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?

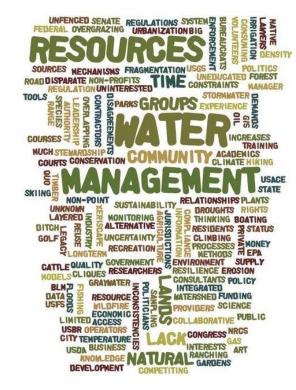
Motivation for taking this course

• Who am I?

Course Description

 Multiple approaches + school of thoughts necessary to understand the complex nature of violent conflicts

 Journey through the history,
 realities & challenges of several of the most prominent armed
 conflicts of our time



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 + multilayered 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



Weekly Readings



Conflict Report



Final Exam



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 9**th
- 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 <u>clearly communicate</u> your ideas + arguments in English (<u>academic</u> 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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