

African Civil Wars in Comparative Perspective: A Research Seminar G8444

Syllabus Annex (Columbia only)

Columbia University Professor Macartan Humphreys 701 IAB mh2245@columbia.edu Telephone: 47431 Office Hours: Friday 2-4 Columbia Location: 308 Lewisohn Hall Columbia class time: 16:30 – 18:00	Stanford University Professor Jeremy Weinstein Encina Hall West, 415 jweinst@stanford.edu Telephone: (650) 736-1224 Office Hours: 3:30 - 5 Stanford Location: Room 160-120 Stanford class time: 12:30 – 15:00
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I. Columbia Group Part I Overview

Herein information regarding the first two weeks of class for Columbia students taking “African Civil Wars in Comparative Perspective.” For a full description of this course see the primary syllabus, posted on-line http://www.columbia.edu/~mh2245/cw_syllabus.pdf

Beginning on September 30, this class will be taught jointly between Columbia and Stanford universities. Before then Columbia students have two full weeks of class, on 16 and 23 September. We have two goals for these first two weeks of class. First we will use them to develop a richer understanding of the six cases under study in the remainder of the class. We will explore some more qualitative texts that otherwise we would not have a chance to study in order to get a richer feel for the cases. In doing so we will aim to produce, as an output of these two weeks, a structured synopsis of the conflicts under study to be shared with and presented to the Stanford students once they come on-line on 30 September. The second goal for these two weeks is to begin thinking about original datasets that can be collected for the cases that we read. In your reading you should keep your eyes open to references to archives, records, or institutions that may hold rich sources of information that can be used to explore some of the central questions of the course.

We will examine Angola, Sierra Leone, and El Salvador in the first week and in the second week we will examine Congo, Sudan and Vietnam.

For each of these weeks we will assign teams of approx two students to produce reports on each of the conflicts. The structure of the reports should be as follows.

II. Civil War Reports

The function of the reports is to serve as a ready reference to be used by all students during the course of the term. To this end the writing style should be concise but not cryptic; the summaries should contain factual knowledge pertaining to the history of the conflicts and they should contain scholarly information addressing what are the outstanding questions and puzzles associated with the conflicts. In particular the reports, which should be no more than 4 pages long, should include the following, in the following order:

Part I: Factual Information

1. A **characterization** of the war (common categories, all simplistic, include: war of liberation, secessionist, warlord insurgency, war for state control, social revolutionary...)
2. A **map** of the country, indicating the **main** regions of fighting, for one or more moments in time
3. A **timeline**, indicating the major movements of the conflict including major battles, interventions and negotiations [may be done on a graph alongside item 4.]
4. A **graph of the changes in intensity** in the conflict overtime, using battle deaths where possible. (The Lacina Dataset on Battle Deaths at PRIO may be helpful (see primary syllabus))
5. A **listing of the major factions** indicating when major factions appeared and disappeared. This can be included on a time line, or if appropriate, as a tree.
6. If possible, an **organigram** indicating how major non-state groups are organized
7. Short [5-6 line] **biographies** of major players on all sides; these can be linked to the organigram.

Part II: Scholarly Information

1. A listing of **main theories and hypotheses in the literature** alongside the names of associated authors, about the war; in terms of each of the major sections of the course: (1. causes of the civil war; 2. patterns of recruitment and participation; 3. the organization of rebel groups, 4. strategies used by warring factions, and 5. negotiation and termination.) For each of the themes you should attempt to identify two rival hypotheses for this war.
2. Listing of possible qualitative sources (eg TRC reports) from which **data** could be drawn
3. Short listing of **readings** and articles of that you found of particular interest or utility.
4. A short listing of **puzzles**, either factual or theoretical puzzles—“Were there really Burkinibe troops in Sierra Leone?” “Why did the RDC not provide public goods to civilians?”

III. Readings

The readings listed here are selected so that they do not overlap with readings on each of these cases from later weeks. For each of the conflicts everybody in the class is responsible for reading the starred (*) reading, which will provide a common basis for discussion. Specialist teams can roam much more widely in their readings; they can be guided by but are not limited to the readings listed under “other works” for each week and by readings referenced in those readings. Other sources to look out for are:

1. **Contemporary newspaper reports.** Much African media can be located here <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/indiv/africa/ejournals.html> but see also <http://www.afrik.com/medias/> International coverage is available on **lexis nexis**, at Columbia on: <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/eresources/databases/2100385.html> (for example you can look up headlines on “El Salvador war” for news sources from 1981 to read contemporary reports), 2. **primary** materials in the form of **autobiographies, pamphlets, and official documents** (a number may be held even in local libraries, for example a search for Author: MPLA or Author: SPLM in CLIO can give lead you to listings of publications held at Columbia; 3. Other primary and secondary materials not referenced elsewhere can often be found using key word or subject searches such as “Sudan Politics and government 1985-” or “Insurgency--El Salvador--History--20th century.”

Readings for 16 September: 16:00-18:00

1 Angola [starting date: 1975]

* Tony Hodges. Angola from Afro-Stalinism to Petro-Diamond Capitalism (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2001). Chapter 1

Other works:

- [Journalistic] Ryszard Kapuscinski. Another Day of Life (Vintage International)
- [Autobiographical] John Stockwell In Search of Enemies: A CIA Story
- Inge Tvedten, Angola: Struggle for Peace and Reconstruction (Nations of the Modern World. Africa)
- Philippe Le Billon "Angola's Political Economy of War: the Role of Oil and Diamonds 1975-2000," African Affairs 100, 2001, 55-80 <http://www.geog.ubc.ca/~lebillon/angola.pdf>
- Karl Maier Angola: Promises and Lies
- [Document] MPLA "MPLA is the people" [Instructor's copy]

2 Sierra Leone

* John L. Hirsch – Diamonds and the Struggle for Democracy Chapters 1,2,3

Other works:

- Paul Richards. Fighting for the rain forest: war, youth and resources in Sierra Leone (Portsmouth: Heinemann, 1996). Especially Chapter 1.
- Special issue of African Development 1997. 22 (3/4):77-100.
- Ibrahim Abdullah, "Bush Path to Destruction: The Origin and Character of the Revolutionary United Front/Sierra Leone" Journal of Modern African Studies, vol.36, no.2,(1998) pp.223,
- Alfred B Zack-Williams Sierra Leone: the political economy of civil war, 1991-98 Third World Quarterly 20, (1) : February 1, 1999
- [Interviews] Peters, K and P Richards. "Why we fight: Voices of Youth Combatants in Sierra Leone" <http://www.sls.wau.nl/tad/events/seminars/12PetersinAfrica.pdf>
- David Keen. Conflict and Collusion in Sierra Leone (London: Palgrave Macmillan, forthcoming ; check with instructor for copy)

3 El Salvador [starting date: 1979]

* Elisabeth Wood. Insurgent collective action and civil war in El Salvador (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2004).Chapter 1

Other works:

- Cynthia McClintock. Revolutionary Movements in Latin America: El Salvador's FMLN and Peru's Shining Path (Washington: United States Institute of Peace Press, 1998)._Max Manwaring and Court Prisk. El Salvador at War: An Oral History
- LeoGrande, William. Our Own Backyard: The United States in Central America, 1977-1992, University of North Carolina Press, 2000.
- Byrne, Hugh. El Salvador's Civil War: A Study of Revolution, Lynne Rienner Publishers, 1996.
- Saul Landau. 1993. The guerrilla wars of Central America : Nicaragua, El Salvador, and Guatemala

Readings for 23 September: 16:00-18:00

4 Congo [starting date: 1998]

* Kisangani Emizet 2002 "The DROC: Non-state Actors on Center Stage" Chapter 2 in Butts, Bradshaw et al. 2002 Central African Security: Conflict in the Congo
<http://www.carlisle.army.mil/usacsl/Publications/AFRICAWORKSHOP.pdf>

Other works:

- John F. Clark (ed.). The African Stakes of the Congo War (London: Palgrave MacMillan, 2004).Chapter 3 (Historicity of a crisis)
- Georges Nzongola-Ntalaja. The Congo From Leopold to Kabila: A People's History (London: Zed Books, 2002).
- [NGO report] Global Witness June 2004 "Same Old Story A background study on natural resources in the Democratic Republic of Congo."
<http://www.globalwitness.org/reports/download.php/00141.pdf>
- Leonce Ndikumana , Kisangani Emizet "The Economics Of Civil War: The Case Of The Democratic Republic of Congo"
http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=443580#PaperDownload
- UN 2002 "Final report of the panel of experts on the illegal exploitation of natural resources and other forms of wealth of the Democratic Republic of the Congo" <http://www.natural-resources.org/minerals/law/docs/pdf/N0262179.pdf>
- Thomas Turner "Kabila Returns, In A Cloud Of Uncertainty" African Studies Quarterly
<Http://Www.Africa.Ufl.Edu/Asq/V1/3/3.Htm>

5 Sudan [starting date: 1983]

* [NGO report] John Prendergast "God, Oil and Country" Chapters 1,2,4,5
http://www.reelvoices.org/diaries/resources/A400534_28012002.pdf

Other works:

- Douglas Hamilton Johnson. The Root Causes of Sudan's Civil Wars, Chapters 1 – 5 & 10
- Jok Madut Jok. War and Slavery in Sudan (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2001).
- Steven Wondu and Ann Lesch. Battle for Peace in Sudan. University Press of America
- [Document] John Garang. 1992 The Call for Democracy in Sudan Kegan Paul
- Francis Deng Sudan's Civil War: The Peace Process Before, And Since Machakos
- Francis M. Deng 1995 War of Visions: Conflicts of Identities in the Sudan
- [Journalistic] Scott Peterson. 2000. Me Against My Brother. Routledge [on-line]
<http://www.columbia.edu/cgi-bin/cul/resolve?clio4239605>

6 Vietnam [starting date: 1956]

David L. Anderson The Columbia Guide to the Vietnam War Columbia UP Chapters 2, 4-9

Other works:

- Very many reference in Anderson
- Marilyn Young. 1991 The Vietnam Wars 1945-1990. Harper-Perennial: New York [[a very gripping read](#)]
- David W. P. Elliott. The Vietnamese War: Revolution and Social Change in the Mekong Delta 1930 – 1975 (Armonk, NY and London: M. E. Sharpe, 2003).
- Robert J. McMahon (Editor) 2003 Major Problems in the History of the Vietnam War: Documents and Essays (Major Problems in American History Series)
- Jeffrey Race. War Comes to Long An: Revolutionary Conflict in a Vietnamese Province (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1971).

On reserve at Lehman library (Columbia)

F1488.3 .M375 1998	Cynthia McClintock. <u>Revolutionary Movements in Latin America: El Salvador's FMLN and Peru's Shining Path</u> (Washington: United States Institute of Peace Press, 1998).
DS557.5 .A54 2002	David L. Anderson <u>The Columbia Guide to the Vietnam War</u> Columbia UP Chapters 2, 4-9
DS559.92.D56 E44 2003	David W. P. Elliott. <u>The Vietnamese War: Revolution and Social Change in the Mekong Delta 1930 – 1975</u> (Armonk, NY and London: M. E. Sharpe, 2003).
DT157.67 .J64 2003	Douglas Hamilton Johnson. <u>The Root Causes of Sudan's Civil Wars</u> , Chapters 1 – 5 & 10
F1488.3 .W66 2003	Elisabeth Wood. <u>Insurgent collective action and civil war in El Salvador</u> (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2004).Chapter 1
DT157.672 .D46 2004g	Francis Deng <u>Sudan's Civil War: The Peace Process Before, And Since Machakos</u>
DT157.5 .D45 1995	Francis M. Deng 1995 <u>War of Visions: Conflict of Identities in the Sudan</u>
DT658 .N96 2002	Georges Nzongola-Ntalaja. <u>The Congo From Leopold to Kabila: A People's History</u> (London: Zed Books, 2002).
F1488.3 .B95 1996	Hugh Byrne, <u>El Salvador's Civil War: A Study of Revolution</u> , Lynne Rienner Publishers, 1996.
HN810.A8 T84 1997	Inge Tvedten, <u>Angola: Struggle for Peace and Reconstruction</u> (Nations of the Modern World. Africa)
DS557.A8 L657 1972	Jeffrey Race. <u>War Comes to Long An: Revolutionary Conflict in a Vietnamese Province</u> (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1971).
DT658.26 .A36 2002	John F. Clark (ed.). <u>The African Stakes of the Congo War</u> (London: Palgrave MacMillan, 2004).Chapter 3 (Historicity of a crisis)
DT159.6.S73 G37 1992	John Garang, 1992 <u>The Call for Democracy in Sudan</u> Kegan Paul
DT516.8 .H57 2001	John L. Hirsch – <u>Diamonds and the Struggle for Democracy</u> Chapters 1,2,3
DT611.76.S76 A34 1978	John Stockwell <u>In Search of Enemies: A CIA Story</u>
HT1381 .J65 2001	Jok Madut Jok. <u>War and Slavery in Sudan</u> (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2001).
DT1428 .M3 1996g	Karl Maier <u>Angola: Promises and Lies</u>
F1436.8.U6 L453 1998	LeoGrande, William. <u>Our Own Backyard: The United States in Central America, 1977-1992</u> , University of North Carolina Press, 2000.
DS557.7 .Y678 1991g	Marilyn Young. 1991 <u>The Vietnam Wars 1945-1990</u> . Harper-Perennial: New York
D 5.402:EI 1S	Max Manwaring and Court Prisk. <u>El Salvador at War: An Oral History</u>
DT516.8 .R53 1996	Paul Richards. <u>Fighting for the rain forest: war, youth and resources in Sierra Leone</u> (Portsmouth: Heinemann, 1996). Especially Chapter 1.
DS557.7 .M355 1995	Robert J. McMahon (Editor) 2003 <u>Major Problems in the History of the Vietnam War: Documents and Essays</u> (Major Problems in American History Series)
DT611.76.K37 A3 1987	Ryszard Kapuscinski. <u>Another Day of Life</u> (Vintage International)
F1439.5 .L355 1993g	Saul Landau. 1993. <u>The guerrilla wars of Central America : Nicaragua, El Salvador, and Guatemala</u>
DT157.5 .W65 1999g	Steven Wondu and Ann Lesch. <u>Battle for Peace in Sudan</u> . University Press of America
HC950 .H628 2001	Tony Hodges. <u>Angola from Afro-Stalinism to Petro-Diamond Capitalism</u> (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2001). Chapter 1
DT1436 .M56 1994	William Minter. <u>Apartheid's Contras: An Inquiry into the Roots of the War in Angola and Mozambique</u> (London: Zed Books, 1994).