq," *Foreign Policy*, 29 October 2013.

CLASS 3: INTERVENTIONS TO END CONFLICT

(21 January 2014)

Report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly, "Implementing the Responsibility to Protect," 12 January 2009, available at [http://responsibilitytoprotect.org/SGRtoPEng%20\(4\).pdf](http://responsibilitytoprotect.org/SGRtoPEng%20(4).pdf).

Stewart M. Patrick, "R2P on Life Support: Humanitarian Norms vs. Practical Realities in Syria," Council for Foreign Relations, 12 June 2013, available at <http://blogs.cfr.org/patrick/2013/06/12/r2p-on-life-support-humanitarian-norms-vs-practical-realities-in-syria/>.

Stephen Watts, "Military Interventions and the 'Lessons of Iraq,'" *Political Science and Politics (PS)*, Vol. 40, No. 2 (2007), via Dal libraries.

Edward Luttwak, "Give War a Chance," *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 78, No. 4 (1999), 36-44, available at https://www.mcgill.ca/files/familymed/S01_Luttwak_Give_War_a_Chance.pdf.

Clifford Orwin, "Humanitarian Military Intervention: Wars for the End of History," *Social Philosophy and Policy*, Vol. 23, Issue 1 (January 2006), pp. 196-217.

CLASS 4: MOVING ON FROM CONFLICT

(28 January 2014)

Robert Muggah, “Innovations in Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Policy and Research,” NUPI Working Paper 774, Small Arms Survey, 2010, available at <http://english.nupi.no/content/download/13642/128894/version/6/file/WP-774-Muggah.pdf>

Guido Ambroso, “The End of History? Conflict, Displacement and Durable Solutions in the Post-Cold War Era,” Research Paper No. 207, UN High Commissioner for Refugees, 2011, available at <http://www.unhcr.org/4dc902909.html>.

Jonathan I. Bisson, “Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder,” *Occupational Medicine*, Vol. 57 (2007), pp. 399-403, available at <http://ocmed.oxfordjournals.org/content/57/6/399.full.pdf+html?sid=f01bf874-c086-452c-9bec-b26a4c361162>.

CLASS 5: LEGACIES OF CONFLICT AND VIOLENCE: PEACE VS. JUSTICE

(4 February 2014)

Rosemary Nagy, “Transitional Justice as Global Project: Critical Reflections,” *Third World Quarterly*, Vol. 29, No. 2 (2008), pp. 275-289, available at <http://tjcentre.uwo.ca/documents/Nagy%203rd%20World%20Quarterly%202008.pdf>.

International Crisis Group, “Transitional Justice and Colombia’s Peace Talks,” Latin American Report #49, 29 August 2013.

International Crisis Group, “Sri Lanka’s Potemkin Peace: Democracy Under Fire,” Asia Report No. 253, 13 November 2013, available at <http://www.crisisgroup.org/en/regions/asia/south-asia/sri-lanka/253-sri-lanka-s-potemkin-peace-democracy-under-fire.aspx>.

Ragnhild Nordas and Dara Kay Cohen, “Sexual Violence in African Conflicts,” CSCW Policy Brief, January 2012, available at http://file.prio.no/publication_files/cscw/Nordas-Cohen-Sexual-Violence-Militias-African-Conflicts-CSCW-Policy-Brief-01-2012.pdf.

Matthieu Aikins, “The A-Team Killings,” *Rolling Stone*, 6 November 2013, available at www.rollingstone.com/feature/a-team-killings-afghanistan-special-forces.

CLASS 6: WHAT IS DEMOCRACY AND HOW DO WE GET THERE?

(11 February 2014)

Samuel P. Huntington, "Democracy's Third Wave," *Journal of Democracy*, Vol. 2, No. 2 (1991), pp. 12-34, available at http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/journal_of_democracy/v002/2.2huntington.pdf.

Matthew Krain and Marissa Edson Myers, "Democracy and Civil War: A Note on the Democratic Peace Proposition," *International Interactions*, Vol. 23, No. 1 (1997), pp. 109-118, available at www.tandfonline.com/doi/pdf/10.1080/03050629708434903.

Isobel Coleman and Terra Lawson-Remer, "Pathways to Freedom: Political and Economic Lessons from Democratic Transitions," Council for Foreign Relations, 2013 [also available from professor].

Jeremy Kinsman, "Democracy Rising?" Canadian International Council (CIC), 18 September 2013, available at <http://www.cigionline.org/articles/2013/09/democracy-rising>.

READING WEEK 17-21 FEBRUARY**CLASS 7: WRITING CONSTITUTIONS AND HOLDING ELECTIONS**

(25 February 2014)

Dan Slater and Joseph Wong, "The Strength to Concede. Ruling Parties and Democratization in Developmental Asia," *Perspectives on Politics*, Vol. 11, No. 3 (September 2013), through Dal libraries or from the professor

Pippa Norris, "Choosing Electoral Systems: Proportional, Majoritarian and Mixed Systems," *International Political Science Review*, Vol. 18, No. 3 (1997), pp. 297-312, available at <http://ips.sagepub.com/content/18/3/297.full.pdf+html>

CLASS 8: KEEPING THE MILITARY IN THE BARRACKS

(4 March 2014)

Samuel P. Huntington, "Reforming Civil-Military Relations," *Journal of Democracy*, Vol. 6, No. 4 (1995), pp. 9-17, available at http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/journal_of_democracy/v006/6.4huntington.html.

James Burk, "Theories of Democratic Civil-Military Relations," *Arms Forces and Society*, Vol. 29, No. 1 (Fall 2002), pp. 7-29, available at <http://afs.sagepub.com/content/29/1/7.full.pdf+html>.

CLASS 9: RULE OF LAW AND THE COURTS

(11 March 2014)

Louise Arbour, “Building an Independent Judiciary: Process and Perceptions,” International Crisis Group, 2 September 2013, available at www.crisisgroup.org/en/publication-type/speeches/2013/arbours-building-an-independent-judiciary.

Peter Harris, “A Close Call for International Law,” Canada International Council (CIC), OpenCanada.org, 15 October 2013, available at <http://opencanada.org/features/the-think-tank/comments/the-syria-intervention-debate-a-close-call-for-international-law/>.

CLASS 10: ECONOMICS

(18 March 2014)

Peacebuilding Initiative, “Economic Recovery Strategies: Key Debates and Implementation Challenges,” April 2009, available at <http://www.peacebuildinginitiative.org/index.cfm?pageId=1907>.

Peacebuilding Initiative, “Economic Recovery Strategies: Strategies and Models,” June 2009, available at <http://www.peacebuildinginitiative.org/index.cfm?pageId=1906>.

G. John Ikenberry, “Internationalism After America: The Future of the Liberal World Order,” *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 90, No. 3 (May/June 2011), available at www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/67730/g-john-ikenberry/the-future-of-the-liberal-world-order.

Kevin Sieff, “In Kabul, Clinic Funded by US Military Closing Because of Lack of Government Support,” *The Washington Post*, 17 November 2013.

CLASS 11: CIVIL SOCIETY

(25 March 2014)

Peacebuilding Initiative, “Civil Society and Peacebuilding Processes,” April 2009, available at <http://www.peacebuildinginitiative.org/index.cfm?pageId=1754>.

“Women and Conflict in Afghanistan,” International Crisis Group, Asia Report No. 252, 14 October 2013, available at <http://www.crisisgroup.org/en/regions/asia/south-asia/afghanistan/252-women-and-conflict-in-afghanistan.aspx>.

CLASS 12: LAST THOUGHTS/REVIEW

(1 April 2014)