

STUDENT WARNING: This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.

American Public University System

The Ultimate Advantage is an Educated Mind

School of Security and Global Studies
IRLS413
International Conflict Resolution
3 Credit Hours
Length of Course: 8 Weeks
Prerequisite(s): None

Instructor Information

Instructor:

Biography:

Email:

Office Hours:

Course Description (Catalog)

This course is an examination of the theory and practices by sovereign states to resolve conflict through national and international organizations, conventions, and non-government agencies. The course also includes the Peace Operations Training Institute (POTI) course, "Peacekeeping and International Conflict Resolution." Completion of the POTI course results in a United Nations Certificate of Completion.

Course Scope

IRLS413 – International Conflict Resolution causes of conflict and the mechanism for conflict resolution. The purpose of this course is to define and explore the causes of conflict to better understand the requirements for conflict resolution. As a graduate level course, we will focus on research and analysis directed toward all levels of conflict in the global community.

Learning Objectives

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LO-1: Recognize and apply the theory of conflict and conflict resolution.

LO-2: Recognize the impact of culture and historical divides on an understanding of conflict.

LO-3: Compare distinct approaches to conflict resolution and mediation.

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LO-4: Examine the role of the United Nations, regional organizations, nation-states, and individuals in conflict resolution.

LO-5: Predict obstacles to conflict resolution and create alternative strategies to overcome such barriers.

LO-6: Appraise an international conflict and formulate a conflict resolution strategy in a simulation exercise

Course Delivery Method

This course delivered via distance learning will enable students to complete academic work in a flexible manner, completely online. Course materials and access to an online learning management system will be made available to each student. Students must read weekly materials given under the link of Resources or Lessons on the main menu to your left. Due dates of online assignments are given in Course Outline section down below, Forums and, Assignments. Assigned faculty will support students throughout this eight-week course.

Course Materials

1. APUS Reprint. POTI. *Peacekeeping and International Conflict Resolution*.(e-book)
2. Merrills, J.G. *International Dispute Settlement, 4th ed.* (e-book)
3. Guest websites and other assigned readings as reflected in the Course Outline below.

Evaluation Procedures

Grades for this course will be based upon four grading instruments. There are two Forum assignments, a two week simulation, and a paper based on the simulation, which allows the class to apply concepts and theories covered in the course. Students will be graded on their participation in the Forums, in the simulation exercise, and a four to six-page paper based on the simulation. The grade scales for each of the evaluation are provided below:

<u>Grade Instruments:</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>% of Final Grade</u>
Wk 2-3 Forum Assignment	250	25%
Wk 4-5 Forum Assignment	250	25%
Wk 6-7 Simulation	250	25%
Week 8 Simulation Paper	<u>250 pts</u>	<u>25%</u>
	1000 pts	100%

WRITING EXPECTATIONS

All written submissions should be submitted in a font and page set-up that is readable and neat. It is recommended that students try to adhere to a consistent format, which is described below.

- Typewritten in double-spaced format with a readable style and font and submitted inside the electronic classroom (unless classroom access is not possible and other arrangements have been approved by the professor).
- Arial 11 or 12-point font or Times New Roman styles.

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- Page margins Top, Bottom, Left Side and Right Side = 1 inch, with reasonable accommodation being made for special situations and online submission variances.

CITATION AND REFERENCE STYLE

All assignments for the School of Security and Global Studies (papers, essays, exams, and forums) must follow the Chicago Style guidelines: Kate L. Turabian's *Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations* presents two basic documentation systems, notes-bibliography style (or simply bibliography style) and parenthetical citations–reference list style (or reference list style). These styles are essentially the same as those presented in *The Chicago Manual of Style*, 15th edition, with slight modifications for the needs of student writers. In this class, we will use the reference list style (a parenthetical citation [P], followed by a reference list entry [R]).

FORUM EXPECTATIONS

In each course, the Forums are used differently. Because this is an educational tool, each professor decides how the Forums are used in their classes. Therefore, it is the student's responsibility to understand what the expectations are for the use of this tool in each course.

For this course, the Forum will be used in the following manner. For the virtual introduction, Forum assignments, and simulations students are to post their responses to the questions posed and must respond to the posts of at least 2 other members of the class. Once this is complete, the original post along with the replies to other students must be saved in a Word file and uploaded to the appropriate assignment sheet before the 'submit for grading' button is hit.

Original post:

Each question is designed to allow students to demonstrate that they have read and understood the materials. All posts must adhere to acceptable academic formulations. Thus, each post must be written in a clear and concise way, using proper grammar and citations. If you take an idea or reference an idea from someone else, you must properly cite that at the point where you use it. For example, if you refer to the author of your text as having made a particular point, you do not wait until the end of the paragraph to cite the author. After you make reference to the author's point, you can use endnotes or parenthetical references to cite the author. A parenthetical reference looks like this (Smith 2008, 234). Name year of publication, followed by a comma, then the page number from where you found the material. Remember the period goes AFTER the parenthesis.

Sources:

A note about sources: For most questions, outside sources are not required. However, should you use them, take care to use proper sources. For academic work, one should never use random websites, blogs, or even wikis as sources to for your work.

For example, Wikipedia is a great source to use for quick reference, but because it is open source, anyone can add anything they want to it. I could go into an entry about a country

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in Africa, Nigeria, for example, and make up random things, like the number of people living there. Eventually, someone would fix what I put in, but if you accessed it in the meantime and used that information for a paper, you would make incorrect statements.

Websites from reputable sources, can be used, but remember to pay attention to whose site it is, what their goals are, who funds them. Because this can be hard to determine, you are much better served by using the online library. There are literally thousands of articles and books there on all the topics you will cover while at APUS. Your tuition covers the expensive databases used to house this information, so you might as well use them. This way, you're 'getting your monies' worth, you're chances of getting reliable and authoritative information have greatly improved, and you don't run the risk of putting something incorrect into your assignments.

Since we are dealing with politics and policy here, pay particular attention to sources that might be polemical. It ok to use those as long as you understand that the author is arguing a point of view. Reasonable and very smart people can disagree. But trying to state someone's opinion as 'fact' is problematic.

Responses:

When replying to another student's post, your reply must be thoughtful and engage them on their post. Responses such as "Great post. I really like what you said about X" is not ok. Your response must indicate that you have read the student's post and must engage them on a point/s made in their post.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS

For each day that an assignment is late, 5/100 points may be deducted from your grade for the assignment unless the student contacts the instructor ahead of time about an extenuating situation.

Course Outline

<u>Week</u>	<u>Topic(s)</u>	<u>Learning Objective(s)</u>	<u>Reading(s)</u>	<u>Assignment(s)</u>
1	The Theory of Conflict Analysis and Resolution	LO-1 LO-3	<p>Video Guest Lecture Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Gayle, Helene D., Evans, Gareth (April 9, 2008) GPF Plenary 1: The Conflict Continuum. Global Philanthropy Forum. Fora.tv. Retrieved from: http://fora.tv/2008/04/09/GPF_Plenary_1_The_Conflict_Continuum</p> <p>Merrills, Chapters 1, 2, & 3</p> <p>POTI, Lesson 1</p>	Weeks 1-2 Forum: Virtual Introduction and Assessment of Personal Conflict Management Style

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2	The Causes of Conflict & Conflict Resolution	LO-1 LO-3	<p>Video Guest Lecture for Weeks 2-3</p> <p>Robert Mnookin, Robert (February 2, 2010) Bargaining with the Devil. Commonwealth Club. Fora.tv. Retrieved from: http://fora.tv/2010/02/12/Robert Mnookin Bargaining with the Devil</p> <p>Merrills, Chapter 4 & 5</p> <p>POTI, Lesson 2</p>	Weeks 2-3 Forum: Methods of Dispute Settlement
3	Conflict Resolution & Conflict Dynamics	LO-3 LO-4	<p>Merrills, Chps 6, 7, 8</p> <p>POTI, 3-4</p>	Weeks 2-3 Forum: Methods of Dispute Settlement
4	Conflict Mapping, Early Warning, Prevention, and Peacekeeping	LO-2 LO-3 LO-4	<p>Video Guest Lecture for Weeks 4-5</p> <p>Patrick, Stewart, Soderberg, Nancy, and Steinberg, Donald. (December 10, 2007) The Future of Conflict Prevention: Challenges Ahead. Council on Foreign Relations. Retrieved from: http://fora.tv/2007/12/10/Future of Conflict Prevention Challenges Ahead</p> <p>Merrills, Chapters 9 & 10</p> <p>POTI, Lessons 5, 6, & 7</p> <p>Sandole, <i>A Comprehensive Mapping of Conflict and Conflict Resolution: A Three Pillar Approach</i></p>	Weeks 4-5 Forum: Conflict Mapping
5	Conflict Mapping, Culture and Gender in Peacekeeping	LO-2 LO-3 LO-4	<p>Merrills, Chapters 11 & 12</p> <p>POTI, Lessons 8, 9, & 10</p> <p>Sandole, <i>A Comprehensive Mapping of Conflict and Conflict Resolution: A Three Pillar Approach</i></p>	Weeks 4-5 Forum: Conflict Mapping

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6	Simulation Exercise I (Korean Peninsula)	LO-5 LO-6	Video Guest Lecture for Weeks 6-7 AlJazeera English. Inside Story - Behind the Korean Crisis. YouTube. http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hd9EFFDNPso (24 minutes)(Guest speakers: Bjornar Simonsen, John Feffer, and Jong-Kun Choi) Independent Research	Weeks 6-7 Forum: Simulation Exercise
7	Simulation Exercise II (Korean Peninsula)	LO-5 LO-6	Independent Research	Weeks 6-7 Forum: Simulation Exercise
8	Simulation Paper (Korean Peninsula)	LO-5 LO-6	Independent Research	Forum: none Week 8 Assignment: 4-6 page Simulation Paper

DISLCAIMER

Course content may vary from the outline to meet the needs of this particular group.

Library Guide

Request a Library Guide for your course (<http://apus.libguides.com/index.php>)

The AMU/APU Library Guides provide access to collections of trusted sites on the Open Web and licensed resources on the Deep Web. These are specially tailored for academic research at APUS:

- Program Portals contain topical and methodological resources to help launch general research in the degree program. To locate, search by department name or navigate by school.
- Course Lib-Guides narrow the focus to relevant resources for the corresponding course. To locate, search by class code (e.g., SOCI111) or class name.

If a guide you need isn't available yet, let us know by emailing the APUS Library: librarian@apus.edu