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PSC 323.01: Politics of Revolution

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Political Science 323
Politics of Revolution

Autumn 1997
Office Hours: 10:00-11:00 MWF
Or by appointment
Office: LA 349

Texts: Thomas Greene, Comparative Revolutionary Movements 3rd ed

Jonathan White, Terrorism: An Introduction 2nd ed

Requirements:

This course involves an exploration of various theories, interpretations and explanations of civil violence. The purpose is to develop a model describing where and under what conditions politically relevant violence is likely to occur and who is likely to participate.

There will be two one-hour exams: the first will be on October 3 and the second on November 7. Each exam counts for 20% of the final grade. A two-hour comprehensive final exam counts for 40% of the final grade. The final exam is scheduled for December 19, 8:00-10:00. NO EARLY FINALS WILL BE GIVEN. Exams will consist of combinations of identification, short answer and essay questions.

Additional work consists of a short paper (5 to 10 pages) and a presentation which address some event of civil violence. The presentation should be approximately 10 minutes long and is a summary of the material contained in the paper. For this assignment, the theoretical material developed in the course should be employed to explain some aspect of an actual incident of civil violence. The presentation/paper consists of four parts: a description of the theory being employed, a description of the incident of civil violence, an assessment of the utility of the theory, and a bibliography. Notes and bibliography style of the paper must follow the Turabian manual of style (fifth edition). Papers which fail to conform to Turabian will be returned for correction. The presentations will take place during the last two weeks of the semester. All papers are due December 1. This combined assignment counts for 20% of the final grade. LATE PAPERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED FOR ANY REASON INCLUDING PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH COMPUTERS AND WORD PROCESSORS. THEREFORE IT IS A GOOD IDEA TO COMPLETE THIS ASSIGNMENT BEFORE THE DEADLINE. EARLY PAPERS ARE WELCOME!

In order to make the experience of this course as congenial as possible for all concerned, you are asked to observe the following rules. Do not come to class late or depart early. Do not use class time to read the Kaimin, write letters, chat with your neighbors or engage in other activities not related to the course.

TOPIC OUTLINE:

READING ASSIGNMENT

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Concepts and Terms | Greene, Ch. 1-2 |
| 2. Conditions and Preconditions | Greene, Ch. 10-11 |
| 3. Theories | Greene, Ch. 12 |
| 4. More theories | |

First Exam--October 3

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------|
| 5. Participants: Leaders | Greene, Ch. 4 |
| 6. Participants: Followers | Greene, Ch. 5 |
| 7. Ideology | Greene, Ch. 6 |
| 8. Organization | Greene, Ch. 7 |
| 9. Resources | Greene, Ch. 8-9 |

Second Exam--November 7

- | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 8. Terrorism Defined | White, Ch. 1 |
| 9. Terrorism: Goals and Objectives | White Ch. 2 |
| 10. Terrorism: Regional Analysis | |
| A. The West | White, Ch. 3, 13, 14 |
| B. Latin American | White, Ch. 4, 8, 9 |
| C. Middle East | White, Ch. 5, 12 |
| D. United States | White, Ch. 10, 11 |
| 11. Terrorism and the Media | White, Ch. 16 |
| 12. Dealing with Terrorism | White, Ch. 15, 17 |
| 13. Dynamics of Terrorism | White Ch. 6, 7 |

Final Exam December 19 (8:00-10:00)

Note: October 13 is the last day to drop classes or change grading option.