

**ICAR – GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
CONF 665
UNDERSTANDING PEACEBUILDING
Spring 2009**

Class Time: from 10:00am to 4:00pm
Saturday: March 28, April 4, April 18 and May 2
Sunday: April 19 and May 3

Location: Arlington Original Building, Room 105B
George Mason University, Arlington Campus and
Point of View, 7301 Old Spring Drive, Lorton, VA 22079

Instructor: Andrea Bartoli
Phone: (917) 583 3993
Email: abartoli@gmu.edu

Office Hours: Truland Room 508 (Arlington Campus)
Before or after class; during breaks and by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is an invitation to welcome, analyze and sustain peacebuilding activities as they are currently experienced in the world. International in scope, the course offers an overview of theories of international and global violence and conflict, and examines transnational and international processes with particular reference to peace and conflict. It covers the analysis of peace process (both successes and failures) addressed by or ought to be addressed by the international community. It focuses in particular on the complex interaction of multiple actors in peacebuilding. It is designed to help students to think systematically and analytically about peacebuilding and to develop strategies of influence in support of peacebuilding action.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- Familiarize students with terminology and concepts associated with peacebuilding that are addressed by the international community, including the UN system and regional organizations
- Help students to think systematically and analytically about peacebuilding in different regions and in a variety of contexts.
- Connect theory to practice through discussion, research and case studies of real events and interventions, including a few success and failures stories.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

In addition to regular attendance and participation, 1) a short written comment on units, 2) teamwork, role-play with a group presentation of a case study, and 3) final take-home exam are required. Readings are offered to introduce the student to the theme as well as offering guidance for further study.

- 1) **Short Written Comment on Units (10%):** You will write short comments, thoughts, reflections, questions, etc, on 1-page Reflection Sheet given at the end of each unit. These

comments need not be a comprehensive coverage of the entire unit, nor should they be summaries of the unit. Rather, this is an exercise to elicit your critical reactions to them. The comments therefore should reflect your intellectual engagement with the questions, theories, or cases provided by the readings. You can focus on particular themes. The collection of these exercises will account for 10 percent of the final grade.

- 2) **Team work, role-play, group presentation (40%)** Students will be assigned randomly to a group and jointly select one case to analyze. They will be in charge of identifying sources and bibliographic references. A template of the analytical structure will be provided by the instructor. The students in each case study group will be asked to meet (time will be provided during class hours but additional meetings or coordination by email, phone, or other means may be necessary as well). The group will develop a plan to present its understanding of the case. This may represent a consensus among the group or alternative perspectives may be present. The group presentations will be of equal time for all groups (time will be strictly enforced), followed by a general discussion in the class.
- 3) **The final written take home exam (50%):** Final home exam will cover materials from throughout the class. A 12-15 page essay (double-spaced, Times New Roman font, 1'-margin) will ask you to reflect critically on the themes, theories, or cases covered by the class, utilizing the theories of conflict analysis and resolution. This exam will be handed out at the end of the third day and will be due at the beginning of the last class.

Delays, deferrals, or a grade of "incomplete" for the course will be given only in cases of personal or immediate family crisis. Late papers will receive penalized points. Students should also read the statement of ICAR's Academic Standards and the University's Honor Code.

TEXTS:

Ghali, Boutros Boutros. "An Agenda for Peace: Preventive diplomacy, peacemaking and peace-keeping." Report of the UN Secretary-General pursuant to the statement adopted by the Summit Meeting of the Security Council on 31 January 1992. New York: United Nations. <<http://www.un.org/docs/SG/agpeace.html>>

Charter of the United Nations: <<http://www.un.org/aboutun/charter/>>

Ramsbotham, Oliver, Woodhouse Tom, and Hugh Miall. Contemporary Conflict Resolution: The prevention, management, and transformations of deadly conflicts. 2nd ed. Cambridge, UK, and Malden, MA: Polity, 2005.

Kriesberg, Louis. Constructive Conflicts: From Escalation to Resolution. Maryland: Rowman & Littlefield, 1998.

Jeong, Ho-won. Peacebuilding in postconflict societies: strategy and process. Boulder, Colorado: Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2005.

Jeong, Ho-won. Understanding Conflict and Conflict Analysis. London: Sage Publication, 2008.

Melchin, Kenneth, and Cheryl A. Picard. Transforming Conflict through Insight. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2008.

Report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations on “Implementing the responsibility to protect” 12 January 2009, A/63/677.

<<http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N09/206/10/PDF/N0920610.pdf?OpenElement>>

COURSE READINGS/INTERNET/ELECTRONIC RESERVES:

This course will use several methods for access to class readings: the library, the library’s electronic reserves, and ICAR Ning shared space. Other readings may be indicated or distributed in class. All students are responsible for downloading and reading assignments before they are discussed in class. Several readings will be noted as “SUPPLEMENTARY” and are not required, but reading them will enhance your understanding of the course material. Technical difficulties, if any, will be discussed in class.

If you have any questions not answered in this syllabus or have any concerns during the course, please feel free to ask in class or contact the instructor as soon as possible.

Saturday March 28, 2009

Unit 1

(10:00 am – 12:00 noon)

Theme: Introduction

Reading:

- Melchin, Kenneth, and Cheryl Picard. Transforming Conflict through Insight. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2008. Ch 1 pp. 3-25
- Ramsbotham, Woodhouse and Miall, Chapter 1
<http://www.polity.co.uk/ccr/contents/chapters/RamsbothamCh01.pdf>
- Burton, John W. "Conflict Resolution as a Political Philosophy." Conflict Resolution Theory and Practice: Integration and Application. Eds. Dennis J.D. Sandole and Hugo van der Merwe. Manchester Univ. Press, 1993. (E-reserves).

Assignment: Mutual introductions

Unit 2

(12:00 noon – 2:00pm)

Theme: History of Early Peace Efforts, and Understanding Contemporary Conflict

Readings:

- Melchin, Kenneth, and Cheryl Picard. Transforming Conflict through Insight. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2008. Ch 2 pp. 26-48
- Ramsbotham Woodhouse, and Miall, Chapters 2, 3 and 4
- Ramphal, Shridath, Peace in Our Global Neighborhood
<http://www.gmu.edu/academic/pcs/ramphal.htm>
- Jeong, Ho-won. Peacebuilding in postconflict societies: strategy and process. Boulder, Colorado: Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2005. pp. 1-18

Assignment: Form small groups for group presentations – discussion

Unit 3

(2:00pm – 4:00pm)

Theme: Diagnosing Conflict

Reading:

- Melchin, Kenneth, and Cheryl Picard. Transforming Conflict through Insight. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2008. Ch 3 pp. 49-75
- Sandole, Dennis J.D. "A Comprehensive Mapping of Conflict and Conflict Resolution: A Three Pillar Approach."
<<http://www.gmu.edu/academic/pcs/sandole.htm>>
- Jeong, Ho-won. Peacebuilding in postconflict societies: strategy and process. Boulder, Colorado: Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2005. pp. 19-39

DVD: The Fog of War – a documentary with Robert McNamara.

Assignment: Group update

Saturday April 4, 2009

Unit 4 (10:00 am – 12:00 noon)

Theme: The United Nations System and the evolution of peacebuilding

Readings:

- The United Nations Charter: <<http://www.un.org/Docs/SG/agpeace.html>>
- Report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations on “Implementing the responsibility to protect” 12 January 2009, A/63/677
- Melchin, Kenneth, and Cheryl Picard. Transforming Conflict through Insight. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2008. Ch 4 pp. 76-100
- Ramsbotham, Woodhouse & Miall, Chapter 6

Assignment: Group update

Unit 5 (12:00 noon – 2:00pm)

Theme: Regional Organizations

Readings:

- Ramsbotham, Woodhouse & Miall, Chapter 5
- Paffenholz, Thania. “Designing Transformation and Intervention Processes.” Handbook of Conflict Management, Berghof Research Center for Constructive Conflict Management. <http://www.berghof-handbook.net/uploads/download/paffenholz_handbook.pdf?LANG=e&id=106>
- Jeong, Ho-won. Peacebuilding in postconflict societies: strategy and process. Boulder, Colorado: Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2005. pp. 187-220

Assignment: Group update

Unit 6 (2:00 pm – 4:00 pm)

Theme: Escalation processes

Readings:

- Kriesberg, Louis. Constructive Conflicts: From Escalation to Resolution. Chapter 6
- Pruitt, Dean G. and Sung Hee Kim. Social Conflict: Escalation, Stalemate, and Settlement. 3rd ed. New York: The McGraw-Hill Companies, 2004. Chapter 1 and 2
- Jeong, Ho-won. Understanding Conflict and Conflict Analysis. Chapter 1 pp. 1-20

Assignment: Group update

Saturday April 18, 2009

Unit 7 (10:00 am – 12:00 noon)

Theme: Ending Violent Conflict: Peacemaking 1

Readings:

- Melchin, Kenneth, and Cheryl Picard. Transforming Conflict through Insight. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2008. Ch 5 pp. 102-122
- Ramsbotham, Woodhouse & Miall, Chapter 7
- Kriesberg, Louis. Constructive Conflicts: From Escalation to Resolution. Chapter 7

Assignment: Group update

Unit 8 (12:00 noon – 2:00pm)

Theme: Ending Violent Conflict: Peacemaking 2

Readings:

- Melchin, Kenneth, and Cheryl Picard. Transforming Conflict through Insight. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2008. Ch 6 pp. 122-130
- Ramsbotham, Woodhouse & Miall, Chapter 8
- Kriesberg, Louis. Constructive Conflicts: From Escalation to Resolution. Chapter 8

Assignment: Group update

Unit 9 (2:00pm – 4:00pm)

Theme: Conflict Resolution and Terrorism

Reading:

- Ramsbotham, Woodhouse & Miall, Chapter 10
- Licklider, Roy. “Obstacles to Peace Settlements.” Turbulent Peace: The challenges of managing international conflict. Eds. Chester A. Crocker, Fen Osler Hampson, and Pamela R. Aall. Washington, D.C.: United States Institute of Peace, 2001.
- Jeong, Ho-won. Understanding Conflict and Conflict Analysis. Chapter 3 pp 43-63

DVD: The Imam and the Pastor – a documentary from the heart of Nigeria.

Assignment: Group update

Sunday April 19, 2009

Unit 10 (10:00 am – 12:00 noon)

Theme: Peacebuilding - summary

Readings:

- Ramsbotham, Woodhouse & Miall, Chapter 9
- Saunders, Harold. "Prenegotiation and Circum-negotiation: Arenas of the Multilevel Peace Process." Turbulent Peace: The challenges of managing international conflict. Eds. Chester A. Crocker, Fen Osler Hampson, and Pamela R. Aall. Washington, D.C.: United States Institute of Peace, 2001.

Assignment: Group update

Unit 11 (12:00 noon – 2:00pm)

Theme: Peacebuilding – trajectories

Readings:

- Kriesberg, Louis. Constructive Conflicts: From Escalation to Resolution. Chapter 10
- Jeong, Ho-won. Understanding Conflict and Conflict Analysis. Chapter 5 pp 89-116
- Ricigliano, Robert 2003. Networks of Effective Action: Implementing a Holistic Approach to Peacebuilding. Milwaukee, Wisconsin: University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee.
- Wanis-St. John, Anthony, and Darren Kew. 2006. The Missing Link: Civil Society Roles in Peacebuilding. In *International Studies Association*. Town & Country Resort and Convention Center, San Diego, California, USA.

Unit 12 (2:00pm – 4:00pm)

Theme: Peacebuilding - conclusion

Readings:

- Ramsbotham, Woodhouse & Miall, Chapter 10
- Lederach, John Paul. 2002. "Civil Society and Reconciliation," Turbulent Peace: The challenges of managing international conflict. Eds. Chester A. Crocker, Fen Osler Hampson, and Pamela R. Aall. Washington, D.C.: United States Institute of Peace, 2001. (E-reserves).
- Van Tongeren, Paul. "Coordination and Codes of Conduct: The Challenge of Coordination and Networking." Eds. Luc Reyckler and Thania Paffenholz. Peacebuilding: A Field Guide. Boulder: Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2001.

Assignment: Final Take Home questions are distributed

Saturday May 2, 2009

Unit 13
(10:00am - 12:00 noon)

Theme: Group presentations

Unit 14
(12:00 noon – 2:00pm)

Theme: Group presentations

Unit 15
(2:00pm – 4:00pm)

Theme: Group presentations

Sunday May 3, 2009

Unit 16

(10:00am - 12:00 noon)

Theme: In depth analysis of the Mozambique case

Reading:

- Bartoli, Andrea. "Mediating Peace in Mozambique: The Role of the Community of Sant'Egidio." Herding Cats: The Role of Mediation in Multiparty Crisis. Eds. Chester A. Crocker, Fen O. Hampson, and Pamela Aall. Washington, DC: United States Institute of Peace, 1999.
- Bartoli, Andrea. "Forgiveness and reconciliation in the Mozambique peace process." Forgiveness and Reconciliation. Eds. Raymond G. Helmick and Rodney L. Petersen. Templeton Foundation Press, 2001.
- Bartoli, Andrea, Mozambique, in Dayton, Bruce W., and Kriesberg, Louis, Eds. Conflict Transformation and Peacebuilding: Moving From Violence to Sustainable Peace. London, Routledge, 2009

Unit 17

(12:00 noon – 2:00pm)

Theme: In depth analysis of the Mozambique case

Unit 18

(2:00pm - 4:00 pm)

Themes: Summing up the course

Assignment: Final Take Home test is due today