

CUYAHOGA COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
OFFICIAL COURSE OUTLINE

SUBJECT AREA TITLE	Political Science
COURSE TITLE	Introduction to Peace and Conflict Studies
SUBJECT AREA CODE/COURSE NUMBER	POL 1040
COURSE CREDIT HOURS	3

**I. DESCRIPTION OF COURSE**

1. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

Introduction to conflict analysis and conflict resolution. Provide solid foundation for further inquiry and application. Examine definitions and theories of conflict and diverse views of conflict resolution. Exploration of contemporary studies of individual behavior and social life as they relate to the origins of conflict and violent and peaceful social change. Specific conflict situations approached through models of sociocultural dynamics.

2.	LECTURE HOURS:	3
3.	LAB HOURS:	0
4.	OTHER REQUIRED HOURS:	0
5.	PREREQUISITES:	ENGLISH 1010 or Eligibility for Honors or Permission from Instructor

**II. OUTCOMES/OBJECTIVES**

Upon satisfactory completion of POL 1040 – Introduction to Peace and Conflict Studies, the student should be able to perform the following outcomes and supporting objectives:

1. Recognize theories in the field of conflict resolution and stages in life cycle of a conflict.
  - A. Identify and examine the history and development of the conflict resolution field
  - B. Differentiate between theoretical approaches in the field
2. Understand and employ terminology and analytic frameworks specific to the field
  - A. Employ appropriate terminology for conflict analysis
  - B. Distinguish between various conflict approaches
3. Examine case studies
  - A. Identify the theoretical approaches used in different case studies

- B. Identify and apply theoretical tools to case studies
- 4. Identify stages of conflict and apply theoretical tools to the stages.
  - A. Compare and contrast a number of conflict and conflict resolution theories
  - B. Recognize and describe the processes specific to the escalation, stalemate and de-escalation of conflict
  - C. Understand and evaluate the theory and practice of conflict intervention, including negotiation, mediation, facilitation and Track II diplomacy
  - D. Distinguish conflict outcomes, including the management, the resolution, the transformation and the reconciliation of conflict.
- 5. Identify and analyze the impact of social issues on conflict resolution
  - A. Assess the influence of diverse cultures and societies on conflict and its resolution
  - B. Assess the influence of class, gender, and power on conflict and its resolution

### **III. COURSE CONTENT**

- 1. The conflict resolution field: history and development
  - A. Lessons from the cold war
  - B. Kenneth Boulding, Johann Galtung and John Burton
- 2. Terminology of the field and approaches to conflict analysis
  - A. Hard power/soft power
  - B. Galtung's structural violence and negative/positive peace
  - C. Burton's theory of human needs
- 3. Case studies
  - A. Sierra Leone
  - B. Northern Ireland
  - C. Sri Lanka
  - D. Israel, Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan
- 4. Theories of the sources and causes of conflict
  - A. Theories at the micro/individual level.
  - B. Theories at the macro/societal level.
  - C. Theories at the intermediate/social process level.
- 5. Dynamics of conflict (including the life cycle of conflict)
  - A. Dynamics of escalation
  - B. Conflicts and stalemates
  - C. Dynamics of de-escalation
- 6. Analyzing and assessing conflict cases
  - A. The Revolutionary United Front – Sierra Leone
  - B. The Tamil Tigers – Sri Lanka
- 7. Theories of conflict intervention
  - A. Negotiation
  - B. Appreciative Inquiry
  - C. Multi-Track Diplomacy
- 8. Intervention & resolution processes

- A. Negotiation
  - B. Mediation
  - C. Facilitation
  - D. Track II (Unofficial) Diplomacy
9. Conflict Outcomes
- A. Management
  - B. Resolution
  - C. Transformation
  - D. Reconciliation
10. Critical Issues I: The influence of diverse cultures and societies on conflict
- A. David Harvey's theory of social processes
  - B. Scott Lash's theory of culture
11. Critical Issues II: The influence of class, race, gender and power on conflict
- A. Cornel West on race
  - B. Stuart Hall on class
  - C. Nancy Frazer on gender

**IV. METHODS OF STUDENT EVALUATION MAY INCLUDE ANY ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:**

- A. Tests & Quizzes
- B. Group Work & Presentations (Case Study)
- C. Writing Assignments

**V. RESOURCES MAY INCLUDE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING**

Ash, Timothy Garton.  
2002. *The Polish revolution: Solidarity*. 3rd Ed: Yale University Press.

Avruch, Kevin, and Peter W. Black.  
1993. Conflict resolution in intercultural settings: Problems and prospects. In *Conflict resolution theory and practice: integration and application*, edited by D. J. D. Sandole and H. van der Merwe. Manchester: Manchester University Press.

Benedek, Emily.  
1999. *The wind won't know me: a history of the Navajo-Hopi land dispute*. Oklahoma City: University of Oklahoma Press.

Birkhoff, Juliana E.

2005 *Gender, Conflict and Conflict Resolution* [Electronic Article]. Mediate.com Available from <http://www.mediate.com/articles/birkhoff.cfm>.

d'Estrée, Tamra Pearson, Larissa A. Fast, Joshua N. Weiss, and Monica S. Jakobsen.

2001. Changing the Debate about 'Success' in Conflict Resolution Efforts. *Negotiation Journal* 17 (2):13.

Deutsch, Morton, Coleman, Peter & Marcus, Eric

2006 *The Handbook of Conflict Resolution: Theory and Practice*. Second Edition. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass. (textbook)

Druckman, Daniel.

2007. Negotiating in the International Context. In *Peacemaking in international conflict: methods and techniques*, edited by I. W. Zartman. Washington, D.C.: United States Institute of Peace.

Fast, Larissa A.

2002. Frayed edges: Exploring the boundaries of conflict resolution. *Peace & Change* 27 (4):528-545.

Galtung, Johan.

1969. Violence, peace, and peace research. *Journal of peace research* 6 (3):167-192.

Gourevitch, Philip.

1998. *We wish to inform you that tomorrow we will be killed with our families: stories from Rwanda*. 1st ed. New York: Farrar Straus and Giroux.

Gutman, Roy.

2008 *How we Missed the Story: Osama bin Laden, the Taliban and the Hijacking of Afghanistan*. Washington, DC: US Institute of Peace.

Hancock, Landon E.

2001. To Act or to Wait: A Two-Stage View of Ripeness. *International Studies Perspectives* 2 (2):195-205.

Hirsch, James S.

2002. *Riot and remembrance: the Tulsa race war and its legacy*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin.

LaPierre, Dominique & Javier Moro

2002 *Five Past Midnight in Bhopal: The Epic Story of the World's Deadliest Industrial Disaster*. Warner Books

Lasensky, Scott and Daniel Kurtzer

2008. *Negotiating Arab-Israeli Peace: American Leadership in the Middle East*. Washington, DC: United States Institute of Peace.

Lederach, John Paul.

2003. *The little book of conflict transformation, The Little Book of Justice & Peace building*. Intercourse, PA: Good Books. (textbook)

Pruitt, Dean, Rubin, Jeffrey & Hee Kim, Sung

2004 *Social Conflict: Escalation, Stalemate and Settlement*. Third Edition. New York: McGraw-Hill. (textbook)

Roy, Arundhati

2001 *Power Politics*. Cambridge, Mass: South End Press.

Seul, Jeffrey R.

1999. 'Ours is the Way of God': Religion, Identity, and Intergroup Conflict. *Journal of Peace Research* 36 (5):18.

Toobin, Jeffrey.

2001. *Too close to call: the thirty-six-day battle to decide the 2000 election*. 1st Ed. New York: Random House.

Video and DVD Resources for Case Study.

Aguirre: The Wrath of God

Bitter Sweet Harvest: Afghanistan's New War

Bringing Down a Dictator

Congo's Curse

Cry Freetown

Darwin's Nightmare

Deadly Catch: Lake Victoria's Aids Crisis

From North to South: Sudan's Displaced Head Home

Frontline: Rescuing Elian.

Kent State: The Day the War Came Home.

Losing Hope: Women in Afghanistan

Peace Under Fire: Sudan's Darfur Crisis

The Ghost Dance

Where the Green Ants Dream

Why We Fight