



Nonviolent Resistance in the International System

GVPT 409N
Fall 2019

Learning Outcomes

This course is an advanced seminar on nonviolent resistance. Students are expected to gain an understanding of the major causes, dynamics, and consequences of nonviolent resistance. Additionally, students will learn how to interpret and evaluate social science research. The course will focus on both theoretical approaches to nonviolence and the scientific study of nonviolence. The course will also explore empirical trends in nonviolent resistance.

Required Resources

Course website: elms.umd.edu

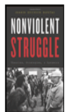
Three books are required:



FORCE MORE POWERFUL
REQUIRED | By JACKERMAN
EDITION: 00
PUBLISHER: MAC HIGHER ISBN: 9780312240509



WHY CIVIL RESISTANCE WORKS
REQUIRED | By CHENOWETH
EDITION: 11
PUBLISHER: INGRAM PUB ISBN: 9780231156837



NONVIOLENT STRUGGLE
REQUIRED | By NEPSTAD
EDITION: 15
PUBLISHER: OXF ISBN: 9780199976041

Other readings will be posted or linked to on ELMS.

Campus Policies

It is our shared responsibility to know and abide by the University of Maryland’s policies that relate to all courses, which include topics like:

- Academic integrity
- Student and instructor conduct
- Accessibility and accommodations
- Attendance and excused absences
- Grades and appeals
- Copyright and intellectual property

Please visit www.ugst.umd.edu/coursereLATEDpolicies.html for the Office of Undergraduate Studies’ full list of campus-wide policies and follow up with me if you have questions.

Students with disabilities: I will make every effort to accommodate students who are registered with the Disability Support Services (DSS) Office. Students who are not registered with DSS or who do not provide us with documentation or have not had that documentation reviewed by DSS early in the semester cannot be accommodated.

Dr. Kathleen Cunningham

Class Meets

Tuesdays & Thursdays
11:00am – 12:15pm
Tydings 0101

Office Hours

Chincoteague 3117D
Tuesdays 1:30 – 3:30 and by appointment

Course Communication

Course announcements will be sent through ELMS.

The best way to discuss course material and any issues with course logistics is in person. Please only email via ELMS to set up an appointment with me.

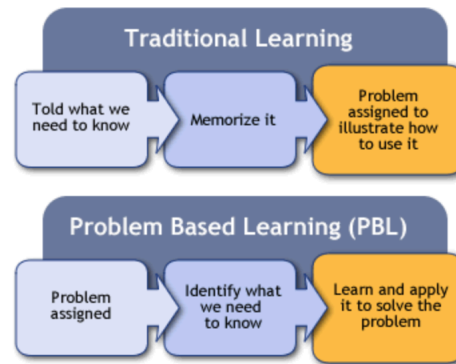
Missing Class

You do not need to contact me about missing regular class meetings. I will assume you are making every effort to attend each session.

Activities, Learning Assessments, & Expectations for Students

This course will be a mix of traditional lecture, collaborative work during class meetings, and problem-based learning. Problem based learning (PBL) focuses on acquiring information, creative thinking, and problem solving. The basic steps include:

1. Examine and define the problem.
2. Explore what we already know about underlying issues related to it.
3. Determine what you need to learn and where you can acquire the information.
4. Evaluate possible ways to solve the problem.
5. Solve the problem.
6. Report on the findings.



In each class meeting (starting week 2), I will provide with you with the “problem,” often framed as a social dilemma or a research question. A part of each class meeting will be PBL in small groups.

While the course style will rely on interactive participation, assessment for course grades will be individual for each student. Students are expected to do the reading before the class meetings. I will highlight central points, but not lecture on the readings.

Grades

Your grade is determined by your performance on the learning assessments in the course and is assigned individually (not curved). All assessment scores will be posted on the course ELMS page.

Student grades are based on the following:

Exam 1: short answer (30%)

Exam 2: short answer (30%)

Research paper: 12 – 15 pages (double spaced, 12 point font) (40%)

Exams are short answer and taken in the computer lab. A study guide will be provided to clarify topics for each exam. I will hold an online chat the day before each exam via ELMS chat.

There are several options for the final research paper. You will be expected to do independent research with some guidance in class. Your topic must be picked by week 10.

Independent research topics

1. Humor in civil resistance
2. Maintaining nonviolent discipline
3. Geopolitics of nonviolent resistance
4. Youth in nonviolent resistance

Final letter grades are assigned based on the percentage of total assessment points earned. To be fair to everyone I have to establish clear standards and apply them consistently, so please understand that being close to a cutoff will not result in a different grade (89.99 \neq 90.00). It would be unethical to make exceptions for some and not others. The cut offs are as follows:

A	93%+	C	73% - 76.99%
A-	90% - 92.99%	C-	70% - 72.99%
B+	87% - 89.99%	D+	67% - 69.99%
B	83% - 86.99%	D	63% - 66.99%
B-	80% - 82.99%	D-	60% - 62.99%
C+	77% - 79.99%	F	lower than 60%

Course-Specific Policies

Technology. The use of cell phones is not permitted in class. If you have critical communication to attend to, please excuse yourself and return when you are ready. For more information about the science behind the policy watch: youtu.be/WwPaw3Fx5Hk

For this course, your final paper will be collected via Turnitin on our course ELMS page. I have chosen to use this tool because it can help you improve your scholarly writing and help me verify the integrity of student work. For information about Turnitin, how it works, and the feedback reports you may have access to, visit [Turnitin Originality Checker for Students](#)

Student Resources

The University of Maryland is concerned about student wellbeing. If you are having difficulty, I encourage you to visit tutoring.umd.edu or the campus writing center at ter.ps/writing to learn more about the wide range of campus resources available to you. There are a wide range of resources to support you in whatever way you might need (see go.umd.edu/assistance), including mental health and stress management. Visit counseling.umd.edu or one of the many other resources on campus. Most services are free.

Basic Needs Security: If you have difficulty affording groceries or accessing sufficient food to eat every day, or lack a safe and stable place to live and believe this may affect your performance in this course, please visit go.umd.edu/basic-needs for information about resources the campus offers you.

Names/Pronouns and Self Identifications: The University of Maryland recognizes the importance of a diverse student body, and we are committed to fostering inclusive and equitable classroom environments. I invite you, if you wish, to tell us how you want to be referred to both in terms of your name and your pronouns (he/him, she/her, they/them, etc.). The pronouns someone indicates are not necessarily indicative of their gender identity. Visit trans.umd.edu to learn more.

Tentative Course Schedule

This is a tentative schedule, subject to change as necessary – monitor the course ELMS page for updates.

Week 1 (8/27 & 8/29) – Introductions and Terminology

Read: nothing before classes this week. At your convenience, read:

1. “The Practice and Study of Civil Resistance.” By Schock.

Week 2 (9/3 & 9/5) – Features of nonviolence and cases

Read for Tuesday:

1. Chapter 1 of Nonviolent Struggle

Read for Thursday:

2. Chapter 9 of A Force More Powerful

Week 3 (9/10 & 9/12) – Features of nonviolence and cases

Read for Tuesday:

1. Chapter 2 of Nonviolent Struggle

Read for Thursday:

2. Chapter 2 of A Force More Powerful
3. “Now out of never” by Kuran

Week 4 (9/17 & 9/19) – Features of nonviolence and cases

Read for Tuesday:

1. Chapter 3 of Civil Resistance Today

Read for Thursday:

2. Chapter 6 in Why Civil Resistance Works
3. Hong Kong protest articles

Week 5 (9/24 & 9/26) – Exam 1 and introduction to scientific study of nonviolence

Exam 1 on Tuesday

Read for Thursday:

1. “Reading and understanding political science” by Power

Week 6 (10/1 & 10/3) - Scientific study of nonviolence

Read for Tuesday:

1. “Understanding Nonviolent Resistance: An Introduction” by Chenoweth and Cunningham
2. “Dynamics and factors of transition from armed struggle to nonviolent resistance” by Dudouet

Read for Thursday:

3. “Unpacking nonviolent campaigns: Introducing the NAVCO 2.0 dataset” by Chenoweth and Lewis

Week 7 (10/8 & 10/10) – Repression and Backfire

Read for Tuesday:

1. "State repression and nonviolent resistance." By Chenoweth et al.
2. Chapter 7 of A Force More Powerful

Read for Thursday:

3. “Repression, backfire, and the theory of transformative events” by Brian Martin

Week 8 (10/15 & 10/17) – Framing

Read for Tuesday:

1. “Framing Overview” by Benford and Snow

Read for Thursday:

2. “Beyond rational choice: Ideational assault and the strategic use of frames in nonviolent civil resistance.” by Gould and Moe

Week 9 (10/22 & 10/24) – Defection

Read for Tuesday:

1. “Exit, resistance, loyalty: Military behavior during unrest in authoritarian regimes.” by Albrecht and Ohl

Read for Thursday

2. “Mutiny and nonviolence in the Arab Spring: Exploring military defections and loyalty in Egypt, Bahrain, and Syria” by Nepstad

Week 10 (10/29 & 10/31) – Gender and nonviolence

Paper topics due

Read for Tuesday:

1. “Gender ideologies and forms of contentious mobilization in the Middle East” by Asal et al.

Read for Thursday:

2. “Women, Violence and Nonviolent Resistance in East Timor” by Mason

Week 11 (11/5 & 11/7) – Leaders and civilians

Read for Tuesday:

1. “Kill a Leader, Murder a ...Leadership and Assassination in Social Movements” by Bob and Nepstad.
2. Letter from Birmingham Jail by MLK JR.
3. Nelson Mandela’s “I am prepared to die” speech

Read for Thursday:

4. "Violent and Nonviolent Resistance in Contexts of Prolonged Crisis: The Civilian Perspective." by Dorff.

Week 12 (11/12 & 11/14) – Conditions for nonviolent campaigns

Read for Tuesday:

1. “Can structural conditions explain the onset of nonviolent uprisings?” by Chenoweth and Ulfelder.

Read for Thursday:

2. "The diffusion of nonviolent campaigns" by Gleditsch and Rivera.

Week 13 (11/19 & 11/21) – Efficacy of civil resistance

Read for Tuesday:

1. Chapters 1- 3 in Why Civil Resistance Works

Read for Thursday

2. "Does Nonviolence Work?" by Lehoucq

Week 14 (11/26 & 11/28) – Exam 2 and Thanksgiving break

Exam 2 on Tuesday

*alternative exam time will be offered on Friday of week 13

Week 15 (12/3 & 12/5) – Research paper workshop

No reading for this week. Students will have the opportunity for one-on-one meetings about their research papers.

Final paper due December 11 at 10 am. Submit through ELMS.