**Al Akhawayn University in Ifrane**

**INS 3307 Conflict Resolution in International Relations**

**Instructor: Jack Kalpakian, Ph.D. Office: B 7/103**

**Spring 2020 Office Hours MWF 9 AM – 11 AM. 13:30 PM – 14:30 PM.**

**Email:** j.kalpakian@aui.ma**, ext. 2461.**

**Course Description:**

This course presents the different methods of conflict resolution in international politics, with a special focus on peaceful methods of conflict resolution, such as mediation and arbitration. International interventions are analyzed in their diversity and complexity, and the different implications of concepts such as humanitarian intervention and peacekeeping are analyzed. These concepts are discussed essentially through specific case studies from a variety of inter and intra-state conflicts in international politics.

**Teaching Methodology:**

This course will be taught as a mixed lecture/seminar. Students will be expected to complete the assigned readings before coming to class. Students will be expected to actively participate in class discussions and present their views on the readings candidly while being respectfully critical of each other’s analysis. The instructor will pursue a Socratic method of teaching by questioning. Tuesdays will be devoted to lecture-discussion. All Thursday will be dedicated to student presentations. Conflict resolution will be the focus of the course. The final element of the course will entail simulated negotiations between Morocco, Algeria, Mauritania, the EU, the US and the POLISARIO movement in Geneva.

**Texts:**

* United Nations and World Bank. 2018. “Pathways for Peace: Inclusive Approaches to Preventing Violent Conflict.” Washington, DC. License: Creative Commons Attribution. Available as a PDF on Janzibar. Marked as the “W” Readings in the table below.
* Duckworth, Cheryl Lynn. 2012. *Conflict Resolution and the Scholarship of Engagement : Partnerships Transforming Conflict*. Newcastle upon Tyne: Cambridge Scholars Publishing. Available through Mohammed VI Library at: <http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=nlebk&AN=524208&site=eds-live>. Marked as the “D” Readings on the table below.

**Deadlines and Administrative Issues:**

Check the catalog for the deadlines for a W, WP and WF. All the deadlines are on turnitin.com, please check there.

**Grading Policy:**

* Midterm: 15 points.
* Final Examination: 15 points.
* Term Paper 20 points.

 Of which:

 Topic, Revision 1: (1 point)

 Outline, Revision 2: (1 point)

 Annotated Bibliography, Revision 3: (1 point)

 First Draft, Revision 4: (1 point)

* Presentation: 10 points.
* Reading Reflections: 10 points, one for each book, each worth 5 points.
* Class Notes: 10 points.
* Simulation: 10 points, including the one page position paper.
* Attendance and Instructor’s Assessment: 10 points.

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| A+   4.00    97-100% A     4.00    93-96% A-    3.67    90-92%  | B+    3.33    87-89% B      3.00    83-86% B-     2.67    80-82%  | C+    2.33    77-79% C      2.00    73-76% C-    1.67     70-72%  | D+   1.33    67-69% D     1.00    60-66% F      0.00    < 60%  |

**Midterm and Final Exams:**

The Midterm Examination will consist of essay questions. The final will be an open book, open notes essay based test. The students will turn in the midterm and the final online on turnitin.com.

**Simulation:**

The students will be assigned to the following negotiation teams for a “Virtual Geneva Negotiation.” The teams are Morocco, Algeria, Mauritania, POLISARIO, the EU and the United States. Each student will prepare a one page position paper depending on their role within the teams. The simulated negotiations will aim towards resolving the Sahara conflict.

**Intended Learning Outcomes:**

Upon completing the course, the student will be able to:

* Understand the fundamentals of conflict resolution.
* Evaluate standard peace promoting programs.
* Engage the dynamics of conflict resolution through a simulation.
* Sample the academic literature on conflict resolution.

**The Term Paper:**

Term papers must be 4000-5000 words. The papers must conform to the style outlined in this syllabus. Papers deemed to be meeting the length and structural requirements will earn a minimum of 75 percent of the possible points. Students must select a security-related issue in a clearly defined area and write on it. Other topics must be approved by the instructor. Please turn in a paragraph detailing your topic of choice along with the names of the supporting cases. Twenty percent of the grade is reserved for English writing quality. All sources must be documented using the style outlined in the guide written by Teresa Pelton Johnson provided below. The papers must be organized with clear sub-chaptering. Free flow essay format papers will not be accepted.

Teresa Pelton Johnson, “Writing for International Security*,” International Security,* Vol. 16, No. 2, Fall 1991, pp. 171-180. Stable URL: http://www.jstor.org/stable/2539064

A copy of this paper is also available on the course’s Janzibar site. You must enroll in Turnitin.com by the Friday of the first week of class. The papers are grade marked with comments online, using a rubric you help co-construct. The class ID and password are given below, *Turnitin.com:*

Class Identification: 23634158

Enrollment password: duckworth

Term Paper Structure: acceptable papers are to be organized in the following manner:

I. Introduction:

 The introduction should always begin with an overview of a country’s foreign policy. The introduction should contain a clear, falsifiable thesis about that policy. “Falsifiable” means that the position taken can be disputed by reasonable people of goodwill. Examples of un- falsifiable theses include statements that are patently true like grass is green or topics related to faith.

II-IV. Applying the approaches studied:

 This series of sections uses the material from Duckworth and the World Bank to frame your paper and discussion. .

V. Analysis:

 This is a crucial section of the paper. In this section, the student gathers arguments that not only support the thesis but that show that the alternatives to the thesis are weaker or are inferior.

VI. Conclusion.

 In this section, the student summarizes their position, reaffirms the main thesis and returns to the introduction. Please observe the rules regarding plagiarism and do not turn in unquoted non-original work.

This is a writing intensive course, and it is structured along lines that implement the Writing Across the Curriculum AUI Policy. After the student completes the first draft, the instructor will return the papers within a week, and the student will have an opportunity to correct and improve the paper. Failing to turn in a draft paper on time will lead to a letter-grade mark down in the paper grade. The structure described above also reflects the criteria used for assessing the paper. All papers must be sub-chaptered, and papers that are not will face a grade penalty. The papers will be graded using rubrics that are embedded in the class’s turnitin.com file. The paper will include four points for the following items, each has a deadline attached in turnitin.com. Late work for paper revisions will not normally be accepted, but if students are late, they can request an extension for the revisions.

**Readings Journal:**

The students will write a reaction to each chapter in the two required books. Each reaction will be about 200-500 words. A single file containing these reactions has to be uploaded to turnitin.com at the end of the class. The grade will be based on the content and number of the chapters engaged.

**Class Notes:**

Students will take class notes and turn them in at the end of class each Thursday. Your final grade on this element of the grade will depend on the following:

 • Are the notes clear, dated, and focused?

 • Are the notes showing your engagement and interest in the material?

 • Are the notes complete, reflecting all the classes you attended?

**Attendance and Instructor’s Assessment:**

Attending all the classes without an unexcused absence, posting your presentations and class notes on the class discussion and participating in extra credit opportunities will ensure that you earn all of the points assigned to this aspect of the class.

**Class Teaching Assistant:**

Ms. Hafssa Fakher El Abiari is the Teaching Assistant for this course. She has a copy of this syllabus and will help you with the Homework, Readings Journal, and other Assignments. She will be introduced to you in class. She can be reached at 67553@aui.ma.

**Academic Honesty:**

(Derived from and using material prepared by Drs. Eric Ross and Kenza Oumlil)

Plagiarism is “stealing or passing off ideas or words of another as one’s own,” “using a source without crediting it,” and “presenting as new and original an idea or a product derived from an existing source” (Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary). Proper Sourcing is the key to valid research. When writing research papers, you must cite the source of all the information and data you use. Without proper citing, you will get a failing grade on the paper, which will lead you to get a failing grade on the course. You will be held accountable for everything you have written. If you composed the text yourself, but derived some of the ideas from a source, you must cite it. If you gathered the data and created the arguments yourself, you need to indicate how you did so.

A source is any document from which you get information, data, statistics, figures, statements, ideas, concepts, arguments, terms, definitions, charts, graphs, maps, or pictures. Sources must be mentioned in the body of your text as soon as the data or information is used through footnotes or endnotes using the Chicago Manual of Style. Direct quotations must be marked using quotation marks (“ ”), please do not use their French equivalents. Direct quotations longer than three lines, need to be placed in block quotations, which are indented, single spaced, and footnoted or endnoted. Indirect quotations or paraphrasing must also be clearly marked using quotation marks for the directly quoted material and a footnote or endnote. Students are strongly encouraged to discuss all internet sources with the instructor beforehand. Using the available resources in terms of books, JSTOR, EBSCO, and printed journals effectively is a strong component of the final grade on the paper.

**Reading and Class Schedule**

1st Week, W, Introduction, Chapters 1 and 2.

2nd Week, W, Chapters 3 and 4.

3rd Week W, Chapters 5 and 6.

4th Week W, Chapters 7 and 8.

5th Week W, Midterm and Paper Guidance.

6th Week D, Intro, Chapters 1 and 2.

7th Week D, Chapters 3 and 4.

8th Week D, Chapters 5 and 6.

9th Week D, Chapters 7 and 8.

10th Week D, Chapters 9 and 10.

11-14th Weeks, Discussions and Simulation.