

Spring 2015

# Civil Conflict and Development

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# Civil Conflict and Development

DIPL 6253 WB

On-line, Spring 2015

Instructor: Aaron Hale, Ph.D.  
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## Course Description:

This course addresses one of the central challenges in post-conflict recovery, how to rebuild a viable economy that is able to meet the basic needs of the state and society. This course examines the economic consequences of civil wars and how states and international organizations have responded to the challenges of rebuilding post-conflict societies in light of weak national political institutions and economies with limited options. Students will appraise the possible tradeoffs that exist in forming governments that can protect property rights, reconstituting viable economies, and promoting peace across national territories. In evaluating the role of international actors (through foreign aid and the role of the IMF and World Bank), our aim is to examine approaches (prior and current) so as to develop and propose more optimal policies that mitigate these tradeoffs.

## Course Objectives:

- 1) To understand empirical scholarship on conflict and economics and explain the findings to an educated audience.
- 2) To derive policy implications from academic research and explain them to an educated audience.
- 3) To diagnose failings in the manner in which post-conflict countries have been aided in the past and to propose solutions with durable results.

## Course Materials:

The textbook that we will use for this course is the following:

Graciana Del Castillo. 2008. *Rebuilding War-Torn States: The Challenge of Post-Conflict Economic Reconstruction*. New York: Oxford University Press. ISBN: 978-0-19-923773-9.

Ashraf Ghani and Clare Lockhart. 2008. *Fixing Failed States: A Framework for Rebuilding a Fractured World*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. ISBN: 978-0195398618

Additional readings will be available on Blackboard.

**Assignments and Grading Rules**

1. *4 two-page policy memos:* each student will be responsible for writing four two-page policy memos related to a substantive issue along with a series of questions that will be available at the end of a weekly topical issue. Policy memos will be due on Friday at 4 p.m. of each respective week.
2. *20-page research paper:* each student will write a paper based on a topic of each student’s choice that should be cleared with the professor, and is due on or before 2 March. The research paper should be related to an issue that is related to civil conflict and development and is due on or before 13 April, 4 p.m.
3. *Discussion forum/blog:* students will be expected to engage in weekly class discussions/blogs. The class forum will discuss topical issues and current events. Each forum will begin on Monday, 4 p.m. of each week, and will remain open until 11:59 p.m., Friday.

All students are expected to do all of the reading in advance and to take part in the discussions. Taking part in the course discussions is expected, and speaking or posting to course discussions only a few times over the duration of the semester does not count as full participatory credit. The quality of class sessions is greatly enhanced when students are prepared to engage the course material in a constructive fashion. Participation will be noted and credited to your grade.

**Other Course Policies**

*Instructor feedback:* I will comment on your forum posts in a timely fashion, typically within 24 hours during the week. Students can expect to have the policy memo assignments graded and returned with feedback in a one-week time frame. The semester paper will be graded and returned in a two-week time frame from the due date.

*Late work:* Late work will not be accepted.

*Participation:* Students are expected to be actively involved in learning in this class.

*Accommodation:* Students with disabilities should contact Disabilities Support Services for special accommodations.

*Academic Integrity:* Cases of cheating or plagiarism will be handled according to procedures outlined in the Whitehead School Academic Integrity Policy. Students found guilty of cheating or plagiarism will receive a failing grade for the course and will be prosecuted to the fullest extent permissible.

**Basis for Grade and Distribution**

4 policy memos .....	40%
Semester research paper/abstract.....	35 / 5%
Discussion forum/blog.....	10%
Participation/Attendance.....	10%

A = 94 - 100

A- = 90 - 93

B+ = 87 - 89  
B = 84 - 86  
B- = 80 - 83  
C+ = 77 - 79  
C = 74 - 76  
C- = 70 - 73  
D+ = 67 - 69  
D = 64 - 66  
D- = 60 - 63  
F = 60 and below

\*Note: Graduate students in Seton Hall's School of Diplomacy should be aware that they need a minimum GPA of 3.0 to graduate.

### **Academic and Professional Integrity**

All forms of dishonesty, whether by act or omission, including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism and knowingly furnishing false information, are prohibited. Work submitted in the course *must be the product of each individual student*. Contributions of others to the finished work must be appropriately cited and acknowledged. Any work not following these guidelines may be found to be plagiarism and may result in academic suspension, or being asked to leave the university. Plagiarism is a serious offense, and it is each student's responsibility to abide by university guidelines. If students have any concerns or questions please see the instructor.

### **Disability Services**

If you have a documented disability you may be eligible for accommodations, in academic classes, the residence halls, food services areas, etc., under the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. Students are not permitted to negotiate accommodations directly with professors. To receive accommodations or assistance, please self-identify at the Office of Disability Support Services (DSS), Duffy Hall, Room 67. The staff at DSS will help you to develop a plan for accommodations. For more information contact DSS at (973) 313-6003.

### **Schedule of Assignments**

#### **Week One Introduction and Background**

Feb 2 Del Castillo, *Rebuilding War-Torn States*, Chs. 1 - 4.

USAID, —Lessons Learned About Economic Governance in Wartorn Economies, Available at [http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf\\_docs/PDACG437.pdf](http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PDACG437.pdf)

Collier, Paul. "Post-conflict recovery: How should strategies be distinctive?." *Journal of African Economies* (2009): ejp006.

Paris, Roland. "Peacebuilding and the limits of liberal internationalism." *International Security* 22, no. 2 (1997): 54-89.

**Week Two**  
**Feb 9**

**Civil Wars and Economic Growth**

Seonjou Kang and James Meernik. 2005. — “Civil War Deconstruction and the Prospects for Economic Growth” *Journal of Politics* 67: 88-109

Gupta, Sanjeev, Benedict Clements, Rina Bhattacharya, and Shamit Chakravarti. "The elusive peace dividend." *Finance and Development-English Edition* 39, no. 4 (2002): 49-51.

Siyam Chen, Norman V. Loayza and Marta Reynal-Querol. 2008. — “The Aftermath of Civil War” *World Bank Economic Review* 22(1): 63-85

*Policy Memo #1 - due*

**Week Three**  
**Feb 16**

**Regional Impacts of Civil Wars**

Ashraf Ghani and Clare Lockhart. 2008. *Fixing Failed States: A Framework for Rebuilding a Fractured World*, Chs. 1 – 4.

James Murdoch and Todd Sandler. 2004. — “Civil Wars and Economic Growth: Spatial Dispersion,” *American Journal of Political Science* 48(1): 138-151.

Kristian Skrede Gleditsch. 2007. — “Transnational Dimensions of Civil War” *Journal of Peace Research* 44(3): 293-309.

**Week Four**  
**Feb 23**

**Ending Civil Conflict?**

Monica Duffy Toft. 2010. — “Ending Civil Wars: A Case for Rebel Victory?” *International Security* 34(4): 7-36.

Thomas Edward Flores and Irfan Nooruddin. 2009. — “Democracy under the Gun: Understanding Postconflict Economic Recovery.” *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 53: 3-29

Sanjeev Gupta, Shamsuddin Tareq, Benedict Clements, Alex Segura-Ubiergo, Rina Bhattacharya, and Todd Mattina. 2005. *Rebuilding Fiscal Institutions in Post-Conflict Countries*. IMF Occasional Paper 247.

*Policy Memo #2 - due*

**Week Five**  
**March 2**

**Structural Adjustment: Good or Bad?**

Del Castillo, *Rebuilding War-Torn States*, Ch. 5.

Ashraf Ghani and Clare Lockhart, *Fixing Failed States: A Framework for Rebuilding a Fractured World*, Ch. 5

Caroline Hartzell, Matthew Hoddie, and Molly Bauer. 2010. — “Economic Liberalization via IMF Structural Adjustment: Sowing the Seeds of Civil War?” *International Organization* 64(2): 339-356.

Thomas Edward Flores and Irfan Nooruddin. 2009. — “Financing the peace: Evaluating World Bank post-conflict assistance programs” *Review of International Organizations* 4(1): 1-27.

*Semester Paper abstract and outline – due*

**March 9 – 14 Spring Break**

**Week Six Changes in IFI Approaches**

**March 16** Del Castillo, *Rebuilding War-Torn States*, Ch. 6.

Ashraf Ghani and Clare Lockhart, *Fixing Failed States: A Framework for Rebuilding a Fractured World*, Chs. 6 – 7.

Ambroise Fayolle. 2006. — “Out of the Trap” *Finance and Development* 43(4).

IMF. 2008. The Fund’s Engagement in Fragile States and Post-Conflict Countries—A Review of Experience -- Issues and Options. Policy Development and Review Department.

World Bank. Independent Evaluation Group. 2006. Engaging With Fragile States: An IEG Review of World Bank Support to Low Income Countries Under Stress.

*Policy Memo #3 - due*

**Week Seven UN Approaches to Post-Conflict Reconstruction**

**March 23** Del Castillo, *Rebuilding War-Torn States*, Ch. 5 (review).

Roland Paris. 2009. — “Understanding the Coordination Problem in Postwar Statebuilding” in Roland Paris and Timothy Sisk, *The Dilemmas of Statebuilding* (London: Routledge), pp. 53-79.

Nicholas Sambanis. 2008. — “Short- and Long-Term Effects of United Nations Peace Operations” *World Bank Economic Review* 22(1): 9-32.

Seth G. Jones and James Dobbins. 2006. — “The UN’s Record In Nation-Building” *Chicago Journal of International Law* 6(2): 703-723.

UNDP. 2008. Crisis Prevention and Recovery Report: Post-Conflict Economic Recovery – Enabling Local Ingenuity. Available at

<[http://www.undp.org/cpr/content/economic\\_recovery/PCER\\_rev.pdf](http://www.undp.org/cpr/content/economic_recovery/PCER_rev.pdf)>. Chs. 3 - 4.

**Week Eight**     **Foreign Aid: Sequencing and Cyclicity as Problems**  
**March 30**     Del Castillo, *Rebuilding War-Torn States*, Ch. 6.

Paul Collier and Anke Hoeffler. 2004. — “Aid, Policy, and Growth in Post-conflict Societies” *European Economic Review* 48(5): 1125-1145.

Stewart Patrick. 2000. — “The Check is in the Mail” *Global Governance* 6(1): 61-94.

Seonjou Kang and James Meernik. 2004. — “Determinants of Post Conflict Economic Assistance.” *Journal of Peace Research*.41:149-166.

James K. Boyce. 2007. *Public Finance, Aid and Post Conflict Recovery*. UNDP Background Paper.

**Week Nine**     **Foreign Aid: US Perspectives**  
**April 6**

USAID. 2009. *A Guide to Economic Growth in Post-Conflict Countries*. Available at [http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf\\_docs/PNADO408.pdf](http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PNADO408.pdf)

Keith Crane, et al. 2009. *Guidebook for Supporting Economic Development in Stability Operations*. RAND Arroyo Center Technical Report.

*Policy Memo #4 - due*

**Week Ten**     **Humanitarian Emergencies and Disaster Response**  
**April 13**

Ashraf Ghani and Clare Lockhart, *Fixing Failed States: A Framework for Rebuilding a Fractured World*, Ch. 8 – 9.

A. Cooper Drury, Richard S. Olson and Douglas A. Van Belle. 2005. — “The Politics of Humanitarian Aid: U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance, 1964-1995.” *Journal of Politics*. 67(5): 454-473.

ALNAP. 2010. *Haiti Earthquake Response: Context Analysis*. Available at <<http://www.alnap.org/pool/files/haiti-context-analysis-final.pdf>>

ALNAP. 2010. *Role of National Governments in International Humanitarian Responses to Disasters*. Available at <<http://www.alnap.org/pool/files/26-meeting-background-paper.pdf>>

ALNAP. 2009. *State of the Humanitarian System: Assessing Performance and Progress*. Available at <<http://www.alnap.org/pool/files/alnap-sohs-final.pdf>>, Chs. 2 – 3.

*Research paper due*