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Fall 2011

DIPL 6118 Global Conflict Resolution and Peacebuilding

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THE WHITEHEAD SCHOOL OF DIPLOMACY & INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
SETON HALL UNIVERSITY

DIPL 6118

GLOBAL CONFLICT RESOLUTION AND PEACEBUILDING

Semester: Fall 2011
Class Time: Tuesday 06:15 – 08:25 PM
Location: TBA
Professor: Dr. Zheng Wang
Office Hours: Tuesday 4:00 – 6:00 (Room 101-A, McQuaid Hall)
E-mail: zheng.wang@shu.edu
Phone: (973) 275-2003

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is an introduction to the interdisciplinary study of conflict resolution and is intended to provide a solid foundation for further inquiry and application. It aims to present and discuss the major theoretical approaches to conflict and conflict resolution. It surveys theoretical frameworks from different disciplines. It would ground students the basic concepts of conflict resolution and skills of diagnosing social conflict. It will investigate the dynamics of conflict transformation, post-conflict peace-building and reconciliation. This course will include a blend of lectures, class discussions, individual and group exercises, and simulation role plays.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Attendance and Participation: (15%) Attendance is extremely important because the course will be interactive in nature. Participation in the class discussions is critical to student learning and to exhibit that the required material is being read. Students should read and reflect on the readings ahead of time in order for class sessions to have the most value. Students can also participate by asking questions, circulating emails, organizing study groups, exchanging writing or introducing new ideas and resources. Excessive absences may result in a failing grade.

Conflict Resolution Simulation Exercises: (15%)

We will conduct classroom simulation exercises during the semester. Some of the information and instructions for the role plays will be handed out in class, others will be provided via e-mail. Each member is also required to submit a reflection/evaluation report on the end-of-term final simulation project.

Mid-term Group Research Project: (30%)

The ability to: think critically; identify and solve problems; read and comprehend what one reads; communicate effectively; and possess an awareness/appreciation for the diversity in our society is critical to students of diplomacy. The purpose of the group research project is to promote the development of these competencies. In this group research project, you will practice critical thinking, team building and group problem solving.

Students in this class will be divided into small groups of 3-4 people. Each group will conduct a research project and will present the group's findings in writing to the instructor and through an oral presentation to the class. The paper should be a case study, emphasizing and utilizing conflict analysis concepts.

Final paper: (40%)

This paper should be a case study, emphasizing and utilizing conflict analysis and resolution concepts to both describe the conflict and possible resolution strategies. Details will be discussed further in class.

For all written assignments it is expected that you will cite your class texts, supplemental readings, and other sources. Papers should be double-spaced, spell-checked, and legible. It should be in 12 point characters in the 'Times' font. Please choose Chicago, MLA or APA citation styles. They should be your own work and must not be copied or otherwise plagiarized from another source whether it be an internet site or another student. Plagiarism or academic dishonesty of any kind will result in a failing grade in this course.

Volunteer positions:

Class Secretary (1 position)

Class Blog Writers (14 positions)

CLASS POLICIES & PROCEDURES

- You are responsible for completing individual and group assignments on time.
- If an emergency prevents you from attending class, you should let the instructor know ahead of time when possible and contact a group member to find out what you missed. You are responsible for all announcements, assignments, and date changes made in class and for all material covered in class even if you are not there.
- Incomplete grades will not be granted except in cases of personal or immediate family illness or emergency.
- Students are expected to understand their responsibilities regarding academic integrity and the university's policies regarding academic standards of acceptable behavior.

LAPTOP, CELL PHONES AND OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES: Please turn off all laptops, cell phones and other electronic devices that could be distracting during class.

GRADING SCALE

A >=94% A->=90% B+>=87% B >=83% B->=80% C+>=77%
C >=73% C->=70% D+>=67% D >=63% D->=60% F <=59%

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Cheldelin Sandra, Daniel Druckman and Larissa Fast, eds. *Conflict: from analysis to intervention*. London: Continuum, 2008 (updated and revised edition).

Chester Crocker, Fen Osler Hampson , and Pamela Aall, eds. *Leashing the Dogs of War: Conflict Management in a Divided World*. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Institute of Peace, 2007.

Supplemental Reading List:

Hugh Miall, Oliver Ramsbottom and Tom Woodhouse, *Contemporary Conflict Resolution* (Cambridge: Polity Press, 2nd Edition, 2005).

Vamik Volkan, *Blood Lines: From Ethnic Pride to Ethnic Terrorism* (New York: Farrar, Straus, and Giroux, 1997).

Chester Crocker, Fen Osler Hampson and Pamela Aall, eds. *Turbulent Peace: The Challenges of Managing International Conflict*. Washington, DC: U.S. Institute of Peace Press, 2001.

Louis Kriesberg, *Constructive Conflicts: From Escalation to Resolution* Lanham, Maryland: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc.; 3rd edition, 2006.

Morton Deutsch, Peter T. Coleman and Eric C. Marcus, eds. *The Handbook of Conflict Resolution: Theory and Practice*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass Publishers, 2000.

Joyce Hocker and William Wilmot, *Interpersonal Conflict*, New York: McGraw-Hill, 1995.

James A. Schellenberg, *Conflict resolution: theory, research and practice*. Albany: State University of New York Press, 1996.

Lewis A. Coser. Glencoe, *The Functions of Social Conflict*, Illinois: The Free Press, 1956.

John Paul Lederach, *Building Peace: Sustainable Reconciliation in Divided Societies*. Washington, DC: U.S. Institute of Peace (USIP) Press, 1997.

On-line Recourses:

Guy Burgess and Heidi Burgess ed. *Beyond Intractability*. Conflict Research Consortium, University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado, USA.

<<http://www.beyondintractability.org/>>

CLASS SCHEDULE AND ASSIGNMENTS

Note: Reading and assignments listed for a class should be prepared and completed *before* that date.

CLASS 1	Introduction and Overview
Class meeting:	August 30
Topics/themes:	Welcome, administrative matters, syllabus.
	In class, begin to sign up for group project.

CLASS 2	Ten Years After 9/11
Class meeting:	September 6
Topics/themes:	Resolving Global Conflict: Perspectives and Reflections from the 9/11 Generation
Required reading:	<i>Leashing the Dogs of War</i> , Chapter 1 & Chapter 24
	Melvyn P. Leffler, "9/11 in Retrospect: George W. Bush's Grand Strategy, Reconsidered," <i>Foreign Affairs</i> , September/October 2011.
	William McCants, "Al Qaeda's Challenge: The Jihadists' War With Islamist Democrats," <i>Foreign Affairs</i> , September/October 2011.
Recommended reading:	Ten Lessons Since the 9/11 Attacks, Experts Roundup, Council on Foreign Relations, New York, August 2011. http://www.cfr.org/911/ten-lessons-since-911-attacks/p25687

CLASS 3	Conflict Resolution: the Development of the Field
Class meeting:	September 13
Topics/themes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • review the growth of conflict resolution as an academic discipline and professional field of practice. • introduce the main institutions conducting research, education and practice of conflict resolution • discuss the differences between conflict resolution and other close fields such as peace studies and security studies.
Required reading:	<i>Conflict</i> , Chapter 1, 2 & 3
	Louis Kriesberg, "The Growth of the Conflict Resolution Field," in <i>Turbulent Peace</i> Chapter 25.

CLASS 4	Sources of Global Conflict
Class meeting:	September 20
Topics/themes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • examine theories that explore the causes of social conflicts in today's world
Required reading:	<i>Conflict</i> , Chapter 4
	<i>Leashing the Dogs of War</i> , Chapters 2, 8 & 13

CLASS 5	Case Study: Exploring the Sources of the Arab Spring
Class meeting:	September 27
Topics/themes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • discuss the deep sources for the civil uprisings occurring in the Arab world during the spring and summer 2011
Required reading:	<i>Leashing the Dogs of War</i> , Chapters 6, 7 & 10
	Jack A. Goldstone, "Understanding the Revolutions of 2011: Weakness and Resilience in Middle Eastern Autocracies," <i>Foreign Affairs</i> , May/June 2011.
	F. Gregory Gause III, "Why Middle East Studies Missed the Arab Spring: The Myth of Authoritarian Stability," <i>Foreign Affairs</i> , July/August 2011

CLASS 6	Identity, Culture, Religion and Conflict
Class meeting:	October 4
Topics/themes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the formation of social identity • how to resolve identity-based conflict • the role of culture and religion in global conflict
Required reading:	<i>Conflict</i> , Chapter 8 & 9
	<i>Leashing the Dogs of War</i> , Chapter 9

CLASS 7	Mid-term paper presentation
Class meeting:	October 18
	Mid-term paper due

CLASS 8	Globalization and Conflict
Class meeting:	October 25
Topics/themes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • in what ways might globalization processes be contributing to conflicts? • in what ways might globalization processes be facilitating the resolution of conflicts?
Required reading:	<i>Conflict</i> , Chapter 10 & 12
Recommended reading:	Benjamin R. Barber, <i>Jihad vs. McWorld: Terrorism's Challenge to Democracy</i> . Ballantine Books, 2002.

CLASS 9	Conflict Intervention I
Class meeting:	November 1
Topics/themes:	Negotiation, mediation and facilitation
Required reading:	<i>Leashing the Dogs of War</i> , Chapter 21, 25 & 26
	<i>Conflict</i> , Chapter 17 & 18

CLASS 10	Conflict Intervention II
Class meeting:	November 8
Topics/themes:	Use of force, diplomacy and conflict Management
Required reading:	<i>Leashing the Dogs of War</i> , Chapter 14, 15 & 18
	<i>Conflict</i> , Chapter 19

CLASS 11	Peacebuilding and Reconciliation
Class meeting:	November 15
Topics/themes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review the basic concepts of post-conflict peacebuilding. • What is reconciliation and why it is important?
Required reading:	<i>Conflict</i> , Chapter 21 & 20
	Hauss, Charles (Chip). "Reconciliation." Beyond Intractability. Eds. Guy Burgess and Heidi Burgess. Conflict Research Consortium, University of Colorado,

	Boulder. Posted: September 2003 http://www.beyondintractability.org/essay/reconciliation/
	Galtung, Johan. "After Violence: 3R, Reconstruction, Reconciliation, Resolution: Coping With Visible and Invisible Effects of War and Violence." Available at: http://www.transcend.org/TRRECBAS.HTM .

CLASS 12	Group Project
Class meeting:	November 22
Topics/themes:	Preparing for group simulation exercise
Required reading:	TBN

CLASS 13	Simulation Exercise
Class meeting:	November 29
Topics/themes:	Multilateral negotiation, group decision-making and problem-solving
Required reading:	TBN

CLASS 14	Review and Integration
Class meeting:	December 6
Required reading:	<i>Leashing the Dogs of War</i> , Chapter 33 & 34
	<i>Conflict</i> , Chapter 22