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**


**Course Requirements**

**Midterm & Final Exams (60%)** – 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.

**Twitter (15%)** – All students are required to open and maintain a Twitter account. In order to encourage students to think about how to connect the material that we cover in class to the contemporary world around them, students will tweet observations related to the topic at hand throughout the course of the semester. For example, during the section of the course that focuses on negotiations, a student might tweet an observation about a currently ongoing international negotiation effort. Tweets are due on the dates indicated on the syllabus. Each tweet is worth 1.5% of the total course grade. Tweets missed during earlier portions of the semester cannot be made up. In order to receive credit, all tweets must be marked with the hashtag #conmgmt4820. Students are not required to follow each other or me on Twitter. In addition to posting announcements on Blackboard and sending them over email, I will also post announcements on Twitter.

**Research Project (25%)** – During the course of the semester, students will conduct original research in which they will assemble a dossier on a recent African conflict. This dossier will detail the nature of the conflict and the participants in it. Students will conduct original research to identify both bilateral and third party efforts to manage the conflict and the outcomes of these efforts. Students will sign up for a conflict to study at the beginning of the semester. Further details on the assignment will be provided by the instructor at the beginning of the term.

**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 do not give extra credit or other compensatory assignments. Please do not ask. It will make both of us sad when I say “no”.
3. Course information will be disseminated through both the class webpage (ecampus.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

8/26 – Introduction

8/29-9/2 – The Roots of Conflict
    *Licklider, “Chapter 2 - Comparative Studies of Long Wars” in Grasping the Nettle

Part I – Conflict Management Through Diplomacy

9/5-9/9 – Conflict Prevention/Early Warning

9/12-9/16 – Barriers to Conflict Resolution
    *Crocker, Hampson, and Aal, “Chapter 1-Introduction: Mapping the Nettle Field” in Grasping the Nettle

#conmgmt4820 – 3 tweets addressing contemporary conflict & barriers to its resolution due no later than 11:59 pm, 9/9

9/19-9/23 - Negotiation

9/26-9/30 – Mediation
    *Bercovitch, “Chapter 5- Mediation in the Most Resistant Cases” in Grasping the Nettle
    *Chigas, “Chapter 6 – Negotiating Intractable Conflicts: The Contributions of Unofficial Mediators” in Grasping the Nettle

10/3-10/7 - Getting to the Table & Getting an Agreement

10/10-10/14 – Timing for Conflict Management
    *Zartman, “Chapter 3 – Analyzing Intractability” in Grasping the Nettle
    *Kriesberg, “Chapter 4 – Nature, Dynamics, and Phases of Intractability” in Grasping the Nettle

#conmgmt4820 – 4 tweets addressing the use of mediation, negotiation, and the challenges it faces due no later than 11:59 pm, 10/14

10/17 – Midterm Examination

10/19-10/24 – Negotiation Simulation – Attendance mandatory for all 3 days
*Readings to be assigned for the simulation

**Part II – Conflict Management Through Military Intervention**

10/26-10/31 – What is Peacekeeping?
Diehl, Chapters 1 & 3

11/2-11/7 - The Dynamics and Performance of Peacekeeping
Diehl, Chapter 2 & 6

11/9-11/14 - Humanitarian Intervention
Diehl, Chapter 4


#conmgmt4820 – 3 tweets addressing contemporary peacekeeping and humanitarian interventions
due no later than 11:59 pm, 11/14

11/16-11/23 – Peacebuilding & Lessons from History
Diehl, Chapter 5


*** Thanksgiving, Thursday, November 25th ***

11/28-12/5 – Case Study & Simulation: Intractability & the Kashmir Conflict – Attendance Mandatory

*[Schaffer & Schaffer, “Chapter 12 – Kashmir: Fifty Years of Running in Place” in Grasping the Nettle

*Further readings to be assigned for the simulation

12/7 – Course Wrap Up & Review

*** Final Exam, Wednesday, December 14th 8 am-10 am ***

**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. Violations of academic integrity in this course will addressed in compliance with the penalties and procedures laid out in this policy.

**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 by the second week of classes.)

**Religious Holidays**

In accordance with UNT Policy 15.2.5, students will be excused from class or other activities for the observance of religious holidays, for religions whose places of worship are exempt from property tax under Section 11.20 of the Tax Code. The student is encouraged to notify the instructor as soon as possible regarding the absence.

**Course Evaluations**

The Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness (SETE) is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. This short survey will be made available to you at the end of the semester, providing you a chance to comment on how this class is taught. I am very interested in the feedback I get from students, as I work to continually improve my teaching. I consider the SETE to be an important part of your participation in this class.