



NATIONS IN CONFLICT

IRE223

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On the Agenda for Today

- ◆ Welcome
- ◆ Course description + learning outcomes
- ◆ Course structures + lectures
- ◆ Requirements



Welcome!

- ◆ **Welcome** to the course
- ◆ Who's seating besides you?
- ◆ **Motivation** for taking this course
- ◆ Who am I?

Course Description

The course is composed of two parts:

- Introduction to **conflicts in international relations**
=> Conflict typology, theories of conflict + termination
- Historical & political **trajectories of specific conflicts**
 - Analysis of **conflicting narratives** + multi-layered **effects** of the conflicts

Learning Outcomes

- ◆ Gain a solid **understanding** of various **theories** of conflicts, **reasons** for conflict **offset** and **mechanisms** of conflict **resolution**/de-escalation
- ◆ Gain a solid **understanding** of the various **actors** and **history** of some of the main conflicts of our time
- ◆ You should be able to **identify** and **discuss** major **events** and **themes** pertaining to each conflict
- ◆ You would be able to **discuss challenges** faced by the conflicting societies + third parties, due to the conflict

Course Structure

1. **Theory** => Conflict Research, Causes of War, Conflict Prevention, Conflict management,

Mid-term

2. **Practice** => Analyzing Particular Conflicts

Lectures

Part I

Feb 20	1. Introduction to the course	
Feb 27	2. Introduction to Conflict Research	
March 5	3. Theoretical Reflections of the Causes of Armed Conflicts I	
March 12	4. Theoretical Reflections of the Causes of Armed Conflicts II	Topics lock-in for conflict reports
March 19	5. Conflict Prevention and Conflict Management	

Lectures

March 26	6. Conflict Resolution and Peace Building	
April 2	no session	Time to write your reports + prepare for the Midterm exam

Lectures

Part II

April 9	7. Midterm + The Balkans War	
April 16	8. The 'Troubles' in Northern Ireland	
April 23	No session	
April 30	9. The Israeli Palestinian Conflict	
May 7	10. The Syrian Civil War	
May 14	11. Comparative Analysis + Concluding remarks	feedback

Requirements

Pass/fail course



Mid-term
Quiz



Conflict
Report



Final Exam



Weekly Readings



ALL assignments must be
completed to pass

Mandatory Reading

- ◆ Students are expected to **read the assigned literature for each session**
- ◆ Further reading => optional
- ◆ **Active participation** in class discussions is encouraged

Mid-term Quiz

- ◆ At the end of the first part of the course => **April 9th**
- ◆ Written during normal lecture time
- ◆ Mainly includes multiple choice questions
- ◆ Need 60% to pass
- ◆ **Not repeatable**

Conflict Reports

- ◆ Submitted in groups of 3 or 4
- ◆ Analysing a **specific conflict** (list in the syllabus)
- ◆ **Reports will include:**
 - Summarized historical background
 - Main actors
 - Onset + termination (if applicable)
 - Current state
- ◆ **Submission => April 15 (via IS)**

Conflict Reports

◆ Evaluation

■ Based on the **grading scheme**

- “Check + ” => exceeds expectations
- “Check” => satisfies expectations
- “Check - ” => falls short of expectations but is minimally satisfactory
- ‘F’ => not acceptable/ no submission

◆ Reports **MUST** be submitted in teams

General Notes

- ◆ **English** => Don't worry if English isn't your native language, **minor** linguistic errors will not affect the assessment of your work. However,
- ◆ You **should** be able to clearly communicate your ideas + arguments in English (academic level)
- ◆ **Active participation** in class is particularly valued

Important Dates

- ◆ **Topics lock-in for conflict reports => 12.03**
- ◆ **Midterm + discuss the conflict reports with the lecturer => 9.04**
- ◆ **Submission of conflict reports => 15.04**
- ◆ **No class => 02.04, 23.04**

Frequently Asked Questions

- ◆ **Will such presentations be uploaded to IS? YES**
- ◆ **Where can I find the assigned readings? In the IS**
- ◆ **Is reading mandatory? Well...**
- ◆ **Is lecture attendance mandatory? NO**
- ◆ **What if I have questions or need further support?**
Email me 😊



Thank You!

Questions?

Office hours: Thursdays, 13:30-14:30

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