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## Political Science 373/573 Territory and Group Conflict

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Harkness 337

Office: Wed. 1:30{2:30

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**Course Info: 4 Credits**

Spring 2023

Thurs 2:00{4:40

Meliora 219

This seminar examines a major research agenda in International Relations: the role of territory in international (group) politics. The goal is to build a theory *from the ground up* to explain why, when, how and *which* territory becomes contested. We will read from a broad range of disciplines and students are required to read at least 250-300 pages a week and in some cases significantly more.

Territorial conflicts are often viewed as the most contentious and intransigent in international politics. Territorial conflict is also one of the most frequent causes of inter- and *intra*-state war. But why do states and citizens fight over territory? Is it because they seek economic benefits to be gained by additional territory, because they identify with specific territory, because they fear a rival taking over the territory, or for some other reason? In this s

## Course Requirements

Professor Goemans teaches a 4-credit course on Thursday 2:00-4:40. 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%. Writing is therefore a very important aspect of this course. To become a better writer **all students must watch**: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vtIzMaLkCaM>.

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>
- Donelson R. Forsyth, 2019. *Group Dynamics*, seventh edition. Boston: Cengage. This book seems to be relatively hard to obtain, I'll make a scan of my copy and distribute.
- 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

# Course Outline

Thursday January 12

## Introduction

Thursday January 19

### 1. Groups

- Donelson R. Forsyth, 2019. *Group Dynamics*, seventh edition. Boston: Cengage. Chapters 1-3, pp.1-92.
- Andrew Abbott. 1995. "Things of Boundaries." *Social Research*, Vol. 62, No. 4, Defining the Boundaries of Social Inquiry (WINTER), pp. 857-882

#### \* Recommended: **Groups & Collective Action**

- Mancur Olson, Jr. 1971. *The Logic of Collective Action; Public Goods and the Theory of Groups*, Second Printing with a New Preface and Appendix. Boston, MA: Harvard University Press.
- Sandler, Todd. 2015. "Collective action: fifty years later". *Public Choice*. 164 (3-4): 195-216. doi:10.1007/s11127-015-0252-0.
- Ostrom, Elinor. 2000. "Collective Action and the Evolution of Social Norms." *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 14(3):137-158.
- David Sloan Wilson, 2002. *Darwin's cathedral: evolution, religion, and the nature of Society*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. On **group** selection.

Thursday January 26

### 2. Social Identity Theory

- Tajfel, H. & Turner, J. C. 1986. The social identity theory of intergroup behavior. In S. Worchel & G. Austin (eds.), *Psychology of intergroup relations* pp.7-24. Chicago: Nelson Hall.
- Michael A. Hogg and Dominic Abrams. 1988. *Social identifications: a social psychology of intergroup relations and group processes*. New York: Routledge. Chapters 2, 3 and 7.
- Marilyn B. Brewer. 1991. The Social Self: On Being the Same and Different at the Same Time. *Personality Social Psychology Bulletin*, Vol 17(5), (October) 475-482.
- Roberta Sigel, An Introduction to the Symposium on Social Identity, in *Political Psychology*, Vol. 22, No. 1, 2001, 111-114

#### \* Recommended

- Marilyn B. Brewer, The Many Faces of Social Identity: Implications for Political Psychology, in *Political Psychology*, Vol. 22, No. 1, 2001, 115-125
- Brewer, M. B. and Wendi Gardner. 1996. Who is this "we"? Levels of collective identity and self representations. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 71: (1) 83-93.
- Prentice, Deborah A., Dale T. Miller, and Jenifer R. Lightdale. 1994. Asymmetries in Attachments to Groups and to Their Members: Distinguishing Between Common-identity and Common-Bond Groups. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin* Vol. 20, No. 5 (October) 484-493.
- Nicholas Sambanis and Moses Shayo. 2013. Social Identification and Ethnic Conflict. *American Political Science Review* Volume 107, Issue 2 May 2013 , pp. 294-325

Thursday February 2

Thursday February 9

#### 4. **Territory & Territoriality**

- Paul Hensel & Hein Goemans, 2021. "Territory: What do we know about contentious issues," Chapter 1 in *What do we know about war?*, 3rd edition.

\* Recommended:

- James R. Akerman, 1995. "The Structuring of Political Territory in Early Printed Atlases," *Imago Mundi* Vol. 47 pp.138-154.  
<http://www.jstor.org/stable/1151310>
- Winichakul, Thongchai. 1994. *Siam Mapped. A History of the Geo-Body of a Nation*

- Katherine Cutts Dougherty and Margaret Eisenhart, The Role of Social Representations and National Identities in the Development of Territorial Knowledge: A Study of Political Socialization in Argentina and England. in *American Educational Research Journal*, Winter 1992, Vol. 29, No. 4, pp. 809{835
- David B. Knight, Identity and Territory: Geographical Perspectives on Nationalism and Regionalism, *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, Vol. 72, No.4, December 1982, pp. 514{531
- James Anderson, Nationalist Ideology and Territory, Chapter 2 in R. J. Johnson, David B. Knight and Eleonore Kofman, eds., *Nationalism, Self-Determination and Political Geography*, London: Croom Helm, 1988
- 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.
- Herb, Guntram H. 1999. "National Identity and Territory." In Guntram H. Herb and David H. Kaplan. *Nested Identities; Nationalism Territory and Scale*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Little eld Publishers, Inc., pp.9{30.
- Andreas Wimmer and Yuval Feinstein, "The Rise of the Nation-State across the World, 1816{2001," in *American Sociological Review*, 75 (October 2010), pp. 764{90.

Thursday, March 23

## 9. The Bases of Territorial Claims

- Hein Goemans & Kenneth A. Schultz, "The Politics of Territorial Claims: A geospatial approach applied to Africa", *International Organization*, 71:1, pp. 41-64.
- 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 Have and to Hold: Conflicts over Sacred Space and the Problem of Indivisibility," *Security Studies*, Vol. 12, No.4 (Summer 2003), pp.1-33.

\* Recommended:

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

Thursday, March 30

## 10. History and Territorial Disputes

- Scott Abramson and David Carter. 2016. "The Historical Origins of Territorial Disputes," *American Political Science Review*, Volume 110, Issue 4 November, pp. 675-698
- 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.
- 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. "On the Economic Consequences of the Peace: Trade and Borders after Versailles." *Journal of Economic History*. 71(4):915-949.

\* Recommended: *Uti Possidetis*

- *Report of International Arbitral Awards. Recueil des sentences arbitrales*. Volume 1. "Affaire des frontières Colombo-vénézuéliennes (Colombie contre Venezuela)." 24 March 1922. pp.223-298

\* Other Recommended:

- David Carter and Hein Goemans. 2018. "International Trade and Coordination: Tracing Border Effects," *World Politics*. Volume 70, Issue 1 January, pp. 1-52.

- Beth A. Simmons, 2005. "Rules over Real Estate; Trade, Territorial Conflict and International Borders as Institutions." *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, 49(6):823-848.
- Ron Hassner. 2015. "Barriers to Entry: Who Builds Fortified Boundaries and Why?" with Jason Wittenberg, *International Security*, Vol. 40, No.1, Summer 2015.
- David B. Carter and Paul Poast, 2015 "Why Do States Build Walls?"

- Boaz Atzili, 2012. *Good Fences, Bad Neighbors; Border xity and international con ict*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- **Optional:** Andrew P. Owsiak, 2013. \Signing Up for Peace: International Boundary Agreements, Democracy, and Militarized Interstate Con ict." *International Studies Quarterly* 56(1): 51{66.

Thursday April 20

### 13. **LAST DAY OF CLASS**

Other readings of potential interest

#### **Territory and Geography as an explanatory variable**

- Luke Keele and Rocio Titiunik, 2015. \Natural Experiments Based on Geography'. ' *Political Science Research and Methods*, forthcoming. 31 pages. Online at: <http://journals.cambridge.org/action/displayAbstract?fromPage=online&aid=9637057&fileId=S2049847015000047>
- 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. Candiate), \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