

<b>Identification</b>	<b>Subject (code, title, credits)</b>	<b>PSIR 356: Conflict and Peace Studies</b> 3KU / 6ECTS credits 15 Weeks, 60 hours
	<b>Department</b>	<b>Political Science and International Relations</b>
	<b>Level</b>	Undergraduate
	<b>Term</b>	Spring 2024
	<b>Instructor</b>	Kaklik Karimli
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	<b>Phone:</b>	(+994) 70 7530011
	<b>Classroom/hours</b>	11 Mehseti str. (Neftchilar campus), Room ... , Saturday
	<b>Office hours</b>	By appointment
<b>Prerequisites</b>	None	
<b>Language</b>	<b>English</b>	
<b>Compulsory/Elective</b>	Elective for Political Science and International Relations	
<b>Required textbooks and course materials</b>	<p><b>Core readings:</b></p> <p>Ramsbotham, Oliver, Tom Woodhouse and Hugh Miall(2005), Eds. <i>Contemporary Conflict Resolution</i> (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.), Cambridge, UK: Polity Press.</p> <p>Philpott, Daniel, and Gerard F. Powers. <i>Strategies of Peace: Transforming Conflict in a Violent World</i>. Studies in Strategic Peacebuilding. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2010.</p> <p>Audio content from Scholar’s Circle: <a href="http://www.scholarscircle.org">www.scholarscircle.org</a> Peace accords database: <a href="https://peaceaccords.nd.edu/research">https://peaceaccords.nd.edu/research</a></p>	
<b>Course outline</b>	<p>This course serves as the introduction to the broad and diverse field of peace and conflict studies. The course is structured into two components. The initial part, seeks to clarify fundamental concepts, examine challenges, and explore opportunities within the field of Peace and Conflict Studies. Additionally, it provides students with a broad overview of current global trends in peace and conflict. We explore the application of Peace and Conflict Studies for gaining a deeper understanding of the outbreak, duration, and dynamics of conflicts. Second part involves a comprehensive examination of crucial components in the peace-making process. The primary focus is on prominent approaches, their insights, and the ongoing debates within the traditional Peace and Conflict Studies literature.</p>	
<b>Course objectives</b>	<p>This course aims to provide students with a comprehensive introduction to the field of Peace and Conflict Studies, focusing on the central question, "Why is War so Popular in Modern Society?" Throughout the semester, students will delve into various factors influencing conflicts, including state capacity, regime type, incentives for interstate conflict, ethnic separatism, and the rise of populism. The course will explore strategies for conflict resolution, ranging from the use of force and sanctions to diplomacy and dialogue. Students will engage in group discussions to analyze real-world conflict resolution cases. The syllabus further covers topics such as gender's role in conflict and peacebuilding, negotiating peace, democratizing post-conflict states, preventing and containing violent conflict, the significance of reconciliation for durable peace, and the concept of democratic peace. By the end of the course, students will have a solid understanding of the complexities surrounding conflict and peace and be equipped with analytical tools to assess and address these issues.</p>	
<b>Learning outcomes</b>	By the end of this course, you will be able to:	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Differentiate different forms of the conflict and analyze complex conflict situations</li> <li>- Formulate conflict resolution policy suggestions</li> <li>- Develop technical and soft skills via exercising group projects.</li> </ul>		
<b>Course Plan</b>	<p>The curriculum comprises lectures, corresponding presentations, group discussions, and an assignment where students delve into and discuss various global conflicts. The knowledge gained throughout the course, coupled with the capacity to synthesize information and abilities, is showcased in mid-term and final examinations. The course encompasses theoretical frameworks for conflicts at both interstate and intrastate levels, addressing specific facets such as conflict initiation, dynamics, escalation, mediation, peace processes, and the role of international humanitarian efforts in international armed conflicts.</p>		
<b>Evaluation</b>	<b>Methods</b>	<b>Date/deadlines</b>	<b>Percentage (%)</b>
	<b>Midterm evaluation</b>	To be determined by the Dean's Office	30
	<b>Assignment</b>	Conflict Resolution Scenario	15
	<b>Final exam</b>	To be determined by the Dean's Office	35
	<b>Attendance</b>		5
	<b>Active participation in discussions</b>		15
	<b>Total</b>		100
<b>Policy</b>	<p><b>Conflict Resolution Scenario:</b> Students will work in groups of two people to propose and then create a peace-building or conflict resolution scenario. The scenario entails a proposed approach to resolving some aspect of the group's assigned conflict, and will be based on the research that individual group members perform. Further details and guideline on this assignment will be given be shared due deadline.</p> <p><b>Mid-term and final exam:</b> Exams will be comprehensive of the course content. Examination is conducted through writing assignments.</p> <p><b>Course requirements:</b></p> <p>Attendance at lectures and seminars, active and meaningful participation in conducted sessions, reading of assigned materials before class meetings are the main requirements for this class. The final grade will be based on attendance (5%), active participation in debate and group discussions (15%), An assignment (15% each), midterm exam (30%) and final exam (35%). Reading materials will be available in Google Drive.</p> <p><b>Active participation - It is essential that you prepare each week and keep up with the readings, assignments, and discussions.</b> Each week's reading and lecture assignments must be completed before our discussion sessions (on-line or in-person), and each student must be ready to conduct a quality discussion during those meetings. Also, lectures will not be mere repetition of the reading material, and students will be expected to come to class ready to expand on the readings and assignments. In effect, we shall be building the class discussions together, so each student must be engaged in the class.</p> <p><b>Attendance</b> – Attendance is mandatory in this class and students are</p>		

required to comply with the attendance policy of Khazar University. Excuse for absence should be informed before the class. Unexcused absences will result in deductions of participation points (2 absences equal to and lead to 1-point deduction out of 5 overall attendance points). Missing 20% or more class meetings without a valid excuse (health issue or family emergency) will automatically end up getting “F” for this course. More than mere attendance, students are expected to actively participate in the classes, ask and answer questions in the course of our discussions.

**Office Hours** - I will hold regular office hours (see above) during which I encourage you to contact me to discuss course-related matters. If your schedule does not permit contacting me during the formal office hours, please let me know and I will attempt to arrange an alternative time by appointment. Please do take advantage of this resource to ask questions or clarification, seek additional information, and so forth. It is my job to make sure that you have every opportunity to learn the course material, and I will make every effort to do so. However, it is also incumbent upon you to seek help when you think you need it. If you do not seek input when your grades indicate you need it, there is little I can do to help you.

**Student Use of Technology in the Classroom** - Although I believe the use of laptops or tablets can be used for productive purposes in class, they primarily serve as distractions – both to those who use them, and those nearby. Usage of laptop in a responsible manner is acceptable, however usage of the device in a manner that is distracting to others (using email or social media, watching movies, playing games, online shopping) will not be acceptable, and the class attendance points for that day scored as zero. Usage of cellphone is banned in this class: those who use cellphones in class will lost any class participation credit earned in the class that day.

**Tentative Schedule**

<b>Date/Day</b> (subject to changes if necessary)	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Readings</b>
<b>Week 1</b>	Introduction to the field	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Introduction to Conflict Resolution; Concepts and Definitions, Ch.1 in Ramsbotham et al.</li> <li>- Origins and the Development of the Field, Ch. 2 in Ramsbotham et al.</li> </ul>
<b>Week 2</b>	Why is War so Popular in Modern Society?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Chris Hedges, "War is a Force that Gives us Meaning" Chapter 3-4, pgs 62-121</li> <li>- Paul Collier, Economic Causes of Civil Conflict and their Implications for Policy, Ch. 12, Crocker et al.</li> <li>- Christian Karner and Bram Mertens, "The Use and Abuse of Memory"</li> </ul>
<b>Week 3</b>	State Capacity, Regime Type, and Civil War	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- State Capacity, Regime Type, and Civil War Mason and Mitchell, pgs 59-74</li> <li>- Mason and Mitchell, pgs 215-230 . What Do We Know About Civil Wars? Edited by T. David Mason and Sara McLaughlin Mitchell. Rowman and Littlefield.</li> </ul>
<b>Week 4</b>	Incentives for	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Vasquez and Valeriano, Territory as a Source of Conflict and</li> </ul>

	interstate conflict	Road to Peace, Ch. 10 in Bercovitch et al.
<b>Week 5</b>	Ethnic Separatism and Armed Conflict	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Fearon, James D. (2004) “Separatist Wars, Partition, and World Order” Department of Political Science, Stanford University</li> <li>- Ethno-Religious Conflicts, Chapter 14 in <i>The Sage Handbook of Conflict Resolution</i></li> </ul>
<b>Week 6</b>	The Rise of populism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Roberts, K. M. (2006). Populism, Political Conflict, and Grass-Roots Organization in Latin America. <i>Comparative Politics</i>, 38(2), 127–148.</li> <li>-</li> <li>- Rise of populism: <a href="https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2017/country-chapters/global-4">https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2017/country-chapters/global-4</a></li> </ul>
<b>Week 7</b>	Resolving Conflicts: Force and Sanctions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Robert J. Art and Partick M. Cronin, Coercive Diplomacy, Ch. 17 in Crocker et al.</li> <li>- Chantal de Jonge Oudraat, Economic Sanctions and International Peace and Security, Ch. 19 in Crocker et al. (focus on main points only)</li> </ul>
<b>Week 8</b>	Midterm	
<b>Week 9</b>	Resolving Conflicts: Diplomacy and Dialogue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Saunders, Dialogue as Process for Transforming Relationships, Ch. 19 in Bercovitch et al. pp. 376-380.</li> </ul>
<b>Week 10</b>	Gender, Conflict, and Peacebuilding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mason and Mitchell, pgs 197-214</li> </ul>
<b>Week 11</b>	Conflict Resolution:  Case will be decided in group discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Bercovitch, Mediation and Conflict Resolution, Ch. 17 in Bercovitch et al</li> <li><i>Recommended case:</i></li> <li>- Bahar Basher, Third Party Mediation in Nagorno Karabakh: Part of the Cure or Part of the Disease?, Saarbrucken, VDM Verlag, Dr.Muller, 2008</li> </ul>
<b>Week 12</b>	Negotiating Peace and Democratizing post-Conflict States	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mason and Mitchell, pgs 121-156</li> </ul>
<b>Week 13</b>	Preventing and containing violent conflict	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Preventing Violent Conflict, pp. 106-115, Ch. 5 in Ramsbotham et al.</li> <li>- Containing Violent Conflict: Peacekeeping, Ch. 6 in Ramsbotham et al.</li> </ul>
<b>Week 14</b>	The Role of reconciliation for durable peace	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ending Violent Conflict: Peacemaking, Ch. 7 in Ramsbotham et al.</li> <li>- Reconciliation, Ch. 10 in Ramsbotham et al.</li> </ul>
<b>Week 15</b>	Democratic Peace	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Russett, Bruce (2005). Bushwhacking the Democratic Peace. Yale University, <i>International Studies Perspectives</i> 6, 395–408.</li> </ul>

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