

Identification	Subject (code, title, credits)	PSIR 356: Conflictology 3KU / 6ECTS credits 16 Weeks, 64 hours
	Department	Political Science and Philosophy
	Level	Undergraduate
	Term	Spring 2020
	Instructor	Aygul Ismayilova
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	Classroom/hours	11 Mehseti str. (Nefitshilar campus), Room 503 Old Building, Friday 08:30-11:50
	Office hours	By appointment
Prerequisites	N/A	
Language	English	
Compulsory/Elective	Elective for Political Science and International Relations	
Required textbooks and course materials	<p>Core readings: Ramsbotham, Oliver, Tom Woodhouse and Hugh Miall(2005), Eds. <i>Contemporary Conflict Resolution</i>(2nd ed.), Cambridge, UK: Polity Press.</p> <p>Other required reading assignments, like journal articles or book chapters, will be provided to students by instructor.</p>	
Course outline	<p>The aim of the International Conflicts course is to give the student a systematic understanding of the basic questions of peace and conflict studies in order to be able to critically assess, examine and analyze the origin, development and resolution methods of armed conflicts on an academic basis. So, this course studies violent intrastate and interstate conflicts in terms of theory, research and practice. In this regard, course covers different types of conflicts and their underlying causes and consequences and the main purpose here is figuring out ways of preventing, limiting and ending them.</p>	
Course objectives	<p>At the end of the course, students are expected to have acquired knowledge and skills to identify (1) different theoretical perspectives on causes of armed conflict; (2) comparison of causes of intra-state, interstate and international armed conflicts; (3) how different causes interact; including background and proximate causes as well as causes; and (4) why and under what circumstances tensions and incompatibilities between and within groups, societies and states sometimes passes the threshold of armed violence; (5) to study and understand the fundamental approaches to conflict analysis and resolution and how to critically apply them to the cases at hand.</p> <p>In addition, students are also expected to have acquired skills and capabilities to, orally as well as in writing, present state-of-the-art overviews as well as own analyses in the field during their attendance in the class.</p>	
Learning outcomes	<p>The student will acquire knowledge and skills that give the capacity for independent and critical assessment, the ability to solve problems self-reliantly and the ability to monitor the development of knowledge obtained by peace and conflict field. At the same time, student will achieve high levels of critical thinking and effective communication through class participation and written papers.</p>	
Course Plan	The course includes lectures, presentations, group discussions, quiz and simulations	

	<p>at which students present and discuss topics related on different conflicts in the world. The insights acquired during the course—along with the ability to integrate knowledge and skills, and formulate and address a specific research problem identified in the course literature – are presented in mid-term and final exams. The course cover theoretical approaches for both interstate and intrastate conflicts, as well as particular aspects of conflict onset, dynamics, escalation, mediation, peace processes, role of international humanitarian role in international armed conflicts etc. Students are obliged to work independently with assessing and synthesizing the literature, through reading on their own, and organizing study groups, etc.</p>		
Evaluation	Methods	Date/deadlines	Percentage (%)
	Midterm evaluation	To be determined by the Dean’s Office	30
	Case-study and PowerPoint presentation	(Research topics will be discussed with the students)	15
	Final exam	To be determined by the Dean’s Office	35
	Attendance		5
	Participation		15
	Total		100
Policy	<p>The course grade will be determined by an evaluation of class discussion, quizzes, paper and presentations, mid-term and final exams.</p> <p>Case-study and Presentation: Students will write a research paper analyzing ongoing interstate and intrastate conflict and should propose solution to end it. The analysis must include an application of topics, concepts and themes of the course. The paper should be double spaced and with standart font (12pt Times New Roman). Students should professionally cite used materials and have a bibliography section. The text itself should be at least 10 pages long.</p> <p>Paper will be part of simulation and presentation. The class will be divided into 3 or 4 groups and and each team will chose an ongoing conflict case to be analyzed.</p> <p>Mid-term and final exam: Exams will be comprehensive of the course content. Examination is conducted through writing assignments.</p> <p>You are expected to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - attend classes on a regular basis as the classess are conducted in a combined lecture/seminat format where students should <u>play an active part</u>. - read the assigned and suggested readings before you come to class - engage actively in classroom discussions - offer thoughtful and informed classroom presentations and written work - submit all your assignments on time - follow assignments closely and carefully. <p>Class attendance:</p> <p>Students are required to comply with the attendance policy of Khazar University. Full-time students are expected to attend all classes unless they are sick or have the permission of the instructor (<i>approved absence</i>). A student must submit an absence request in anticipation of an absence from</p>		

the course. In case he/she fails to do so, his absence will be considered unapproved. Specifically, to be eligible for taking exams, students must not miss more than 25% of class hours (*unapproved absences*). Otherwise, the student can take the exam only with the approval of the School Dean. Continuing unapproved absences or lack of participation may lead to withdrawal from the course.

Academic misconduct

Academic honesty plays an essential part in maintaining the integrity of Khazar University. Students are expected to recognize and uphold high standards of intellectual and academic integrity. The following acts are examples of academic dishonesty, therefore are strictly forbidden and will, if proven, be penalized:

- plagiarism,
- cheating,
- unauthorized collaboration,
- falsification,
- multiple submissions.

On plagiarism:

Plagiarism is unethical and an offence under the University regulations. Please familiarize yourself with the regulations relating to plagiarism and cheating in examinations.

Plagiarism is copying other people's work without proper attribution. The students committing plagiarism and the students providing materials for plagiarizing will automatically receive a zero (0) for the assignment. Students must always indicate that they used someone else's words and ideas if they have done so, by using quotation marks and mentioning the source in the text or a footnote. A bibliography must also follow after the end of your essays.

Rules of Professional Conduct

The students shall behave in the way to create favorable academic and professional environment during the class hours. Unauthorized discussions and unethical behavior are strictly prohibited. Classroom behavior that seriously interferes with either (a) the instructor's ability to conduct the class or (b) the ability of other students to benefit from the course program will not be tolerated. When a student's behavior in a class is so seriously disruptive as to compel immediate action, the instructor has the authority to remove a student from the class on an interim basis, pending an informal hearing on the behavior.

Tentative Schedule

Date/Day (subject to changes if necessary)	Topic	Readings
Week 1 14/02/2020	Course Introduction, themes, objectives, requirement and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to Conflict Resolution; Concepts and Definitions, Ch.1 in Ramsbotham et al. • Origins and the Development of the Field, Ch. 2 in Ramsbotham et al.

	activities. Fundamentals and the History of the Field.	
Week 2 21/02/2020	Causes of war;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paul Collier, Economic Causes of Civil Conflict and their Implications for Policy, Ch. 12, Crocker et al.
Week 3 28/02/2020	Incentives for armed conflict	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paul Collier, Economic Causes of Civil Conflict and their Implications for Policy, Ch. 12, Crocker et al. • Vasquez and Valeriano, Territory as a Source of Conflict and Road to Peace, Ch. 10 in Bercovitch et al.
Week 4 06/03/2020	Escalation of International Conflicts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wright, Quincy Dec., 1965). “The Escalation of International Conflicts”, Journal of Conflict Resolution. Vol. 9, No. 4, pp.434-449 • Sullivan, P. Michael (Mar., 1972). “Commitment and the Escalation of Conflicts”. The Western Political Quarterly, Vol. 25, No. 1, pp.28-38
Week 5 13/03/2020	Ethnic Separatism and Armed Conflict	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fearon, James D. (2004) “Separatist Wars, Partition, and World Order” Department of Political Science, Stanford University • Johnson, Carter (2008). “Partitioning to Peace Sovereignty, Demography, and Ethnic Civil Wars” International Security, Volume 32, Number 4, pp. 140-170
Week 6 20/03/2020 (Novruz holiday/no classes) Date will be changed by Dean’s office	Civilians as victims of armed conflicts:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Downes, Alexander B. (2006) “Desperate Times, Desperate Measures: The Causes of Civilian Victimization in War”, International Security 30(4): 152–95.. • Humphreys, Macartan and Jeremy M. Weinstein (2006) “Handling and Manhandling Civilians in Civil War: Determinants of the Strategies of Warring Factions”, American Political Science Review 100(3): 429-447.

Week 7 27/03/2020	Resolving Conflicts: Force , Sanctions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Robert J. Art and Partick M. Cronin, Coercive Diplomacy, Ch. 17 in Crocker et al. • Chantal de Jonge Oudraat, Economic Sanctions and International Peace and Security, Ch. 19 in Crocker et al. (focus on main points only)
Week 8 03/04/2020	Resolving Conflicts: Diplomacy and Dialogue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saunders, Dialogue as Process for Transforming Relationships, Ch. 19 in Bercovitch et al. pp. 376-380.
Week 9	Midterm evaluation	The exact date and time to be announced by the Deans Office.
Week 10 17/04/2020	Conflict Resolution: Typologies & Trends: Mediation in Armed Conflicts: Case: Nagorno-Karabakh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bercovitch, Mediation and Conflict Resolution, Ch. 17 in Bercovitch et al • Bahar Basher, Third Party Mediation in Nagorno Karabakh: Part of the Cure or Part of the Disease?, Saarbrucken, VDM Verlag, Dr.Muller, 2008
Week 11 24/04/2020	Negotiation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zartman, Conflict Resolution and Negotiation, Ch. 16 in Bercovitch et al. • Taleh Ziyadov, Nagorno-Karabakh Negotiations: Though the Prism of Multi-Issue Bargaining Model, pp. 107-131, International Negotiation, 2010
Week 12 01/05/2020	Preventing and containing violent conflict	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preventing Violent Conflict, pp. 106-115, Ch. 5 in Ramsbotham et al. • Containing Violent Conflict: Peacekeeping, Ch. 6 in Ramsbotham et al.
Week 13 08/05/2020	Ending violent conflict The Role of Reconciliation for Durable Peace	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ending Violent Conflict: Peacemaking, Ch. 7 in Ramsbotham et al. • Reconciliation, Ch. 10 in Ramsbotham et al.
Week 14 15/05/2020	Presentation of written paper	
Week 15		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Russett, Bruce (2005). Bushwhacking the Democratic

22/05/2020	Democratic Peace Conclusions	Peace. Yale University, International Studies Perspectives 6, 395–408.
Week 16 29/05/2020	The future of the Conflict Resolution Field	Rubenstein, Conflict Resolution in an Age of Empire: New Challenges to an Emerging Field, Ch. 34 in Sandole et al
	Final Exam	The exact date and time to be announced by the Deans Office.

Additional readings and assignments will be provided by the instructor for this course.

If necessary, some minor modifications may be made to this syllabus by the instructor.