

# Revolutions and Political Violence

PSCI 3062, Spring 2018

University of Colorado Boulder

## Class and Contact Information

Instructor: Erkan Gunes

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Lecture Times: M-W-F, 11:00 – 11:50 AM, HUMN 1B80

Office: KTCH 234

Office Hours: M-W, 12:00 – 12:50

## Course Description

Political revolutions are rare events, but their consequences are typically immense. In this course we are going to discuss some big questions related to the nature of the political processes that we call revolutions. Some of these questions are as follows. What are defining features of a revolution? What are the driving forces behind revolutions? What do successful revolutions and failed revolutions mean? What explains the variation in the consequences of revolutions?

The course is structured in three parts. In the first part, we will survey several generations of theoretical works that attempt to provide a general answer to abovementioned questions. In the second part, we will focus on some major historical revolutions such as the French Revolution and the Russian Revolution, and we will analyze them by drawing on the theories from the first part. In the last part of the course, we will focus on some recent and contemporary events that involve political violence and carry a potential to turn into a revolutionary process.

## Course Material

There are no textbooks to purchase for this class. All course readings delineated in the course schedule are available at the following online site to which all students will subscribe:

<http://www.aatw.me/subscribe>

This site (America and the World), provides both distribution and reference for this course, but also the copyright payment for the articles you will read. Access to this website will be purchased for \$49.95. Access will be explained in detail in class and on the site. The readings for this course

are interdisciplinary, including works from political science, history, economics and geography. All of the readings are required. Other readings will be linked to this syllabus.

## Grading

The table below summarizes grading criteria.

Attendance & Participation	7.5%
Current Event Presentation	2.5%
Short Paper	15%
Final Research Paper	25%
Midterm Exam	25%
Final Exam	25%

### Attendance and Participation

Students will be allowed two “freebie” absences. Beyond two absences, the attendance grade will be lowered from 100 by ten percentage points per absence. Students with **eight or more absences** will either have to drop the class or receive an “F”.

Participation is key to your success in this course. Research indicates that students who actively participate in class discussions also do well in the exams and paper assignments.

Your attendance and participation grade will comprise 7.5 percent of your final grade.

### Current Event Presentations

From the week of January 22 onwards, at the beginning of each lecture two students will present a current event to the class. This presentation will comprise 2.5 percent of your final grade. In this presentation students are expected to address the following questions. What happened in this event? Who are the parties involved? What might be some important consequences of this event? What is the significance of this event for this course?

This presentation should not be longer than 5 minutes. You do not need to prepare PowerPoint slides. On the spreadsheet, which is located on the link below, there are two slots for each lecture day. Please pick a slot from the list by January 21.

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1TSjRSI-Rzlj9bsN5ND83lw9zvleCUcPGd3JhXBLhCrc/edit?usp=sharing>

## Short Paper

In the first several weeks of the course, we will focus on the theories of revolutions. Students will be given a thought question by the end of week four and will be asked to write a short paper answering this question. The due date for this paper is February 9. Students must submit an electronic copy on D2L by 11:00 AM on February 16. Students must also bring a print copy to the lecture on February 16. The paper should be between 750 – 1000 words. Students must cite at least three academic sources. Additional details will be discussed in the lecture. This short paper will comprise 15 percent of your final grade.

## Final Research Paper

At the end of the semester, students will submit a research paper that analyzes a revolutionary event/process from the perspective of the theories that will be surveyed in this course. The final research paper will comprise 25 percent of your final grade. The due date for this paper is April 27. Additional details about this paper will be provided in a separate document.

## Exams

There will be a midterm exam and a final exam in this course. The midterm exam will take place on Friday, March 9. It will comprise 25 percent of your final grade. The final exam will take place on Tuesday, May 8. It will comprise 25 percent of your final grade. Additional details about the format of exams will be announced before each exams.

## **Course Schedule**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Theme</b>	<b>Readings</b>
Week 1	1.17.17	Introduction and Course Administration	None
	1.19.17	Overview of the Theories of Revolution	Goldstone (2001): "Toward a Fourth Generation of Revolutionary Theory"
Week 2	1.22.17	Theories of Revolutions: Crane Brinton	Brinton (1965): "The Anatomy of Revolution" excerpts.
	1.24.17	Theories of Revolutions: Karl Marx	Marx (1848), "The Communist Manifesto" Ch.1
	1.26.17	Theories of Revolution: Chalmers Johnson	Johnson (1982): "Revolutionary Change" Ch.10
Week 3	1.29.17	Theories of Revolution: Ted Gurr	Gurr (1970) : "Why Men Rebel"Ch.2 & 9
	1.31.17	Theories of Revolution: James DeFronzo	DeFronzo (1991): "Social Movements & Revolutions" Ch.1
	2.2.17	Theories of Revolution: Charles Tilly	Tilly (1992): "European Revolutions" Ch.1 & 2

Week 4	2.5.17	Theories of Revolution: Theda Skocpol	Skocpol (1979): "States & Social Revolutions" Ch.1
	2.7.17	Rational Choice Approach to Revolutions	Goldstone (1994) : "Is Revolution Individually Rational"
	2.9.17	Revolutions as Collective Action	Tucker (2007): "Enough! Electoral Fraud, Collective Action Problems, and Post-Communist Color Revolutions "
Week 5	2.12.17	The French Revolution (Part One)	Collins (2012) "The Ancien Regime & The French Revolution" Ch.1
	2.14.17	The French Revolution (Part Two)	McPhee (2006): "The French Revolution" Ch.9
	2.16.17	The Russian Revolution (Part One) <b>(Short Paper Due)</b>	DeFronzo (1991): "The Russian Revolutions and Eastern Europe" Ch.2
Week 6	2.19.17	The Russian Revolution (Part Two)	Trotsky (1932) "The Art of Insurrection"
	2.21.17	The Nazi Uprising (Part One)	Snell (1968) : "The Nazi Revolution"
	2.23.17	The Nazi Uprising (Part Two)	TBD
Week 7	2.26.17	Revolution in China	DeFronzo (1991) : "The Chinese Revolution" Ch.3
	2.28.17	Counterinsurgency Theory & Strategy (Part One)	Fall (1963) : "Counterinsurgency: The French Experience"
	3.2.17	Counterinsurgency Theory & Strategy (Part Two)	Nagl (2002) : "The Hard Lesson of Insurgency"
Week 8	3.5.17	The Malay Insurgency	Shaw (1992) : "British Counterinsurgency Methods: Their Use in Malaya and the Possibility of Their Successful Transfer to Vietnam"
	3.7.17	Review for the Midterm Exam	None
	3.9.17	<b>MIDTERM EXAM</b>	
Week 9	3.12.17	The Velvet Revolution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Goodwin (1994) : "Old Regimes and Revolutions in the Second and Third Worlds"</li> <li>• Glenn (1999) : "Competing Challengers and Contested Outcomes to State Breakdown: The Velvet Revolution in Czechoslovakia"</li> </ul>
	3.14.17	The Vietnamese Revolution (Part One)	DeFronzo(1991) : "The Vietnamese Revolution" Ch.4

	3.16.17	The Vietnamese Revolution (Part Two)	Palm (1988) : "Tiger Papa Three" Part 1 & 2
Week 10	3.19.17	The Algerian Revolution	Foreign Area Studies (1985) : "Algeria: A Country Study"
	3.21.17	The Cuban Revolution (Part One)	DeFronzo (1991) : "The Cuban Revolution" Ch.5
	3.23.17	The Cuban Revolution (Part Two)	None
SPRING BREAK (3.26.17 – 3.30.17)			
Week 11	4.2.17	The Bolivian Uprising (Part One)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Farthing &amp; Kohl (2001) : "Bolivia's New Wave of Protests"</li> <li>• Saavedra (2006) : "Bolivia: The Rise of Evo Morales"</li> <li>• Shultz (2003): "The Water War Widens"</li> </ul>
	4.4.17	The Bolivian Uprising (Part Two)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Webber (2005) : "Left-Indigenous Struggles in Bolivia"</li> <li>• Weinberg (2004) : "In the Wake of "Black October""</li> </ul>
	4.6.17	The 1979 Iranian Revolution (Part One)	DeFronzo (1991) : "The Iranian Revolution and Islamic Fundamentalism" Ch.7
Week 12	4.9.17	The 1979 Iranian Revolution (Part Two)	TBD
	4.11.17	The Iranian Green Revolution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dages (2012): "Three years in, is Iran's Green Revolution Still Going?"</li> <li>• Rouzbeh (2013): "Remembering the Green Revolution"</li> </ul>
	4.13.17	The Arab Spring (Part One)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Telegraph (2011): "Arab Spring: TimeLine of the African and Middle East rebellions"</li> <li>• Bellin (2012) : "Reconsidering the Robustness of Authoritarianism in the Middle East"</li> <li>• Anderson (2011): "Demystifying the Arab Spring"</li> </ul>

Week 13	4.16.17	The Arab Spring (Part Two)	Werrell et al (2013) : “The Arab Spring and Climate Change”
	4.18.17	Syrian Civil War	Wimmen (2016): “Syria’s Path from Civic Uprising to Civil War”
	4.20.17	Ukraine Revolution (Part One)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Foreign Affairs (2014): “Drop Your Weapons”</li> <li>• Foreign Affairs (2014): “Russia's Latest Land Grab”</li> <li>• Foreign Affairs (2014): “Why the Ukraine Crisis Is the West's Fault”</li> <li>• Foreign Affairs (2014): “Ukraine's Orange Revolution”</li> </ul>
Week 14	4.23.17	Ukraine Revolution (Part Two)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Foreign Affairs (2017): “The Trouble With Arming Ukraine”</li> <li>• Foreign Affairs (2007): “How Ukraine Reined in Its Militias”</li> <li>• Foreign Affairs (2017): “Ukraine's Stalled Revolution”</li> </ul>
	4.25.17	Gezi Park Protests in Turkey	TBD
	4.27.17	Revolutionary Movements in the Contemporary Era (Part One) <b>(Final Research Paper Due)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tufekci &amp; Wilson (2012) : “Social Media and the Decision to Participate in Political Protest”</li> <li>• Farrell (2012): “The Consequences of Internet for Politics”</li> </ul>
Week 15	4.30.17	Revolutionary Movements in the Contemporary Era (Part Two)	TBD
	5.2.17	Review for the Final Exam	
	5.8.17	<b>FINAL EXAM</b>	

## **Policies**

### Accommodation for Disabilities

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to me a letter from Disability Services in a timely manner (for exam accommodations provide your letter at least one week prior to the exam) so that your needs can be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact Disability Services at 303-492-8671 or by e-mail at [dsinfo@colorado.edu](mailto:dsinfo@colorado.edu). If you have a temporary medical condition or injury, see Temporary Injuries guidelines under the Quick Links at the Disability Services website and discuss your needs with me.

### Religious Observances

Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to deal reasonably and fairly with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. See campus policy regarding religious observances for full details, and let me know no later than week three of the semester if you expect to miss any class for religious observance.

### Classroom Behavior

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Those who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, color, culture, religion, creed, politics, veteran's status, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity and gender expression, age, disability, and nationalities. Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student's legal name. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the semester so that I may make appropriate changes to my records. For more information, see the policies on classroom behavior and the student code.

### Discrimination and Harassment

The University of Colorado Boulder (CU-Boulder) is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working, and living environment. CU-Boulder will not tolerate acts of sexual misconduct, discrimination, harassment or related retaliation against or by any employee or student. CU's Sexual Misconduct Policy prohibits sexual assault, sexual exploitation, sexual harassment, intimate partner abuse (dating or domestic violence), stalking or related retaliation. CU-Boulder's Discrimination and Harassment Policy prohibits discrimination, harassment or related retaliation based on race, color, national origin, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, veteran status, political affiliation or political philosophy. Individuals who believe they have been subject to misconduct under either policy should contact the Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance (OIEC) at 303-492-2127.

Information about the OIEC, the above referenced policies, and the campus resources available to assist individuals regarding sexual misconduct, discrimination, harassment or related retaliation can be found at the OIEC website.

### Honor Code

All students of the University of Colorado at Boulder are responsible for knowing and adhering to the academic integrity policy of this institution. Violations of this policy may include: cheating, plagiarism, aid of academic dishonesty, fabrication, lying, bribery, and threatening behavior. All incidents of academic misconduct shall be reported to the Honor Code Council (honor@colorado.edu; 303-735-2273). Students who are found to be in violation of the academic integrity policy will be subject to both academic sanctions from the faculty member and non-academic sanctions (including but not limited to university probation, suspension, or expulsion). Additional information regarding the Honor Code policy can be found online and at the Honor Code Office.