

University of Jordan

*Course: International Conflict Simulation- School of international studies University of Jordan.

*Class time: Thursday 5:00 – 8:00 pm

*Instructor: Naser Tahboub

*Office Hours: Monday 3:00-5:00pm or
by appointment tel.: 0795522770

***Course Description:**

This course delves into the field of conflict resolution theory and practice. We will explore the central concepts, definitions, perspectives and theories of causes of conflicts. We will analyze sources, causes stakeholders and their interest, positions, and conflict dynamics. The students will explore and analyze international conflicts through applying relevant conflict analysis approaches.

We will assess methods of prevention, negotiation and the role of third parties in escalating or resolving the conflict. We will discuss and examine the role of religion and culture, its impact on conflict and possible resolution.

This course will be conducted as a seminar with the participation of the students in reviewing the readings presentations, and group projects.

Assignment: To do a research paper (Essay) relevant to Conflicts Resolution domain and its aspects.

Grade: First exam: 30%, Paper 30% and Final exam 40%.

***Simulation Topics:**

A. Introduction to Simulation and Gaming:

1. Conflict Analysis Approaches.
2. Levels of Analysis Approach.
3. Curve of the Conflict Approach (stages of the conflict).
4. Contingency Approach.
5. Game Theory.

B. International Conflicts:

1. Arab-Israeli Conflict.
2. Syrian Conflict.
3. Iranian Nuclear Program Conflict.
4. Cyprus Conflict.
5. Kosovo Conflict.
6. Rwanda Conflict.
7. Darfur Conflict.
8. Egyptian Conflict.
9. Korean Conflict.
10. Tamil Tigers.
11. Kurdish Conflict.
12. Spanish Sahara Conflict.
13. Aukrain's Conflict
14. Hong Kong Conflict

***Required Readings:**

Each Student will be assigned readings applicable to the students conflict research and presentation.

The following reading will be available for all students to be assigned in class:

1. The Logic of International Relations. In this book you are required to read the Soviet Perspective, American Perspective of International Relations, Soviet and chinese Perspective, Third World Perspective, and finally the

Role of International Organizations. This reading is required to give the students insight into international politics as seen from the perspective of great powers and its impact upon regional and domestic politics, particularly within the developing countries and the Arab World.

2. A collection of articles will be available at Al Saed Bookshop for you to pick up and instructor will assign a reading schedule pertaining to article collection.

***Course Requirements:**

Participation in the class discussion and assignments will be an essential part of your grade evaluation.

Simulation: Students in the class will be divided into three groups. I will assigned a conflict to each group to analyze and discuss a method to resolve such a conflict and discuss its strengths, weaknesses and utility. Students will be required to submit a fifteen page paper and present a suggested resolution of the conflict incorporating comments and suggestions by the instructor and fellow students. The paper should provide an analysis of a conflict of your interest using a particular conflict analysis model. The paper should examine what has been done in and about the conflict you are interested in, what worked and what didn't work and why. It should then lay out a thorough analysis and make solid recommendations for conflict resolution. The students will then present their papers in class.

*** Books that will be assigned to review, one book per student, additional books may be added in class:**

- Palestine – Peace not Apartheid- Jimmy Carter
- The Strategy of Conflict - Thomas C. Schelling
- The 50% solution- I. William Zartman
- Militant Islam- Reaches America- Daniel Pipes
- The Struggle for Power in Syria- Nikolaos Van Dam
- Bush At War- Bob Woodward

- Conflict and Violence in Lebanon- Walid Khalidi
- The Multiple Identities of The Middle East- Bernard Lewis
- Soft Power- Joseph S. Nye Jr,
- Soviet Bargaining Behavior- Christer Jonsson
- Gaza in Crisis- Noam Chomsky and Ilan Pappé
- The Syrian Rebellion- Fouad Ajami
- Our Last Best Chance- King Abdullah II of Jordan
- Additional Books will be assigned by instructor.**

***References and Recommended Readings:**

***Books:**

1. Ho-Wong Jeong, *Peace and Conflict Studies: An introduction* (England: Ashgate Publishing Company, 2000).
2. I. William Zartman and Guy Olivier Faure, *Escalation and Negotiation in International Conflicts* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2005).
3. Morton Deutsch, Peter T. Coleman and Eric C. Marcus, *The Handbook of Conflict Resolution: Theory and Practice* (San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2006).
4. Raimo Vayrynen, ed. *New Directions in Conflict Theory: Conflict Resolution and Conflict Transformation* (London: Sage Publications, 1991).
5. Johan Galtung, *Peace and Conflict, Development and Civilization* (London: Sage Publications, 1996).
6. Johan Galtung and Carl G. Jacobsen, *Searching for Peace: The Road to Transcend* (London: Pluto Press, 2000).
7. Peter Wallensteen, *Peace Research: Achievements and challenges* (London: Westview Press, 1988).
8. Chester A. Crocker, Fen Osler Hampson and Pamela Aall, eds, *Turbulent Peace: The Challenges of Managing International Conflict* (Washington D C: United States Institute of Peace, 2003).

9. Brigid Starkey, Mark A. Boyer, and Jonathan Wilkenfeld, *Negotiating a Complex World: An Introduction to International Negotiation* (Maryland: Rowman&Littlefield Publishers, 1999).

10. Daniel Druckman, *Doing Research: Methods of Inquiry for Conflict Analysis* (London: Sage Publication, Inc, 2005)

***Articales:**

1. Carlson, Lisa J., A Theory of Escalation and International Conflict, *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, Sep95, Vol. 39 Issue 3.

2. Janice Gross Stein The Turning Point: From Management to Resolution in the Arab-Israel Conflict, *The International Journal for Peace Studies*

3. Dennis J.D. Sandole, Validating Simulation-Based Models of Conflicts, *Simulation and Gaming*, Vol.34, No 2, June 2003

5. Bercovitch, Jacob; Langley, Jeffrey, The Nature of the Dispute and the Effectiveness of International Mediation, *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, Dec93, Vol. 37 Issue 4.

6. Druckman, Daniel, The Situational Levers of Negotiating Flexibility, *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, Jun93, Vol. 37 Issue 2.

7. Stephen M. Shellman and Kursad Turan, The Cyprus Crisis: A Multilateral Bargaining Simulation, *Simulation and Gaming*, Vol. 4, June 2003

8. Jan H.G. Klabbers, Simulation and Gaming: Introduction to the Art and Science of Design, *Simulation and Gaming*, Vol.34, June 2003.

9. Simulation on The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict, United State Institute of Peace-
www.usip.org

10. Conflict Analysis-Produced by the Professional Training Programme-United Institute of Peace, June 28, 2006- www.usip.org

***Recommended and Relevant Academic Websites:**

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

<http://www.brad.ac.uk/acad/confres/dislearn/unit1.html>

http://www.caii.com/CAIStaff/Dashboard_GIROAdminCAIStaff/Dashboard_CAIAdminDatabase/resources/ghai/understanding.htm#concepts-b1

<http://www.gmu.edu/departments/ICAR/>

<http://www.convenor.com/>