

# POL-2020: INTRODUCTION TO CONFLICT AND PEACE STUDIES

## Cuyahoga Community College

**Viewing: POL-2020 : Introduction to Conflict and Peace Studies**

**Board of Trustees:**

February 2019

**Academic Term:**

Fall 2021

**Subject Code**

POL - Political Science

**Course Number:**

2020

**Title:**

Introduction to Conflict and Peace Studies

**Catalog Description:**

Introduction to the field of conflict analysis, resolution, and peace studies is intended to provide a solid foundation for further inquiry and application. Examines definitions of conflict and diverse views of its resolution, and explores thinking about human behavior and social systems as they relate to the origins of conflict and the role of conflict in violent and peaceful social changes.

**Credit Hour(s):**

3

**Lecture Hour(s):**

3

## Requisites

**Prerequisite and Corequisite**

ENG-1010 College Composition I or concurrent enrollment; or departmental approval: permission from instructor.

## Outcomes

**Course Outcome(s):**

Identify and utilize theories in the field of conflict resolution and stages in life cycle of a conflict.

**Objective(s):**

1. Identify and examine history and development of the conflict resolution field.
2. Differentiate between the theoretical approaches within the field.

**Course Outcome(s):**

Understand and employ terminology and analytic frameworks specific to the field.

**Objective(s):**

1. Employ appropriate terminology for conflict analysis.
2. Distinguish between the various conflict approaches.

**Course Outcome(s):**

Examine case studies by identifying stages of conflict and apply theoretical tools to case studies.

**Objective(s):**

1. Identify the theoretical approaches used in different case studies.
2. Identify and apply various analytical tools to case studies.
3. Evaluate the theory and practice of conflict intervention, including negotiation, mediation, facilitation and Track II diplomacy.
4. Distinguish conflict outcomes, including the management, resolution, transformation, and reconciliation of conflict.

5. Compare and contrast a number of conflict and conflict resolution theories.
6. Recognize and describe the processes specific to the escalation, stalemate and de-escalation of conflict.

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**Course Outcome(s):**

Identify and analyze the impact of identity and power in conflict resolution and peacebuilding.

**Objective(s):**

1. Assess influence of diverse culture and society on conflict.
2. Assess influence of class, gender, and power on conflict and its resolution.

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**Methods of Evaluation:**

1. Tests & Quizzes
2. Group Work
3. Class Presentations
4. Writing Assignments (such as short answers, essays, longer papers)
5. Class Discussion

**Course Content Outline:**

1. The conflict resolution field: history and development
2. Terminology of the field and frameworks for conflict analysis
  - a. Structural violence and positive and negative peace
  - b. Human Needs Theory
  - c. Peace psychology
  - d. Sociology of Violence
  - e. Hard power/soft power
  - f. Anatomy of conflict (escalation, stalemate, de-escalation) constructive and destructive conflict
- g. Models for analyzing conflict
  - i. Conflict triangles theory
  - ii. Conflict spirals theory
  - iii. Nested theory of Conflict (Dugan)
  - iv. Game theory
  - v. Social conflict theory
3. Theories of the sources and causes of conflict.
  - a. Theories at the micro/individual level.
  - b. Theories at the meso/group-to-group level.
  - c. Theories at the macro/societal level.
  - d. Theories at the intermediate/social process level.
4. Dynamics of Conflict
  - a. Dynamics of escalation
  - b. Conflicts and stalemate
  - c. Dynamics of de-escalation
5. Theories of conflict intervention
  - a. Negotiation
  - b. Appreciative inquiry
  - c. Multi-track diplomacy
6. Intervention & resolution processes/mechanisms
  - a. Negotiation
  - b. Mediation
  - c. Facilitation
  - d. Multi-track Diplomacy
  - e. Non-violent Action
7. Conflict Outcomes
  - a. Management
  - b. Resolution
  - c. Transformation
  - d. Reconciliation

8. Identity, Power, and Conflict
  - a. Social inequality
  - b. Race/ethnicity/nationality
  - c. Religion
  - d. Gender
  - e. Sexual Orientation
  - f. Ability status

## Resources

Annan, Kofi. (2012) *Interventions: A Life in War and Peace*, London, England: Penguin Press.

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Avruch, Kevin and Peter W. Black. "Conflict Resolution in Intercultural Settings: Problems and Prospects." *Conflict Resolution Theory and Practice: Integration and Application*. Edited by Dennis J.D. Sandole and Hugo van der Merwe, Manchester University Press, 1993, pp. 131-145.

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Benedek, Emily. *The Wind Won't Know Me: A History of the Navajo-Hopi Land Dispute*. Oklahoma City, OK: University of Oklahoma Press, 1999.

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Birkhoff, Julianna E. "Gender, Conflict and Conflict Resolution" Mediate.com, 12/24/98.

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d'Estree, Tamra Pearson, Larissa, A. Fast, Joshua N. Weiss, and Monica S. Jakobsen. "Changing the Debate about 'Success' in Conflict Resolution Efforts" *Negotiation Journal*. 17 (2): 13. July, 2007, pp. 101-113.

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Deutsch, Morton, Peter Coleman, and Eric Marcus, editors. *The Handbook of Conflict Resolution: Theory and Practice*. 3rd ed. San Francisco, Jossey-Bass, 2014.

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Druckman, Daniel. *Negotiating in the International Conflict: Methods and Techniques*. Washington, D.C.: United States Institute of Peace, 2007.

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Gourevitch, Philip. *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, 1998.

---

Galtung, John. "Violence, Peace, and Peace Research" *Journal of Peace Research*. 6 (3):167-192. 1969.

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

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Hirsch, James S. *Riot and remembrance: the Tulsa Race War and Its Legacy*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 2002.

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La Pierre, Dominique and Javier Moro. *Five Past Midnight in Bhopal: The Epic Story of the World's Deadliest Industrial Disaster*. Warner Books, 2002.

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

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Lederach, John Paul. *The Little Book of Conflict Transformation: Clear Articulation of the Guiding Principles by a Pioneer in the Field*. The Little Books of Justice and Peacebuilding Series. Intercourse, PA: Good Books, 2003.

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Myer, Bernard. *The Dynamics of Conflict: A Guide to Engagement and Intervention*. 2nd ed. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass, 2012.

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Pruitt, Dean, Sung Hee Kim. *Social Conflict: Escalation, Stalemate and Settlement*. 3rd ed. New York: McGraw-Hill, 2003.

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Reimer, Laura E., Cathryne L. Schmitz, Emily M. Janke, Ali Askerov, Barbara T. Strahl, and Thomas G. Matyok. (2015) *Transforming Change: An Introduction to Peace and Conflict Studies*, Lanham, MD: Lexington Book.

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Roy, Arundhati. *Power Politics*. 2nd ed. Cambridge, MA: South End Press, 2001.

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Seul, Jeffrey R. "'Ours is the Way of God': Religion, Identity, and Intergroup Conflict" *Journal of Peace Research*. 36 (5): 18. Sept. 1999, pp. 553-569.

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Wood, Houston. (2015) *Invitation to Peace Studies*, New York, NY: Oxford University Press.

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### **Resources Other**

#### Documentaries

1. A Force More Powerful
2. Bitter Sweet Harvest: Afghanistan's New War
3. Bringing Down a Dictator
4. Congo's Curse
5. Cry Freetown
6. Darwin's Nightmare
7. Deadly Catch: Lake Victoria's Aids Crisis
8. From North to South: Sudan's Displaced Head Home
9. Frontline: Rescuing Elian
10. Global Peace Index – Vision for Humanity
11. How fear drives American politics (TED)
12. Kent State: The Day the War Came Home
13. Losing Hope: Women in Afghanistan
14. Peace Under Fire: Sudan's Darfur Crisis
15. Romero
16. The Ghost Dance
17. Tough Guise 2
18. Where the Green Ants Dream
19. Why We Fight

### **Instructional Services**

#### **OAN Number:**

Ohio Transfer 36 TMSBS

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