

**Introduction and
welcome**

October 6, 2020

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CDSn4001:

Conflict

Analysis

Welcome to CDSn4001

- **Instructor:** Miriam Matejova
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Learning objectives

- Get to know your classmates.
- Understand the structure and requirements of this course.

Introductions

1. Who are you?
2. What is your academic background?
3. Why did you choose to pursue an MA at MUNI?
4. What are your career plans?
5. 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:
<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) Weekly collaboratively summaries of the assigned required readings.
 - 2) Final exam in form of an (online) written test, which will cover the required literature and lectures.

Weekly summaries

- Worth 30 points
 - Start in Week 2
 - 3 points per week, one “free pass”
- Collaborative
- Analytical
- Written through GoogleDocs
- Must be submitted **by midnight CET before the class meets**

Final exam

- Worth 50 points
- Written test after the course concludes (likely online)
- Short-answer questions
 - Must answer 5 out of 6
 - 10 points each
- Covers required literature and lectures

Grade distribution

- A: 80-74 points
- B: 73-69 points
- C: 68-62 points
- D: 61-56 points
- E: 55-48 points
- F: 47 points and less

Course objectives

- Identify and critically evaluate major theories, hypotheses, and debates on the causes of violent interstate conflict and civil war;
- Use theory to better understand and gain insight into the causes of particular conflicts;
- Use theory and history to design and assess viable policy options for preventing or minimizing the severity of violent conflict.

Course overview

- This class is organized around discussion.
- Respectful environment is therefore crucial.
- Our starting point will be the weekly analytical summaries.
- Lectures will focus and/or supplement the reading material.

Next week: analytical summaries

- GoogleDocs
- Template distribution
- Summarizers