# PSCI 24500: POLITICAL VIOLENCE

## PAPER ASSIGNMENTS: PAPERS 1 & 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>DATA PAPER (#1):</th>
<th>CASE PAPER (#2):</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/28</td>
<td>Riots</td>
<td>Annays</td>
<td>Grace (Vaccine Revolt – Brazil)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/30</td>
<td>Civil Wars</td>
<td>Emily, Wyatt</td>
<td>Angie (Yugoslavia)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/4</td>
<td>Revolutions</td>
<td></td>
<td>Lillian (Iran 1979)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/6</td>
<td>Coups</td>
<td>Rodriko</td>
<td>Jonathan (Iran 1953)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/11</td>
<td>Communal Conflict</td>
<td>Nyasha</td>
<td>Annays (failed coup in Ecuador, 2010)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/20</td>
<td>Assassinations</td>
<td>Lillian, Bilegsanaa</td>
<td>Otis (Archbishop Romero, El Salvador)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/25</td>
<td>Terrorism</td>
<td>Victoria</td>
<td>Sam (ETA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/27</td>
<td>Massacres (by rebels)</td>
<td>Brooks, Haohang</td>
<td>Tyler (DRC 2008 Christmas Massacres)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/3</td>
<td>Killing of Journalists</td>
<td>Jonathan</td>
<td>Victoria (Jamal Khashoggi)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/31</td>
<td>Repression</td>
<td>Sam</td>
<td>Rodriko (USA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Bilegsanaa (Mongolia, post-revolutionary repression)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/7</td>
<td>Slavery</td>
<td>Otis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/9</td>
<td>Torture</td>
<td>Mason, Braxton</td>
<td>Daniel (USA/Guantanamo Bay)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/14</td>
<td>Militias, Paramilitaries, &amp; Death Squads</td>
<td>Angie</td>
<td>Brooks (Iron Guard)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Nyasha (Zimbabwe)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/16</td>
<td>Sexual Violence in Internal Conflict</td>
<td>Tyler</td>
<td>Mason (Pakistan/Bangladesh 1971)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/21</td>
<td>Massacres (by the State)</td>
<td>No Data Paper:</td>
<td>Haohong (Tula Toli massacre, Myanmar)</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Data same as for 3/2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/23</td>
<td>Genocide/Politicide, Mass Killings (by state)</td>
<td>Daniel</td>
<td>Emily (Cambodia)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/30</td>
<td>Nonviolent Resistance</td>
<td>Grace</td>
<td>Wyatt (?)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Braxton (Otpor)</td>
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WHAT? – Students will be asked to write up a data review paper (approximately 4-6 pages). The paper can focus on an individual data set, or compare and contrast multiple data sets. Students can choose from the data sets identified and approved by the instructor, or employ other reputable scholarly data archives (with instructor permission). The paper must:

1) Explain how and why the type of political violence under discussion for that day is *conceptualized* by researchers gathering systematic information about it.
2) Explain how and why the type of political violence under discussion for that day is *operationalized* by researchers gathering systematic information about it.
3) Critically examine the *implications* of those choices for what we know or can learn about these phenomena.
4) Identify *examples* of articles in major academic journals or other research projects that use the data to investigate types of political violence, and discuss *how the data is used*, and *what is learned* about the phenomenon from using it.

WHY? – The goal of this assignment is to familiarize you, and the rest of the class, with previously compiled data sets and data sources that are available for use by researchers studying or analyzing large-scale political violence.

WHEN? – Each opportunity to write one of these papers will be associated with a set of readings and in-class discussion about a particular type of political violence. Therefore the data paper is due at the beginning of the class session with which it is associated, and the student must be in attendance for the class in which it is due (no submitting late or submitting it outside of class and not attending!).

WHO? – See Paper Assignments above, based on how students fill out their preference sheets.

WHERE? – In class during the session in which the paper is due, students will formally brief the rest of the class on the types of data sets available to researchers studying the topic of the day, outlining how these data sets operationalize this type of violence, and critically evaluating the data.

HOW? – All papers must be formatted using the APSA Style Manual. They should include a citation to the dataset itself, or to the article that introduces the data to the academic audience. *NOTE: Most data sets or websites that host data identify how the data should be cited somewhere on the webpage, in the related article, or in the data codebook.*
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>DATA SETS</th>
</tr>
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</table>
| 1/28  | Riots                        | - Armed Conflict Location & Event Data (ACLED) [http://www.acleddata.com](http://www.acleddata.com)  
- The Social, Political and Economic Event Database Project (SPEED) [https://clinecenter.illinois.edu/project/human-loop-event-data-projects/SPEED](https://clinecenter.illinois.edu/project/human-loop-event-data-projects/SPEED) |
| 1/30  | Civil Wars                   | - Correlates of War Intrastate War Data [http://www.correlatesofwar.org/](http://www.correlatesofwar.org/)  
- UCDP/PRIO Armed Conflict Dataset [https://www.prio.org/Data/Armed-Conflict/UCDP-PRIO/](https://www.prio.org/Data/Armed-Conflict/UCDP-PRIO/) |
| 2/25  | Terrorism                    | - Global Terrorism Database [http://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/](http://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/)  
- UCDP One-Sided Violence Dataset [https://ucdp.uu.se/downloads/](https://ucdp.uu.se/downloads/) |
| 3/3   | Killing of Journalists       | - Committee to Protect Journalists [https://cpj.org/killed/](https://cpj.org/killed/)  
- Political Terror Scale (PTS) [http://www.politicalterrorscale.org/](http://www.politicalterrorscale.org/)  
| 4/7   | Slavery                      | - Voyages: Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade [http://www.slavevoyages.org](http://www.slavevoyages.org)  
| 4/9   | Torture                      | - Ill-Treatment & Torture (ITT) Data [http://faculty.ucmerced.edu/econrad2/Academic/ITT_Data_Collection.html](http://faculty.ucmerced.edu/econrad2/Academic/ITT_Data_Collection.html)  
- Cingranelli & Richards (CIRI) Human Rights Data (torture) [http://www.humanrightsdata.com](http://www.humanrightsdata.com) |
| 4/21  | Genocide/Politicide Mass Killings (by state) | - PITF State Failure Problem Set: Genocide/Politicide Data [http://www.systemicpeace.org/inscrdata.html](http://www.systemicpeace.org/inscrdata.html)  
- Global Nonviolent Action Database [http://nvdatabase.swarthmore.edu/](http://nvdatabase.swarthmore.edu/) |
WHAT? – Students will be asked to write up a case study briefing paper (approximately 4-6 pages) that will supplement our discussions of the phenomena and cases that we otherwise will read about and discuss on that day. The paper must:

1. Briefly discuss the relevant background of case in question, including the nature or identity of the relevant actors.
2. Clearly identify and define what type of political violence occurred.
3. Explain the reasons why this type of political violence occurred in that case of interest, and/or why it occurred at a particular point in its history (prior conditions, causes).
4. Explain how and why this type of political violence played out in the case (dynamics).
5. Discuss how this type of political violence was dealt with and/or was terminated in that case of interest (outcomes, responses).
6. Discuss the consequences of the occurrence of this type of political violence in that case of interest (consequences).

A good briefing paper is clear and concise, and demonstrates knowledge of the case and the phenomenon but presents it in an intelligent but accessible manner. When writing the paper you may want to think of yourself as a staffer writing a memo to your boss that outlines the situation in that case, not assuming prior knowledge about the case or the type of political violence.

WHY? – The goal of this assignment is to familiarize you, and the rest of the class, with additional instances of the occurrence of large-scale political violence in cases beyond those already covered in class. This will allow us to both gain substantive knowledge about these cases, and be better able to compare cases and evaluate phenomena across cases.

WHEN? – Each opportunity to write one of these papers will be associated with a set of readings and in-class discussion about a particular type of political violence. Therefore the case study briefing paper is due at the beginning of the class session with which it is associated, and the student must be in attendance for the class in which it is due (no submitting late or submitting it outside of class and not attending!).

WHO? – See Paper Assignments above, based on how students fill out their preference sheets.

WHERE? – In class during the session in which the paper is due, students will be tasked with briefing the rest of the class on this particular case, and how the type of political violence examined that day plays out in that case.

HOW? – All papers must be formatted using the APSA Style Manual.