

<b>Identification</b>	<b>Subject (code, title, credits)</b>	<b>PSIR 356: Special topics in negotiation, conflict resolution and peacebuilding</b> 3KU / 6ECTS credits 16 Weeks, 64 hours
	<b>Department</b>	<b>Political Science and International Relations</b>
	<b>Level</b>	Graduate
	<b>Term</b>	Fall, 2025
	<b>Instructor</b>	Rauf Qaragözov (Garagozov)
	<b>E-mail:</b>	rauf.garagozov@khazar.org
	<b>Phone:</b>	
	<b>Classroom/hours</b>	
	<b>Office hours</b>	By appointment
<b>Language</b>	<b>English</b>	
<b>Compulsory/Elective</b>	Elective for Political Science, Peace and Conflict Studies	
<b>Required textbooks and course materials</b>	<p><b>Core readings:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cobb, S. 2013. <i>Speaking of Violence: The Politics and Poetics of Narrative in Conflict Resolution</i>. New York. NY: Oxford University Press.</li> <li>• Garagozov, R.R. 2017. <i>Narrative nudge to peace in protracted conflict</i>. Baku, SAM.</li> <li>• Nadler, T.E. Malloy, J.D. Fisher (Eds.), <i>The Social Psychology of Intergroup Reconciliation</i>. Oxford: Oxford University Press.</li> </ul> <p><b>Supplementary sources:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Garagozov, R.R. 2015. <i>Collective Memory: How representations about the past are created, preserved and reproduced</i>. New York: Nova Publishers.</li> </ul> <p>All required reading assignments, like journal articles or book chapters, will be provided to students by the lecturer.</p>	
<b>Course outline and objectives</b>	<p>This course is designed to provide students with a deeper understanding of conflict and peace process, drawing from diverse disciplines including psychology, political science, narrative and peace studies, communication, cognitive and behavioral sciences. We will focus on understanding and analyzing the layered sources and causes of conflict, the impact of powerful forces of nationalism and identity, narrative styles (genres), collective memories and collective emotions, and the processes through which conflict can be managed and resolved. An important part of this course will involve turning our classroom into a conflict skills workshop. The practices of conflict resolution available to practitioners today, although certainly effective in many cases, are inevitably limited, either because they are not able to effect agreements or alter the nature of the conflict, or because the peace that is created is partial, unstable under the weight of historical injustice and the threat of renewed violence. Although the interest-based discourse has certainly contributed to conflict resolution, it has fit, hand-in-glove, to the discourse of rational choice theory, which disattends to the presence and creation of meaning systems and their relation to violence. After all, it is not as though people can “create new meaning for mutual gain” when it is the existing frameworks for meaning that reproduce the conflict. Activities, discussion groups, and simulations will provide opportunity to reflect, hone, and develop skills for conflict resolution as meaning making process.</p>	

<b>Learning outcomes</b>	By the end of this course, students will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• demonstrate knowledge of basic information about the dynamics of intergroup conflict and its resolution;</li><li>• apply the course information and skills to real world situations.</li><li>• understand the processes of negotiation, mediation, facilitation, and consensus building;</li><li>• identify specific intervention tools that could be used to support the evolution of a given intergroup conflict;</li><li>• develop a greater appreciation for and interest in the tensions and complementary features of the field of conflict resolution and reconciliation.</li></ul>	
<b>Requirements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ To actively participate in seminars (Q-A sessions) upon reading assigned materials.</li><li>❖ To make a class presentation on a given topic.</li><li>❖ To pass final exams.</li></ul> <p>Unless otherwise indicated, readings should be completed before the start of theclass session for which they are listed.</p> <p><b>Warning:</b> unexcused absence, passive class participation and plagiarism will result in ‘failed’ assessment</p>	
<b>Assessment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>30 % - Midterm exam;</b></li><li>• <b>5 %- Attendance</b></li><li>• <b>40 % -Final exams</b></li><li>• <b>10 % - Seminars</b></li><li>• <b>15% - Essay</b></li><li>• <b>10% - Seminars with Question-Answer Sessions</b></li></ul> <p>Question-answer (Q-A) sessions are considered as an important element in learning experience and training along with being a tool for assessing the students. Students will be asked to read the required literature and be prepared to answer questions during the Q-A sessions (seminars). Each answer will be graded on 10 point scale.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>40 % - Final Exam</b></li><li>• <b>5% - Attendance</b></li></ul>	
<b>Tentative Schedule</b>		
<b>Date/Day</b> (subject to changes if necessary)	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Readings</b>
<b>Week 1</b> <b>16.09.2025</b>	Introduction and Overview of Course;	<i>No required reading.</i>
<b>Week 2</b> <b>23.09.2025</b>	Understanding Intergroup conflict: reasons and dynamics	❖ Worchel, S., & Coutant, D.K. 2008. Between Conflict and Reconciliation: Toward a Theory of Peaceful Coexistence. In A. Nadler, T.E. Malloy, J.D. Fisher (Eds.), <i>The Social Psychology of Intergroup Reconciliation</i> (pp. 423-446).

		<p>Oxford: Oxford University Press.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Kelman, H.C. 2008. Reconciliation From a Social Psychological Perspective. In A. Nadler, T. Malloy, and J. D. Fisher (Eds.), <i>The Social Psychology of Intergroup Reconciliation</i> (pp.15-32). New York: Oxford University Press.</li> </ul>
<b>Week 3</b> <b>30.09.2025</b>	How easy is it to fuel intergroup conflict?	❖ Garagozov, R. <i>Narrative nudge to peace in protracted conflict</i> , chapter 1.
<b>Week 4</b> <b>07.10.2025</b>	How easy is it to settle intergroup conflict?	❖ Garagozov, <i>Narrative nudge to peace in protracted conflict</i> , chapter 2;
<b>Week 5</b> <b>14.10.2025</b>	Collective Memory in the dynamics of the interethnic conflict	❖ Garagozov, R.R. 2015. <i>Collective Memory: How representations about the past are created, preserved and reproduced</i> . New York: Nova Publishers, Chapter 2 and 5.
<b>Week 6</b> <b>21.10.2025</b>	Collective Memory in the dynamics of the interethnic conflict	❖ Garagozov, R. Collective Memory and Mass Movements: When Mobilization Requires Neither Leadership nor Political Elites. In H.L.Roediger III & J.V.Wertsch (Eds.), <i>National Memories: Constructing Identity in Populist Times</i> (pp.343-364). Oxford: Oxford University Press.
<b>Week 7</b> <b>28.10.2025</b>	Collective Memory and Trauma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Volkan, V.D. 2006. Consequences of Societal Trauma. In: <i>Killing in the Name of Identity: Stories of Bloody Conflicts</i>. Charlottesville, VA: Pitchstone Publishing.</li> <li>❖ Garagozov, R. 2010. "The Khojaly Tragedy as a Collective Trauma and Factor of Collective Memory", <i>Azerbaijan in the World VIII</i>, 5.</li> </ul>
<b>Week 8</b> <b>04.11.2025</b>	Narrative Approach to conflict resolution	❖ Cobb, <i>Speaking of Violence</i> , Introduction.
<b>Week 9</b> <b>11.11.2025</b>	Narrative Approach to conflict resolution	❖ Cobb, <i>Speaking of Violence</i> , Chapter 1.
<b>Week 10</b> <b>18.11.2025</b>	Narrative Approach to conflict resolution	❖ Cobb, <i>Speaking of Violence</i> , Chapter 2.
<b>Week 11</b> <b>25.11.2025</b>	Types of Narrative Intervention in Conflict:	❖ Garagozov, R. Gadirova, R. 2018. Narrative Intervention in Interethnic Conflict. <i>Political Psychology</i> , <a href="https://doi.org/10.1111/pops.12531">https://doi.org/10.1111/pops.12531</a> ;
<b>Week 12</b> <b>02.12.2025</b>	Narrative codes and Peace process	❖ Garagozov, 2015. <i>How to Construct a Common Narrative from among the Competing Accounts: Narrative templates as cultural limiters to narrative transformations</i> . <a href="http://dx.doi.org/10.13021/G89G6H">http://dx.doi.org/10.13021/G89G6H</a>
<b>Week 13</b> <b>09.12.2025</b>	Narrative Genre and Conflict dynamics	❖ Smith, P. 2006. <i>Why War? The cultural logic of Iraq, the Gulf War, and Suez</i> . Chicago: The University of Chicago Press. Chapter 1;

<b>Week 14</b> <b>16.12.2025</b>	Narrative Genre and Conflict dynamics	❖ Garagozov,R. Gadirova, R. 2014. From Melodrama to Tragedy: Narratives and Metaphors on the Path to Peace. <i>“Peace and Conflict”</i> : <i>Journal of Peace Psychology</i> 30(4), 584–594. <a href="https://psycnet.apa.org/doi/10.1037/pac0000771">https://psycnet.apa.org/doi/10.1037/pac0000771</a>
<b>Week 15</b>	Final exam	The exact date and time to be announced by the Deans Office.