

INTL 4280: Ethnicity, Conflict, and Cooperation

University of Georgia

Fall 2018, MWF 3:35pm-4:25pm

Instructor:	Micah Gell-Redman
Email:	mgredman@uga.edu
Phone:	(706) 542-6354
Website:	micahgellredman.com
Office:	323 Candler Hall
Office Hours:	Wednesdays, 9-11am
Classroom:	MLC 268

Welcome!

This is a course about ethnic diversity and its importance for politics. We begin by asking what ethnicity is and why it should, in theory, be linked to political outcomes. We then cover three key areas in which ethnic diversity is theoretically important: the provision of (or failure to provide) public goods, political competition, and conflict.

How will you be graded?

Assignment	Proportion of grade
Midterm exam	25%
End of course exam	25%
Very short paper 1	25%
Very short paper 2	25%

Our main activity will be discussion of the assigned readings. I will typically produce a handout to structure our approach to the readings. Using the handout as a guide, we will discuss each paper and draw out the core ideas. Your grade will be based on three exams administered over the course of the semester.

Ground rules

You are responsible for being self-motivated, self-directed, active learners. I expect you to comply with university policy and use common sense. You should complete all of the course assignments and participate fully in all of our activities. A complete list of the course policies is posted on my website.

Goals and teaching philosophy

When this course is finished, you should:

- Develop a robust conceptual understanding of ethnicity
- Deepen your understanding of core social science concepts by applying them to a range of cases
- Understand the main theoretical explanations for the impacts of ethnic diversity
- Have explored the main empirical approaches to studying the impacts of diversity on conflict and cooperation

As your professor, it is my responsibility to create an environment that fosters your learning. This includes keeping materials up to date on the course etc, and otherwise providing a well-organized course. You are responsible for taking advantage of that environment. If any aspect of the course is impeding your learning, please communicate that to me in whatever way you feel most comfortable.¹

Course Schedule

Most readings will be available via UGA's electronic course reserves system (password: gettogether).

¹A note about my name: Feel free to call me Micah or Professor Redman or Professor Gell-Redman.

Weeks 1-3: What is ethnicity, and why does it matter for politics?

Required reading:

- “Conflict Is More Profitable Than Peace” by Nicholas Kristoff
 - Chandra (2006)
 - Fearon and Laitin (2000)
-

Weeks 4-7: Ethnicity and public goods

Required reading:

- Habyarimana et al. (2009, Chapter 1)
- Habyarimana et al. (2007)
- Alesina, Baqir and Easterly (1999)
- Enos and Gidron (2016)

Very short paper 1, definition of ethnicity, due Sep 7
Midterm, October 1

Weeks 8-11: Ethnicity and political representation

Required reading:

- Posner (2004)
 - Eifert, Miguel and Posner (2010)
 - Ferree (2006)
 - McClendon (2016)
-

Weeks 12-15: Ethnicity and conflict

Required reading:

- Fearon and Laitin (1996)
- Scacco and Warren (2018)
- Enos (2016)
- Chandra (2005)

End of semester exam, Dec 4

Very short paper 2, due Dec 10

References

- Alesina, Alberto, Reza Baqir and William Easterly. 1999. "Public goods and ethnic divisions." *The Quarterly Journal of Economics* 114(4):1243–1284.
- Chandra, Kanchan. 2005. "Ethnic parties and democratic stability." *Perspectives on Politics* 3(2):235–252.
- Chandra, Kanchan. 2006. "What is ethnic identity and does it matter?" *Annu. Rev. Polit. Sci.* 9:397–424.
- Eifert, Benn, Edward Miguel and Daniel N. Posner. 2010. "Political Competition and Ethnic Identification in Africa." *American Journal of Political Science* 54(2):494.
- Enos, Ryan D. 2016. "What the demolition of public housing teaches us about the impact of racial threat on political behavior." *American Journal of Political Science* 60(1):123–142.
- Enos, Ryan D and Noam Gidron. 2016. "Intergroup behavioral strategies as contextually determined: Experimental evidence from Israel." *The Journal of Politics* 78(3):851–867.
- Fearon, James D and David D Laitin. 1996. "Explaining interethnic cooperation." *American political science review* 90(4):715–735.
- Fearon, James D and David D Laitin. 2000. "Violence and the social construction of ethnic identity." *International organization* 54(4):845–877.
- Ferree, Karen E. 2006. "Explaining South Africa's racial census." *Journal of Politics* 68(4):803–815.
- Habyarimana, James, Macartan Humphreys, Dan Posner and Jeremy Weinstein. 2007. "Why Does Ethnic Diversity Undermine Public Goods Provision? An Experimental Approach." *American Political Science Review* 101(4):709–725.

- Habyarimana, James, Macartan Humphreys, Dan Posner and Jeremy Weinstein. 2009. *Coethnicity: Diversity and the Dilemmas of Collective Action*. New York: Russell Sage Foundation.
- McClendon, Gwyneth H. 2016. "Race and responsiveness: An experiment with South African politicians." *Journal of Experimental Political Science* 3(1):60–74.
- Posner, Daniel N. 2004. "The political salience of cultural difference: Why Chewas and Tumbukas are allies in Zambia and adversaries in Malawi." *American Political Science Review* 98(4):529–545.
- Scacco, Alexandra and Shana S Warren. 2018. "Can social contact reduce prejudice and discrimination? Evidence from a field experiment in Nigeria." *American Political Science Review* pp. 1–24.