



BJØRKNES

UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE

Global Violence (5.33 credits)

Every year in excess of half a million people die as a result of armed violence and many more suffer its consequences. In this module we examine the issues surrounding armed violence. We consider what violence is, distinguish between different types of armed violence and explore the scale of the problem. We consider violence in a historical perspective and reflect on how it affects different regions and different groups. We examine the motivations of those who commit acts of violence, and reflect on the relationship between armed violence and, inter alia, gender, age, urbanity, and economic factors such as inequality, poverty, underdevelopment and unemployment.

The course will also examine the various policy options advocated in armed violence reduction strategies at all levels, from the local through to the international. Along with developing a thorough understanding of the complexities associated with armed violence, students are expected to conduct original research on methodological factors associated with measuring the scale of the problem, writing skills associated with developing a policy brief in a given area of armed violence research, and advocacy skills that place an emphasis on critically appraising policy options with a view to implementing effective armed reduction strategies.

Course Coordinator and Lecturer: *Dr. Christopher White, Associate Professor, Bjørknes University College.*