



# CDSn4002: POLITICAL VIOLENCE

INTRODUCTION &  
WELCOME

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# Agenda

- ▶ Introductions
- ▶ Syllabus and course overview

# Introductions

1. Who are you?
2. What are you hoping to get out of this course?

# Required Literature

- ▶ The required course readings are available through the course online system or
- ▶ the library:  
<https://knihovna.fss.muni.cz/>



# Course website

- ▶ We have a course website through MUNI Information System (IS): <https://is.muni.cz/?lang=en>
- ▶ On the website you will find the readings as well as course announcements, slides, and the syllabus.
  - ▶ Lecture outlines will be posted once a week
- ▶ **You are responsible for regularly checking the website.**

# Syllabus overview

- ▶ Assignments:
  - 1) In-class group work
  - 2) Critical reflection
  - 3) Final exam

# In-class group work [20 points]

- ▶ 20 minutes, groups of two to three students, **TWICE**
- ▶ Prepare and present a critical response to the assigned readings for that week.
- ▶ Initiate a discussion with the rest of the class.

# Self-reflection [10 points]

- ▶ A one to two-page reflection on your understanding of political violence as it relates to your everyday life, including the things you read (or listen or watch) for class(es), work, or leisure.
- ▶ **Two parts**, each worth 5 points for a total of 10 points.
  - ▶ One reflection at the beginning of the course (**in week 2) DUE FEB 26 in the IS**)
  - ▶ One reflection at the end of the course (**week 12 – DUE MAY 6 in the IS**). In this second reflection you must link your thoughts to the assigned class readings.



# Final exam [40 points]

- ▶ Written test after the course concludes
- ▶ 4 short-answer questions
- ▶ 10 points each
- ▶ Covers required literature and lectures

# Grade distribution

- ▶ A: 70-64 points
- ▶ B: 63-57 points
- ▶ C: 56-51 points
- ▶ D: 50-46 points
- ▶ E: 45-42 points
- ▶ F: 41 points and less

# Course overview

- ▶ *Who are the perpetrators and victims of political violence? Why does political violence occur? What are its political impacts?*
- ▶ **Part I:** the core concepts in the study of political violence, including different types of such violence along with perpetrators and victims.
- ▶ **Part II:** select types of direct political violence
- ▶ **Part III:** select types of structural political violence

# Course objectives

- ▶ **Identify and critically evaluate** major theories, hypotheses, and debates on causes, types, and impacts of violence used for political goals.
- ▶ **Critically assess** theoretical approaches and research methods linked to the study of political violence.
- ▶ **Evaluate** different justifications for the use of political violence.

# WEEK 2 TASKS

- ▶ Read the syllabus
- ▶ Sign-up for the readings (a Google Sheet will be emailed to you today – **check your MUNI e-mail**)
  - ▶ Prepare your critical response if you sign up for week2
- ▶ Critical reflection #1



Questions?