

PLSC 457: Displacement, Refugees, and Ethnic Cleansing

M 3:30-5:20pm
Rosenkranz 301

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Office hours: Tues 4-6pm, and by appt
Luce Hall 345 (in European Studies Council offices)

Course Summary

At least 40 million people in the world are currently displaced - twice as many as the total number of all civilians and combatants killed in wars since World War II. Roughly 26 million of the displaced remain within their countries. Typically, such displacement is understood as a haphazard byproduct of conflict. In contrast, ethnic cleansing is generally depicted as strategic, however deplorable. In this course, we disaggregate conceptually and empirically to reconsider how these phenomena diverge and overlap across contexts, and their implications for political order, violence, and intervention.

Students will engage scholarly work on displacement, refugees, and ethnic cleansing from multiple disciplines to study empirical patterns and assess analytical frameworks for understanding them. The course will emphasize the characterization, causal processes, and consequences of displacement and ethnic cleansing. We will seek to address questions such as: What explains ethnic cleansing? How does displacement vary across wars? When and why do armed groups provoke displacement? When do civilians stay in spite of violence? Where do they go if they leave? We will also consider the role of humanitarian intervention, and implications for political order and state building. To address these questions, we will employ the comparative method of analysis, with attention to household, individual, and organizational behavior in the context of communities. By the end of the course, students will be familiar with the multi-disciplinary literature on displacement and ethnic cleansing and will be able to apply analytical approaches to actual cases.

Students will write a short (5-7 pages) mid-term paper, in which they will describe displacement and/or cleansing patterns within a civil war, paying close attention to variation across space and over time. Cases will be approved by the instructor. Final papers (15-20 pages) will build on the mid-terms, evaluating how well existing studies explain the variation described in the case. Students will condense and revise their mid-terms after extensive feedback from the instructor.

Before each class meeting, students are expected to email 3 questions prompted by that week's reading.

Grading

- Participation (20%)
- Mid-term Paper (30%)
- Final Paper (50%)

Course Outline and Readings

11 Jan

Week 1: Displacement and Ethnic Cleansing in Comparative Perspective

Overview of Course

Film: *We Are All Neighbors*. 1993. London: Royal Anthropological Institute.

15 Jan - NOTE: Class meets on FRIDAY this week

Week 2: Characterization, Concepts, and Contexts

United Nations High Commission for Refugees. 2009. *2008 Global Trends: Refugees, Asylum-seekers, Internally Displaced and Stateless Persons*.

Internal Displacement Monitoring Center. 2009. *Internal Displacement: Global Overview of Trends and Developments in 2008*.

Moore, Will H. and Stephen M. Shellman. 2004. "Fear of Persecution: Forced Migration 1952-1995." *Journal of Conflict Resolution*. 48(5). 723-745.

25 Jan

Week 3: Origins of Ethnic Cleansing

Mann, Michael. 2005. *The Dark Side of Democracy: Explaining Ethnic Cleansing*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Chapters 1 and 2.

Posen, Barry. 1993. "The Security Dilemma and Ethnic Conflict." In Michael Brown, ed., *Conflict and International Security*, Princeton: Princeton University Press, pp. 103-125.

Bulutgil, Zeynep. 2009. *Territorial Conflict and Ethnic Cleansing*. Unpublished dissertation. University of Chicago. Chapters 1 and 2.

Recommended:

Ben-Zeev, Efrat. 2002. The Palestinian Village of Ijzim During the 1948 War: Forming an Anthropological History Through Villagers Accounts and Army Documents. *History and Anthropology* 13(1):13-30.

1 Feb

Week 4: Ethnic Cleansing in Bosnia I: Causes

Mann, Michael. 2005. *The Dark Side of Democracy: Explaining Ethnic Cleansing*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Chapters 12 and 13.

Petersen, Roger. 2002. *Understanding Ethnic Violence: Fear, Hatred, and Resentment in 20th Century Eastern Europe*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Chapters 1, 10.

Recommended:

Fearon, James D. and David Laitin. 2000. "Violence and the Social Construction of Ethnic Identity," *International Organization* 54(4):845-877.

Chandra, Kanchan. 2006. "What is Ethnic Identity and Does it Matter?" *Annual Review of Political Science*. Vol 9: 397-424.

8 Feb

Week 5: Ethnic Cleansing in Bosnia II: Dynamics and Microfoundations

Bulutgil, Zeynep. 2009. *Territorial Conflict and Ethnic Cleansing*. Unpublished dissertation. University of Chicago. Chapter 4.

Ron, James. 2000. "Boundaries and Violence: Repertoires of State Action along the Bosnia/Yugoslavia Divide." *Theory and Society*. 29(5): 609-647.

Weidmann, Nils B. 2009. "Violence and the Changing Ethnic Map: The Endogeneity of Territory and Conflict in Bosnia." Households in Conflict Network Working Paper 64. <http://www.hicn.org/papers/wp64.pdf>

15 Feb

Week 6: Civil Wars: Ethnic Cleansing and Displacement in Context

Brubaker, Rogers and David D. Laitin. 1998. "Ethnic and Nationalist Violence," *Annual Review of Sociology* 24: 423-52.

Kalyvas, Stathis N. 2005. "Warfare in Civil Wars." *Rethinking the Nature of War*, Ed. Isabelle Duyvesteyn and Jan ngstrm. New York: Frank Cass.

Kalyvas, Stathis N. and Matthew Kocher. 2007. "Ethnic Cleavages and Irregular War: Iraq and Vietnam." *Politics Society*. 35(2). 183-223.

22 Feb

Week 7: Civilian Agency and Displacement

Kunz, Egon. 1973. The Refugee in Flight: Kinetic Models and Forms of Displacement. *International Migration Review*, 7: 125-146.

Lubkemann, Stephen C. 2008. "The Ordering of Violent Things: War and Displacement. Chapter 1 of *Culture in Chaos: An Anthropology of the Social Condition in War*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Steele, Abbey. 2009. "Seeking Safety: Avoiding Displacement and Choosing Destinations in Civil Wars." *Journal of Peace Research*. 46(3).

Recommended:

Kalyvas, Stathis N. 2003. "The Ontology of 'Political Violence': Action and Identity in Civil Wars." *Perspectives on Politics*, 1(3): 475-494.

1 Mar

Week 8: Cleavages, Identity, and Displacement

Czaika, Mathias and Kristina Kis-Katos. 2009. "Civil Conflict and Displacement: Village-level Determinants of Forced Migration in Aceh." 46(3): 399-418.

Lubkemann, Stephen. 2005. "Migratory Coping in Wartime Mozambique: An Anthropology of Violence and Displacement in Fragmented Wars." *Journal of Peace Research*. 42(4).

Tolnay and Beck. 1992. "Racial Violence and Black Migration in the American South, 1910-1930." *American Journal of Sociology*. 57(1). 103-116.

Mid-term Papers due in Class

SPRING BREAK

8-21 March

22 Mar

Week 9: Displacement and Political Cleansing in Colombia

Human Rights Watch. 2005. "Colombia: Displaced and Discarded. The Plight of Internally Displaced Persons in Bogotá and Cartagena." 17(4B).

<http://www.hrw.org/sites/default/files/reports/colombia1005web.pdf>

Steele, Abbey. 2009. "Electing Displacement: Political Cleansing in Apartad, Colombia." Unpublished paper.

Ibáñez, Ana María and Carlos Eduardo Vélez. 2007. "Civil Conflict and Forced Migration: The Micro Determinants and Welfare Losses of Displacement in Colombia." *World Development*. 36(4): 659-676.

Recommended:

Tilly, Charles. 2005. "Political Identities in Changing Polities." In *Identities, Boundaries, and Social Ties*. London: Paradigm Publishers.

29 Mar

Week 10: Refugees

Weiner, Myron. 1996. "Bad Neighbors, Bad Neighborhoods: An Inquiry into the Causes of Refugee Flows." *International Security*. 21(1): 5-42.

Clark, Christina R. 2008. "Borders of Everyday Life: Congolese Young People's Political Identification in Contexts of Conflict-Induced Displacement." Households in Conflict Network Working Paper 38. <http://www.hicn.org/papers/wp38.pdf>

Wilson, K.B. and J. Nunes. 1994. "Repatriation to Mozambique: Refugee Initiative and Agency Planning in Milange District, 1988-1991." In *When Refugees Go Home*, Ed. Tim Allen and Hubert Morsink. Geneva: United Nations Research Institute for Social Development.

Maystadt, Jean-Francois and Philip Verwimp. 2009. "Winners and Losers Among a Refugee-Hosting Population." Households in Conflict Network Working Paper 60.
<http://www.hicn.org/papers/wp60.pdf>

5 Apr

Week 11: Displacement and its Consequences in Northern Uganda

Guest lecturer: Chris Blattman

Lomo, Zachary and Lucy Hovil. 2004. "Behind the Violence: Causes, Consequences, and the Search for Solutions to the War in Northern Uganda." Refugee Law Project Working Paper Number 11.
http://www.refugeelawproject.org/working_papers/RLP.WP11.pdf

Branch, Adam. 2008. "Remarks on the Legacy of Forced Displacement in Uganda." Presentation to Friends of Peace in Africa Annual Meeting, San Diego, June 2008.

Branch, Adam. 2008. "Against Humanitarian Impunity: Rethinking Responsibility for Displacement and Disaster in Northern Uganda." *Journal of Intervention and Statebuilding*. 2(2).

Fiala, Nathan. 2009. "The Consequences of Displacement in Northern Uganda." Households in Conflict Network Working Paper 65." <http://www.hicn.org/papers/wp65.pdf>.

12 Apr

Week 12: Ending Wars and Building States

Muana, Patrick K. 1997. "The Kamajoi Militia: Civil War, Internal Displacement and the Politics of Counter-Insurgency." *Africa Development*. 12(3/4): 77-100.

Kaufman, Chaim. 1996. "Possible and Impossible Solutions to Civil War," *International Security*, 20 (4): 136-175.

Salehyan, Idean and Kristian Skrede Gleditsch. 2006. "Refugees and the Spread of Civil War." *International Organization*. 60(2): 335-366.

19 Apr Last Class

Week 13: Humanitarian Intervention

Lischer, Sarah Kenyon. 2003. *Dangerous Sanctuaries: Refugee Camps, Civil War, and the Dilemmas of Humanitarian Aid*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press. Chapter 2.

Final Papers due May 3.