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Spring 2011

DIPL 6114 NA Conflict Prevention

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JOHN C. WHITEHEAD
SCHOOL OF DIPLOMACY AND
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
SETON HALL UNIVERSITY

Conflict Prevention

DIPL 6114 NA

Wed 6:15 - 8:25

Spring 2011

INCOMPLETE

Instructor: Edislav Manetovic
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Home Tel.: 212-568-9030 (please do not call before 10 am or after 10 pm)
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Course Description and Content

Since the end of the Cold War, conflict prevention and resolution have risen to the top of the international agenda. This course charts the development of the field, offers a survey of the theory and practice of conflict prevention and resolution, and identifies the role and function of the principal actors working to prevent international conflict. We end the semester by reading a book coauthored by Johan Galtung whose negative and positive peace framework is widely used in peace research.

Assignments and Grading Rules

1) Leading class discussion. Each student will start off a class discussion by presenting a five to ten minutes-long analysis of an assigned article or book chapter (I will assign texts during the first class.) Begin by identifying author's thesis and then briefly outline the author's argument. Is the argument logically coherent? Does the author provide empirical evidence in support of the main thesis? Is the causal logic plausible? Is it problematic? End the presentation by offering your own well-reasoned ideas on the topic. Can you offer new insights?

2. One in-class exam. Short essay format. Use of books and notes will be prohibited.

3. Policy paper. Three students will form a working group. The group will write a policy-oriented research paper on a specific conflict and present their research to the class. Each group is required to post an outline (max 2 pages) of their final presentation on

Blackboard at least 5 days before the presentation. Policy papers are due on the last day of the semester.

Case studies must be chosen in consultation with the instructor by February 2, so it behooves all of you to begin thinking about the case you want to research as soon as we finish the first class.

The paper must include, at minimum, (1) a historical background section, (2) sections on each of the directly involved actors, (3) a section analyzing why past conflict prevention and resolution measures failed, and (4) a section with concrete recommendations on how to resolve the dispute.

In every conflict there are usually at least three actors; the two actors who are directly involved in a dispute and a member or members of the international community attempting to resolve the conflict (states and/or international organizations). Each member of a working group will represent the interests of one of the actors. This implies that you must reach a consensus on the historical background of the conflict and, more importantly, on your group's recommendations.

Use a wide variety of primary and secondary sources. Include proper citation of sources and a complete bibliography. You may use any standard citation format but you must use it consistently.

4) Class participation and attendance. All students are expected to do the reading in advance and to take part in the discussion. The quality of class sessions is greatly enhanced when students are prepared to engage the course material in a constructive fashion. Participation will be noted and credited to your grade.

Poor attendance (two absences) will result in a reduction of your grade. Each absence, beyond the two excused, will reduce your final grade by 2%.

Basis for Grade

Chapter presentation (leading class discussion).....	10%
In-class exam	30%
Policy paper presentation	10%
Policy paper.....	30%
Class participation.....	20%

Course Materials

Chester Crocker, Fen Osler Hampson and Pamela Aall (eds.), *Leashing the Dogs of War*, United States Institute of Peace, 2007.

Johan Galtung (ed.), *Searching for Peace*, Pluto Press, 2002.

Oliver Ramsbotham et. al., *Contemporary Conflict Resolution*, 2nd Edition, Polity, 2005.

Academic and Professional Integrity

All forms of dishonesty, whether by act or omission, including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism and knowingly furnishing false information, are prohibited. Work submitted in the course must be the product of the efforts of the student presenting the work. Contributions of others to the finished work must be appropriately acknowledged.

Disability Services

If you have a documented disability you may be eligible for accommodations, in academic classes, the residence halls, food services areas, etc., under the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. Students are not permitted to negotiate accommodations directly with professors. To receive accommodations or assistance, please self-identify at the Office of Disability Support Services (DSS), Duffy Hall, Room 67. The staff at DSS will help you to develop a plan for accommodations. For more information contact DSS at (973) 313-6003.

Topics and Readings

- 1/19 *Introduction*
Class participant introductions, course outline, expectations for class assignments, questions.
- Assigning texts to lead class discussion
- 1/26 *Some Sources of Conflict*
Jack Levy, "International Sources of Interstate and Intrastate War," in Crocker et. al.
Mohammed Ayoob, "State Making, State Braking, and State Failure," in Crocker et. al.
Ted Robert Gurr, "Minorities, Nationalists, and Islamists: Managing Communal Conflict in the Twenty-first Century," in Crocker et. al.
Paul Collier, "Economic Causes of Civil Conflict and Their Implications for Policy," in Crocker et. al.
- 2/2 *Force in Conflict Management*
Lawrence Freedman, "Using Force for Peace in an Age of Terror," in Crocker et. al.
Brian Urquhart, "Limits on the Use of Force," in Crocker et. al.
Bruce Jentleson, "Yet Again: Humanitarian Intervention and the Challenges of 'Never Again,'" in Crocker et. al.
Robert Art and Patrick Cronin, "Coercive Diplomacy," in Crocker et. al.
- Forming working groups and assigning case studies
- 2/9 *Statecraft, Diplomacy, and Soft Power in Conflict Management*
Chester Crocker, "The Place of Grand Strategy, Statecraft, and Power in Conflict Management," in Crocker et. al.
Joseph Nye, "The Place of Soft Power in State-Based Conflict Management," in Crocker et. al.
Paul Stares and Mona Yacoubian, "Rethinking the 'War on Terror': New Approaches to Conflict Prevention and Management in the Post-9/11 World," in Crocker et. al.
William Zartman and Saadia Touval, "International Mediation," in Crocker et. al.
- 2/16 *International Organizations and Law in Conflict Management*
Karen Mingst and Margaret Karns, "The United Nations and Conflict

Management: Relevant or Irrelevant?" in Crocker et. al.
Paul Diehl, "New Roles for Regional Organizations," in Crocker et. al.
Ruth Wedgwood, "War and Law: The Dilemmas of International Law and
Coercive Enforcement," in Crocker et. al.

2/23

Governance and Conflict Management

Marina Ottaway, "Is Democracy the Answer?" in Crocker et. al.
Kimberly Marten, "Is Stability the Answer?" in Crocker et. al.
Stephen Krasner, "Sharing Sovereignty: New Institutions for Collapsed
and Failing States," in Crocker et. al.
Fen Hampson and David Mendeloff, "Intervention and the Nation-
Building Debate," in Crocker et. al.

3/2

Practitioner visit. Consul General of Macedonia, Hon. Zvonko Mucunski,
will give a talk to the class on the Ohrid Framework Agreement signed in
2001.

3/9

Spring Break – No Classes

3/16

3/23

3/30

In-class exam

4/6

4/13

4/20

Presentations

4/27

Presentations

5/4

Last Class

Presentations

Papers due

May 7-13

Final Examination