

The Military in Politics

GOV 390L, U#39140 (cross-listed with ILAS)
Spring 2013/BAT 5.102/M 9:30-12:30
Department of Government
Instructor: Prof. Barany
Office: BAT 3.156/Office hours: M: 8-9:30, 2-3:30

This course is designed to familiarize graduate students with the military's role in modern state and society. The focus is on the sociopolitical character of the armed forces. We will examine the most important issues of civil-military relations, such as why is civilian control important, what types of control arrangements are conducive to healthy civil-military relations in various types of political regimes, and in what ways do military elites respond to state policies and social movements. The class begins with nine weeks of intensive readings in order to get you grounded in the literature and help you learn to appreciate the diversity of civil-military relations in different political systems. You will write brief (one single-spaced page) discussion proposals to facilitate debate about the readings. We will conclude with student presentations (approximately 30-minute summations of your research) followed by Q&A sessions. The seminar paper is due at the last seminar meeting (April 29); extensions will not be given save for truly exceptional cases (e.g., *unanticipated* call-up for combat duty, debilitating illness, etc.).

Grading

8 discussion proposals (2.5% each)	: 20
seminar participation (including presentation of the research paper)	: 25
research paper (20-25 pages)	: 55

I will assume that as graduate students you will do the readings as assigned. I want you to immerse yourselves in the books and articles in order to be able to make critical and insightful comments during the seminar meetings. Since the seminar is based on discussion, without your substantive, engaged participation it will be of little use.

The research paper is the most important requirement of this course. The paper should be 20 to 25 double-spaced pages in length and should be informed by at least 25 different sources (books, articles, etc.). The paper should be structurally sound and the argument(s) should be built to follow logical reasoning. Ideally, it would take advantage of some existing theory to inform its argument(s); it should be analytical and feature relatively little descriptive material (i.e., ask not "how?" ask rather "why?").

Readings

Barany, Zoltan. *Soldiers and the Changing State: Building Democratic Armies in Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Americas* (Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2012). **ISBN:** 0691137692

Barany, Zoltan. *Democratic Breakdown and the Decline of the Russian Military* (Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2007). **ISBN:** 0691128960

Bruneau, Thomas C. and Scott D. Tollefson, eds. *Who Guards the Guardians and How: Democratic Civil-Military Relations* (University of Texas Press, 2006) **ISBN:** 0292719248

Dempsey, Jason K. *Our Army: Soldiers, Politics, and American Civil-Military Relations* (Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2009). **ISBN:** 0691142254

Maddow, Rachel. *Drift: The Unmooring of American Military Power* (New York: Crown, 2012). **ISBN:** 0307460981

Trinkunas, Harold. *Crafting Civilian Control of the Military in Venezuela: A Comparative Perspective* (University of North Carolina Press, 2005) **ISBN:** 0807856509

... and selected articles, particularly for the Turkey/Pakistan and Middle East units.

Schedule and topics of seminar meetings

January 14: A brief introduction to the course

Part I. General Issues & Democratization

January 28: Civilian control: Concepts and issues
Read: Bruneau and Tollefson, entire.

February 4: Military politics and regime change
Read: Barany, 1-177 (i.e., up to and including Chapter 5)

February 11: Military politics and regime change
Read: Barany, 178 to end

Part II. Case Studies

February 18: Civil-military relations in the United States, I.
Read: Dempsey (entire)

February 25: Civil-military relations in the United States, II.

Read: Maddow (entire)

March 4: Politics and the armed forces in Latin America

Read: Trinkunas (entire), and

Sigmund, Paul. "Approaches to the Study of the Military in Latin America," *Comparative Politics*, 26:1 (October 1993): 111-122.

Research topic due!

March 18: The military in Russian politics

Read: Barany (entire)

March 25: Military politics in Turkey and Pakistan

Read: Aqil Shah, "Getting the Military Out of Pakistani Politics," *Foreign Affairs*, May-June 2011, 69-82

-- several others

April 1: Civil-military relations in the Arab world

Read: -- Kamrava, "Military Professionalism and Civil-Military Relations in the Middle East," *Political Science Quarterly*, Spring 2000, 67-92

-- Barany, "The Role of the Military," *Journal of Democracy*, October 2011

-- and several others

April 8: student presentations

April 15: student presentations

April 22: student presentations

April 29: student presentations

Research paper due!