

(Course Number)  
(Term)

## TOPICS IN POLITICS: CLIMATE CHANGE AND CONFLICT

Professor Patrick Hunnicutt

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**Meeting Times:**  
TBD

**Office Hours:**  
TBD

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### Course Schedule

#### Part I: Introduction

##### Lectures 1-3: The Science and Politics of Climate Change

- deGrasse Tyson, Neil. 2014. Weather vs. Climate Change and Simple Explanation of Climate Change.
- Tollefson, Jeff. 2018. "IPCC says limiting global warming to 1.5 C will require drastic action." *it* 562.7726: 172-173.
- IPCC. 2019. "Executive Summary." In *Climate Change and Land: an IPCC special report on climate change, desertification, land degradation, sustainable land management, food security, and greenhouse gas fluxes in terrestrial ecosystems*. Edited by P.R. Shukla, J. Skea, E. Calvo Buendia, V. Masson-Delmotte, H.-O. Pörtner, D. C. Roberts, P. Zhai, R. Slade, S. Connors, R. van Diemen, M. Ferrat, E. Haughey, S. Luz, S. Neogi, M. Pathak, J. Petzold, J. Portugal Pereira, P. Vyas, E. Huntley, K. Kissick, M. Belkacemi, J. Malley.
- Hsiang, Solomon, et al. 2017. "Estimating economic damage from climate change in the United States." *Science* 356(6345): 1362-1369.
- Victor, David. "Why the Paris COP 21 Succeeded with David Victor." (Short Video)
- Aklin, Michael, and Matto Mildemberger. 2020. "Prisoners of the wrong dilemma: why distributive conflict, not collective action, characterizes the politics of climate change." *Global Environmental Politics* 20(4): 4-27.
- Kennard, Amanda. 2020. "The Enemy of My Enemy: When Firms Support Climate Change Regulation." *International Organization* 74(2): 187-221.

## Part II: Causes and Consequences of Conflict

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### Lectures 4 and 5: Defining Conflict

- Blattman, Christopher, and Edward Miguel. 2010. "Civil War." *Journal of Economic Literature* 48 (1): 3-57.
- Carter, Kate M., and Scott Strauss. 2019. "Changing Patterns of Political Violence in Sub-Saharan Africa." *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Politics*.

### Lectures 6-9: The Political Economy of Conflict

- Collier and Hoeffler. "Greed and Grievance in Civil War."
- Walter, Barbara F. 2015. "Why bad governance leads to repeat civil war." *Journal of Conflict Resolution*. 59:1242-72.
- Gopal, Anand. 2021. "The Other Afghan Women." *The New Yorker*.
- Boone, Catherine. 2019. "Land-Related Conflict and Electoral Politics in Africa." *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Politics*.
- Klaus, K., and Mitchell, M. I. 2015. "Land grievances and the mobilization of electoral violence: Evidence from Cote d'Ivoire and Kenya." *Journal of Peace Research* 52(5), 622-635.

## Part III: How can climate change contribute to conflict?

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### Lectures 10 and 11: Economic Shocks

- Miguel, Edward, Shanker Satyanath, and Ernest Sergenti. "Economic shocks and civil conflict: An instrumental variables approach." *Journal of Political Economy* 112.4 (2004): 725-753.
- Jun, Tackseung. "Temperature, maize yield, and civil conflicts in sub-Saharan Africa." *Climatic Change* 142 (2017).
- Maystadt, Jean-Francois, and Olivier Ecker. "Extreme weather and civil war: Does drought fuel conflict in Somalia through livestock price shocks?" *American Journal of Agricultural Economics* 96.4 (2014): 1157-1182.

### Lectures 12 and 13: Climate-driven Economic Inequality

- Wheeler, Tim and Joachim von Braun. "Climate Change Impacts on Food Security." *Science* 341.508 (2012): 508-513.

- Diffenbaugh, Noah S. and Marshall Burke. "Global warming has increased global economic inequality." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 116.20 (2019): 9808-9813.
- Jones, Aled. "Food Security: How drought and rising prices led to conflict in Syria." *The Conversation* (2017).
- Ero, Comfort and Nnamdi Obasi. "Nigeria: Livestock reform is key to solving farmer-herder conflict." *The Africa Report* (2021).
- Nunn, Nathan and Eoin McGuirk. "How climate shocks trigger inter-group conflicts: Evidence from Africa's transhumant pastoralists." *VoxDev* (2021).
- Nugent, Ciara. "A Ceasefire Won't Protect Palestinians from Looming Climate Threats—Or Israel From the Fallout." *Time* (2021).

### Lectures 14 and 15: Resource Scarcity

- Homer-Dixon, Thomas F. "Environmental Scarcity." In *Environment, Scarcity, and Violence*, 47-72. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1999.
- Homer-Dixon, Thomas F. "Violence." In *Environment, Scarcity, and Violence*, 47-72. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1999.
- Brochmann, Marit and Nils Petter Gleditsch. "Shared rivers and conflict – A reconsideration." *Political Geography* 31.8 (2012): 519-527.
- Delvin, Colleen and Cullen S. Hendrix. "Trends and triggers redux: Climate change, rainfall, and interstate conflict." *Political Geography* 43 (2014): 27-39.
- Dinar, Shlomi et al. "Climate change, conflict, and cooperation: Global analysis of the effectiveness of international river treaties in addressing water variability." *Political Geography* 45 (2015): 55-66.

### Lectures 16 and 17: Resource Scarcity (context-specific effects)

- Shares readings w/"Resource Scarcity" lecture.

### Lectures 18 and 19: Migration

- Koubi et al. "The role of environmental perceptions in migration decision-making: evidence from both migrants and non-migrants in five developing countries." *Population and Environment* 38 (2016): 134-163.
- Lustgarten, Abrahm. 2020. "The Great Climate Migration." *New York Times*.
- Feng, Shuaizhang, Alan B. Krueger, and Michael Oppenheimer. "Linkages among climate change, crop yields and Mexico–US cross-border migration." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 107.32 (2010): 14257-14262.

- Light, Michael T., Jingying He, and Jason P. Robey. "Comparing crime rates between undocumented immigrants, legal immigrants, and native-borne US citizens in Texas." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 117.51 (2020): 32340-32345.
- Kelley, Colin P., et al. "Climate change in the Fertile Crescent and implications of the recent Syrian drought." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 112.11 (2015): 3241-3246.
- Braithwaite, Alex, Idean Salehyan, and Burcu Savun. "Refugees, forced migration, and conflict: Introduction to the special issue." *Journal of Peace Research* 56.1 (2019): 5-11.
- Abel, Guy J., et al. "Climate, conflict and forced migration." *Global Environmental Change* 54 (2019): 239-249.

## Part IV: Does climate change *always* cause conflict?

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### Lectures 20-23: Why context matters.)

- Homer-Dixon, Thomas F. "Ingenuity and Adaptation." In *Environment, Scarcity, and Violence*, 107-132. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1999.
- Homer-Dixon, Thomas F. "Interactions and Social Effects." In *Environment, Scarcity, and Violence*, 73-107. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1999.
- Johnson, McKenzie F., et al. "Intrastate environmental peacebuilding: A review of the literature." *World Development* 137 (2021): 2-16.
- Roche, Kevin R., et al. "Climate change and the opportunity cost of conflict." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 117.4 (2020): 1935-1940.
- Schultz, Kenneth A., and Justin S. Mankin. "Is temperature exogenous? The impact of civil conflict on the instrumental climate record in Sub-Saharan Africa." *American Journal of Political Science* 63.4 (2019): 723-739.

### Lectures 24 and 25: Political Institutions and State Capacity

- De Juan, Alexander and Tim Wegenast. "Temperatures, food riots, and adaptation: A long term historical analysis of England." *Journal of Peace Research* 57.2 (2020): 265-280.
- Agrawal, Arun. "The Role of Local Institutions in Adaptation to Climate Change." The World Bank (2008).
- Jones, Benjamin T., et al. "Food scarcity and state vulnerability: Unpacking the link between climate variability and violent unrest." *Journal of Peace Research* 54.3 (2017): 335-350.