Course Syllabus

GEOG 410/510 - Winter 2017

M/W 10:00-11:50
Knight Law School 142

This course will use Northern Ireland as a primary case to focus on social conflict, territorial disputes, and options for moving toward political accommodations. It will operate in a mixed lecture/seminar format, and touch upon a range of issues that reflect the broad impact of zero sum conflicts, including sectarian dynamics in the work place, the family, the educational system, government, popular culture, and "the street." It will explore structural elements that are part of the Catholic- Republican-Nationalist /Protestant-Loyalist-Unionist struggle, as well as the narratives that stem from and contribute to the encompassing dispute. In lecture and discussion we will move among several different scales as we incorporate the experience of the individual, the community, and the nation(s) and attempt to identify strategies that help mitigate or transform the zero-sum situation that has characterized much of Northern Ireland for generations.

Requirements:
Attendance is mandatory and participation in discussions is essential for the success of the course. Reading material should be prepared in advance of our meetings. You will be graded on the following components:

-a quiz demonstrating familiarity with Northern Ireland's parties and players for 15% of the final grade at the end of week 3

-a brief comment on what's on the radio and in the newspapers at the end of week 3, what's on Slugger at the end of week 5, and what's on the CAIN site at the end of week 6, these will be worth 10, 5, and 5% of the final grade

-a character or issue presentation to the class Monday of week 8 worth 15% of the final grade

-our in-class negotiation (as part of a working group) weeks 9 and 10 of the term, and a final summary essay, each of these will be worth 25% of the grade. Please note - ATTENDANCE AT AN EVENING/NIGHT SESSION WEDNESDAY OF WEEK 10 IS MANDATORY AND WILL RUN LATE! We will not have a final exam, but we will have an hour long debrief Friday of week 10. I am happy to accommodate students with special-ed needs, please contact me at the beginning of the term to make the necessary arrangements.

Readings (subject to change!):
Much of our reading material has been collated on the CAIN website (Conflict Archive on the INternet) which can be found at cain.ulster.ac.uk. and has an enormous collection of original and secondary sources relating to the conflict in Northern Ireland. Additional readings will be posted on Canvas, and we will have a bunch of stuff in our Facebook group CRES NI 2017 at https://www.facebook.com/groups/589002761301511/. You must also read the New York Times, for which you can get a cheap student-rate M-F delivery subscription. For an ongoing discussion of current events in Northern Ireland, plus commentary on various bits and pieces, you should browse the http://sluggerotoole.com/ blog regularly.

Week 1
Read John Darby's introduction to the conflict on the CAIN website, http://cain.ulster.ac.uk/events/peace/darby03.htm, and Fearon and Laitin's article “Ethnicity, Insurgency, and Civil War".
Week 2

Week 3
Read Peter Shirlow’s 2003 "Ethno-sectarianism and the Reproduction of Fear in Belfast" in *Capital and Class* #80:77-93, Nagle’s "Divided Belfast," and *Eureka Street*. Please note, *Eureka Street* will only be available after Monday of this week.

Week 4
Read Fealty et al.’s 2003 *A Long Peace: The Future of Unionism in Northern Ireland* (not nearly as long as it looks!), and Graham and Shirlow, "An Elusive Agenda".

Week 5
Read Sheena McGrellis' "Pure and bitter spaces: Gender, identity and territory in Northern Irish youth transitions," in *Gender and Education* 17(5), Harland's "Violent Youth Culture in Northern Ireland in *Youth & Society* 43(2):414-432.

Week 6

Week 7
Read Cohen's "Winning while losing: The Apprentice Boys of Derry walk their beat" in *Political Geography* 26(8) and Graham & Whelan, "The legacies of the dead: Commemorating the Troubles in Northern Ireland"

Week 8
Read Douglas, "The politics of accommodation, social change, and conflict resolution in Northern Ireland," *Political Geography* 17(2): 209-229, 1998 and Shirlow and Coulter’s “20 Years After the Cease Fires” in *Studies in Conflict and Terrorism* 37:9, 713-719,

**Position/Character studies and presentations on Monday!**

Week 9
Negotiations

Week 10
Negotiations continue

**SPECIAL TIME FOR WEDNESDAY’S ADDITIONAL CLASS, WE BEGIN AT 7:00 PM AND CONTINUE UNTIL....**

**Plus Friday debrief**

**Finals Week**
Turn in your negotiation summary electronically and that's it!