Since the dawn of time, human history has been marked by conflict. People fight wars over resources, religion, ideology, and power. These conflicts carry costs, not only for the belligerents themselves, but also for society at large. In this course, we will focus upon the ways in which these conflicts can be both managed and resolved by third parties. We will examine the primary impediments to conflict resolution as well as the ways in which third parties can help disputants overcome these barriers.

**Learning Objective**
This course seeks to help students understand both the challenges to successfully managing international and civil conflicts and the variety of conflict management tools at the disposal of policymakers.

**Required Books**

Other readings will be available for download through the class webpage on Blackboard

**Course Requirements**

**Midterm & Final Exams** – Exams will cover material presented in the assigned readings and in the class discussions. Questions will be a combination of short answer and essay questions. The final exam will not be cumulative. Students are expected to take the examinations on the date that they are scheduled. Students missing an exam will normally receive a “0” on that exam. Excused absences from an exam will be rare and only when accompanied by appropriate documentation. In order to request an excused absence, a student must meet me in my office during my office hours to request a makeup exam. Makeup requests will not be accepted over email. – 60% of grade

**Simulation Paper** – Students will be responsible for writing a response paper to the in-class negotiation simulation. This response paper will evaluate the events of the simulation, applying material covered in the class to explanation what did (or did not) take place during the course of the simulation. This paper will be approximately 5 pages in length. Further details on the simulation paper will be posted online – 10% of grade

**Conflict Management Action Plan** – Students will develop a conflict management plan for an ongoing conflict from a list provided by the instructor. The conflict management plan will detail the sources of conflict, barriers to conflict management, and develop and justify an action plan for managing the conflict. Each action plan will be described in a 12-15 page double-spaced paper. Further information about the expectations for the project will be posted online. – 20% of course grade

**Discussion Forum Participation** – In order to facilitate discussion of the course material and its application to contemporary events, students will participate in a class discussion forum over the course of the semester. In order to receive full credit, students must make 10 posts over the course of the semester between the first day of classes and 11pm on December 6th. Both posts that initiate a discussion and those that respond to a discussion will count toward this 10-post requirement. Posts that are not germane to the topic of the course will not count. In making posts on the discussion forum, students are expected to be civil and respectful toward one another. The use of language that is threatening, profane, or otherwise exceeds the boundaries of civilized discourse will result in expulsion from the forum and an automatic “0” for the discussion forum assignment – 10% of grade

**Simulation Attendance** – We will hold in-class simulations during the weeks of 10/30-11/1 & 11/27-11/29. All students are required to attend all of the simulation days and attendance will be taken on each simulation day. Students missing either the 10/30 or 11/1 simulation day without a valid, documented excuse will have their midterm exam grade
reduced by 10 points. Students missing either the 11/27 or 11/29 simulation day without a valid, documented excuse will have their final exam grade reduced by 10 points.

Grade Appeals
Students wishing to appeal any assignment grade given in the class must do so in writing. In order to be considered, the grade appeal must describe: (1) why the student believes that the grade is incorrect and (2) what the student believes the correct grade should be. Upon receiving a grade appeal, I will re-evaluate the assignment. Following the re-evaluation, based upon the original criteria used to grade the assignment, the grade may be increased, decreased, or remain the same. Due to student confidentiality laws, I cannot discuss grades over email.

Course Rules
1. I take academic honesty very seriously. Students caught plagiarizing or cheating will receive an F in the course and will be referred to the proper university authorities.
2. I offer one and only one extra credit assignment in the course. In order to receive the extra credit, a student must invent a time machine and travel back in time to noon CT on Wednesday, August 29, 2012 and request the extra credit in my office (Wooten 158) while providing definitive proof of time travel capabilities. This proof must include newspaper headlines describing the winners of the 2014, 2015, and 2016 NFL and Major League Baseball championships. This extra credit is worth 5 points on the final exam. No other extra credit will be offered in the class.
3. Course information will be disseminated through the class webpage (learn.unt.edu). You are responsible for checking the class webpage on a regular basis for class updates, information, and announcements.
4. This syllabus is not a contract; I reserve the right to alter both dates and assignments
5. Late assignments will only be accepted under extraordinary circumstances, with prior approval, and with appropriate documentation.
6. Students are expected to arrive at each class meeting with the readings for that class completed and prepared to discuss them.
7. Students should arrive to class on time and, if arriving late, avoid disrupting the class. Students may only leave class early with my prior permission or in the event of an emergency.
8. I am available to answer questions about the course during my office hours, via e-mail, or by appointment. If you have a question about the course or the material that we cover, do not hesitate to ask me. I am more than happy to talk with you.

Course Schedule

8/30 – Introduction

9/4-9/6 – The Roots of Conflict

Part I – Conflict Management Through Diplomacy
9/11-9/13 – Conflict Prevention/Early Warning

9/18-9/20 – Barriers to Conflict Resolution

9/25-9/27 – Negotiation
10/2-10/4 – Mediation  
Greig & Diehl – Chapters 1-2

10/9-10/16 – Getting to the Table & Getting an Agreement  
*Greig & Diehl – Chapter 3  

10/18-10/23 – Timing for Conflict Management  
Greig & Diehl – Chapters 4-6

*** Midterm Exam – Thursday, October 25th ***

10/30-11/1 – Negotiation Simulation – Attendance mandatory both days  
*Readings to be assigned for the simulation

Part II – Conflict Management Through Military Intervention
11/6-11/8 – What is Peacekeeping?  
Diehl, Chapters 1-3

*** Simulation Paper Due, Thursday, November 8th @ 11pm ***

11/13-11/15 - The Dynamics and Performance of Peacekeeping  
Diehl, Chapters 4-5

11/20 – Peacebuilding & Lessons from History  

*** Conflict Management Action Plan Due, Tuesday, November 20th & 11pm ***

*** Thanksgiving, Thursday, November 22nd ***

11/27-11/29 – Peacekeeping Simulation – Attendance mandatory both days  
*Readings to be assigned for the simulation

12/4-12/6 - Humanitarian Intervention  

*** Deadline for discussion forum posts, Thursday, December 6th @ 11pm ***

*** Final Exam, Thursday, December 13th 10:30 am-12:30 pm ***

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Course drop information: see schedule at –  
http://essc.unt.edu/registrar/schedule/scheduleclass.html

Policies on academic dishonesty:  
http://www.vpaa.unt.edu/academic-integrity.htm

Department Statement of ADA compliance

The Political Science Department cooperates with the Office of Disability Accommodation to make reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. Please present your written accommodation request on or
before the sixth class day (beginning of the second week of classes).

**University of North Texas -- Department of Political Science**
**POLICY ON CHEATING AND PLAGIARISM**

The UNT Code of Student Conduct and Discipline defines cheating and plagiarism as the use of unauthorized books, notes, or otherwise securing help in a test; copying others' tests, assignments, reports, or term papers; representing the work of another as one's own; collaborating without authority with another student during an examination or in preparing academic work; or otherwise practicing scholastic dishonesty.

Normally, the minimum penalty for cheating or plagiarism is a grade of "F" in the course. In the case of graduate departmental exams, the minimum penalty shall be failure of all fields of the exam. Determination of cheating or plagiarism shall be made by the instructor in the course, or by the field faculty in the case of departmental exams.

Cases of cheating or plagiarism on graduate departmental exams, theses, or dissertations shall automatically be referred to the departmental Graduate Studies Committee. Cases of cheating or plagiarism in ordinary coursework may, at the discretion of the instructor, be referred to the Undergraduate Studies Committee in the case of undergraduate students, or the Graduate Studies Committee in the case of graduate students. These committees, acting as agents of the department Chair, shall impose further penalties, or recommend further penalties to the Dean of Students, if they determine that the case warrants it. In all cases, the Dean of Students shall be informed in writing of the case.

Students may appeal any decision under this policy by following the procedures laid down in the UNT Code of Student Conduct and Discipline.

**University of North Texas -- Department of Political Science**
**POLICY ON ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

The Political Science Department adheres to and enforces UNT's policy on academic integrity (cheating, plagiarism, forgery, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty and sabotage). Students in this class should review the policy (UNT Policy Manual Section 18.1.16), which may be located at [http://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/untpolicy/pdf/7-Student_Affairs-Academic_Integrity.pdf](http://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/untpolicy/pdf/7-Student_Affairs-Academic_Integrity.pdf). Violations of academic integrity in this course will addressed in compliance with the penalties and procedures laid out in this policy. Students may appeal any decision under this policy by following the procedures laid down in the UNT The UNT Policy Manual Section 18.1.16 “Student Standards of Academic Integrity

**Acceptable Student Behavior:**

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor’s ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The university’s expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at [www.unt.edu/csrr](http://www.unt.edu/csrr).