Spring 2016

Advanced Seminar on Conflict and Contentious Politics

Class Time: Tuesdays, 8:30-11:40
Class Meeting Location: Room 406

Professor Yasuyuki Matsunaga
Office Hours: 12:00-12:30 @Room 524 (Monday through Thursday)
E-mail: matsunaga@tufs.ac.jp

Course Requirements

1. Weekly reading and assignments (due the day before the class meeting); and

2. A Term Paper (in 4000 to 6000 words) due by the end of July; the paper’s central question and outline (i.e., structure) must be approved, at the latest, by early June (or Week 9 in the schedule below).

Objectives

1. To ensure that the participants become versed with cutting-edge theoretical approaches and empirical research through reading and discussing select works on the dynamics of conflict and contentious politics; and

2. To ensure that the participants practice writing a theoretically-informed academic research paper.

Schedule

Week 1 (April 12): Course Introduction; no reading.


Required Readings:


Recommended Readings:


Mahoney, James, and Dietrich Rueschemeyer, eds. 2003. *Comparative Historical Analysis in the Social Sciences*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.


Week 3 (April 26): The Study of Violent Conflict

**Required Readings:**


**Recommended Readings:**


Week 4 (May 3): Mobilization and Repression

**Required Readings:**


**Recommended Readings:**


Week 5 (May 10) – No class due to the instructor’s travel.

Week 6 (May 17): Nonviolent Civil Resistance, Nonetheless (1)

**Required Readings:**


Nikolayenko, Olena. 2015. “Youth Mobilization before and during the Orange Revolution: Learning from Losses,” Ch. 3 of *Civil Resistance: Comparative Perspectives on Nonviolent Struggle*, edited by Kurt Schock (Minneapolis: Univ. of Minnesota Press), 93-120.

**Recommended Readings:**


Week 7 (May 24): Nonviolent Civil Resistance (2)

Required Readings:


David, Isabel, and Kumru F. Toktamis, 2015, “Introduction,” in Everywhere Taksim: Sowing the Seeds for a New Turkey at Gezi, edited by Isabel David and Kumru F. Toktamis (Amsterdam: Amsterdam Univ. Press), 15-26; and


Recommended Readings:


Week 8 (May 31): Discursive Fields and Framing Processes

Required Readings:

and Hanspeter Kriesi (Oxford: Blackwell), 380-412.

**Recommended Readings:**


McAdam, Doug, John D. McCarthy, and Mayer N. Zald, eds. 1996. *Comparative Perspectives on Social Movements: Political Opportunities, Mobilizing Structures, and Cultural Framings*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.


**Week 9 (June 7): Sociocultural Contentious Politics**

**Required Readings:**

Recommended Readings:


Week 10 (June 14): A Midterm Break

Week 11 (June 21): Violence against Civilians

Required Readings:


Recommended Readings:


Week 12 (June 28) – Student presentation (TBA)

Week 13 (July 5) – Student presentation (TBA)

**Term Paper is due on Friday, July 22, 2016** (by the end of this day) at matsunaga@tufs.ac.jp.

**Further References**


________. 1998. “Myths and Misconceptions in the Study of Nationalism,” in *The State of the


McAdam, Doug, Sidney Tarrow, and Charles Tilly. 2001. Dynamics of Contention. Cambridge:
Cambridge University Press.


Varshney, Ashutosh. 1997. “Postmodernism, Civic Engagement and Ethnic Conflict: A Passage to India,” Comparative Politics 30(1): 1-20; and


University Press.


