
Political Science 373/573
Territory and Group Conflict

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Harkness 337
Office Hours: Wed. 1{2
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Course Info: 4 Credits
Fall 2018
Thursday 12:30{15:15
Harkness 329

Course Requirements

Professor Goemans teaches a 4-credit course on TR 12:30-15:15. His in-class instruction totals 3 academic hours (of 50 minutes each). His course does not have a lab, recitation or workshop. However, the course has a group project that require students to meet outside of class for an additional hour of work per week. Specifically, each student group will study the *territorial history* of one or more South or Central American countries. This may include both the *national* territorial history { e.g., how each country defined itself, and how this territorial self-definition changed over time } and its *international* territorial history { e.g., its territorial disputes with other countries. Students will meet during office hours once every two weeks to design, plan and develop this research. This research can be used for any of the paper assignments.

This satisfies the credit hour policy as a 4-credit course by providing 3 hours of in-class instruction per week and an additional hour of equivalent instruction through this independent out-of-class assignment per week. Additionally, the students are also assumed to complete an additional 8 hours of supplementary work per week. (3 in-class hours + 1 hour of independent out-of-class assignments + 8 hours of supplementary assignments = 12 hours/week).

Participation in the seminar comprises 25% of your grade. The short paper counts for another 25% of your grade, while the final paper counts for 50%.

I understand that students sometimes are faced with urgent situations, either of a personal or academic nature { e.g., a reading is not available or cannot be found } and in those cases, of course I welcome e-mails. Otherwise, I strongly prefer students show up for office hours, because dealing with 20 individual e-mails, and going back and forth, swallows enormous amounts of my time and concentration.

Books

The following books will be required reading this semester. I recommend you buy your books through Amazon.

Jordan Branch, *The Cartographic State: Maps, Territory, and the Origins of Sovereignty*. Cambridge University Press (2014). Cambridge Studies in International Relations. Available at: <http://www.amazon.com>

Peter Sahlins, *Boundaries: The Making of France and Spain in the Pyrenees*, University of California Press, 1991.
Available at <http://www.amazon.com>.

Academic Resources

Students may have disabilities which impede their learning. This class, this department and this university are strongly committed to help provide resources to overcome any obstacles to learning. The University of Rochester respects and welcomes students of all backgrounds and abilities. In the event you encounter any barrier(s) to full participation in this course due to the impact of disability, please contact the Office of Disability Resources. The access coordinators in the Office of Disability Resources can meet with you to discuss the barriers you are experiencing and explain the eligibility process for

establishing academic accommodations. You can reach the Office of Disability Resources at: [http://disability@rochester.edu](mailto:disability@rochester.edu); (585) 276-5075; Taylor Hall.

Be familiar with the University's policies on academic integrity and disciplinary action (<http://www.rochester.edu/living/urhere/handbook/discipline2.html#XII>). Violators of University regulations on academic integrity will be dealt with promptly, which means that your grade will suffer, and I will forward your case to the Chair of the College Board on Academic Honesty, on which I served.

Course Outline

Thursday August 30

Thursday September 20

David Buisseret, "The Cartographic Definition of France's Eastern Boundary in the Early Seventeenth Century", *Imago Mundi*, Vol. 36 (1984), pp. 72-80
<http://www.jstor.org/stable/1150944>

Jordan Branch. 2011. "Mapping the Sovereign State: Technology, Authority, and Systemic Change." *International Organization* 65:1 (2011).

Peter Sahlins, "Natural Frontiers Revisited: France's Boundaries since the Seventeenth Century", in *American Historical Review*, Vol. 45, No. 5, December 1990, pp. 1423-1451

Jordan Branch, *The Cartographic State: Maps, Territory, and the Origins of Sovereignty*. Cambridge University Press (2014). Cambridge Studies in International Relations. Amazon link: http://www.amazon.com/Cartographic-State-Territory-Sovereignty-International/dp/1107499720/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1440442054&sr=1-1&keywords=Jordan+Branch

Optional:

Winichakul, Thongchai. *Siam Mapped. A History of the Geo-Body of a Nation*. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press. 1994
http://www.amazon.com/Siam-Mapped-History-Geo-Body-Nation/dp/0824819748/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1314818278&sr=1-1

Optional:

M. Numa Broc, "Visions Medievales de la France." *Imago Mundi*, Vol. 36 (1984), pp. 32-47. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/1150938>

Thursday October 18

7. Territory and Nationalism

George C. White, Jordan Branch 19445 Td [(C)1(994)75teCc1 -Tf 375 cm][0 d 0 J 0]TJ0507 0

Anthony D. Smith, Ethnic Identity and Territorial Nationalism in Comparative Perspective, Chapter 3 in Alexander J. Motyl, *Thinking Theoretically About Soviet Nationalities*, New York: Columbia University Press.

Oren Yiftachel. 2001. "The Homeland and Nationalism." In Alexander J. Motyl, (ed.), *Encyclopedia of nationalism*. New York: Academic Press. Vol. 1: 359-383.

Thursday, October 25

8. The Bases of Territorial Claims

Alexander B. Murphy. 1990. "Historical Justifications for Territorial Claims." *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 80(4):531-548.

Alexander B. Murphy. 2002. "National Claims to Territory in the Modern State System: Geographical Considerations" in *Geopolitics*, Vol. 7, No. 2 (Autumn), pp. 193-214

Alexander B. Murphy. 1991. "Territorial Ideology and International Conflict: The Legacy of Prior Political Formations." In *The Political Geography of Conflict and Peace*, N. Kliot and S. Waterman, eds. London: Belhaven, 1991, pp. 126-141.

Andrew F. Burghardt, 1973. "The Bases of Territorial Claims." *Geographical Review* 63(2):225-245.

Ron Hassner. 2003. "To Halve and to Hold: Conflicts over Sacred Space and the Problem of Indivisibility," *Security Studies*, Vol. 12, No.4 (Summer 2003), pp.1-33.

Myron Weiner. 1971. "The Macedonian Syndrome: An Historical Model of International Relations and Political Development." *World Politics* Vol. 23, No. 4. (July)

MacKinder, Halford J. "The Geographical Pivot of History." in *Geographical Journal*, xxiii, no. 4. (April 1904).

Spykman, Nicholas J., and Rollins, Abbie A. "Geographic Objectives in Foreign Policy, I." *The American Political Science Review* Vol. 33, No. 3 (August 1939), pp. 391-410.

Optional: Norman Hill. 1945. *Claims to Territory in International Law and Relations*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press.

Thursday, November 1

9. Borders as Institutions

Scott Abramson and David Carter, "The Historical Origins of Territorial Disputes," Unpublished ms.

David B. Carter and H. E. Goemans, "The Making of the Territorial Order: New Borders and the Emergence of Interstate Conflict," *International Organization*, Vol. 65, No.2, Spring 2011.

David Carter and Hein Goemans, "International Trade and Coordination: Tracing Border Effects," Unpublished ms.

Beth A. Simmons, 2005. "Rules over Real Estate; Trade, Territorial Conflict and International Borders as Institutions." *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, 49(6):823-848.

Nikolaus Wolf. 2005. "Path Dependent Border Effects: The Case of Poland's Reunification (1918-1939)." *Explorations in Economic History*. 42:414-438.

Nikolaus Wolf, Max-Stephen Schulze and Hans-Christian Heinemeyer. 2011.

Donwoo You (West Virginia University), 2014. "Mapping and Economic Development: Spatial Information Matters." Unpublished ms.

Livia Schubiger (LSE, ETH Zurich Graduate), "Civil War in Peru," unpublished ms.

Friederike Kelle (Universitaet von Mannheim Ph.D. Candidate), "Who demands Self-Determination?", unpublished ms.

Questions to consider in formulating and evaluating social science research

1. *What is the central question?*

Why is it important (theoretically, substantively)?

What is being explained (what is the dependent variable and how does it vary)?

How does this phenomenon present a puzzle?

2. *What is the central answer?*

What is doing the explaining (what are the independent variables and how do they vary)?

What are the hypotheses, i.e., what is the relationship between independent and dependent variables, what kind of change in the independent variable causes what kind of change in the dependent variable?

What are the causal mechanisms, i.e., why are the independent and dependent variables so related?

How do the independent variables relate to each other?

What assumptions does your theory make?

Is the theory falsifiable in concept?

What does this explanation add to our understanding of the question?

3. *What are the possible alternative explanations?*

What assumptions are you making about the direction of causality?

What other explanations might there be for the phenomenon of study, and to what degree do they conflict with the central answer?

Could the hypothesized relationships have occurred by chance?

4. *Why are the possible alternative explanations wrong?*

What is the logical structure of the alternative explanations (compare 2)?

What is the empirical evidence?

5. *What is the relationship between the theory and the evidence?*

What does the research design allow to vary, i.e., in this design are the explanations variables or constants?

What does your research design hold constant, i.e., does it help to rule out the alternative competing explanations?

How are the theoretical constructs represented empirically, i.e., how do you know it when you see it (measurement)?

6. *How do the empirical conclusions relate to the theory?*

How confident are you about the theory in light of the evidence?

How widely do the conclusions generalize, i.e., what might be the limitations of the study?

What does the provisionally accepted or revised theory say about questions of broader importance?