

GPA 421 Conflict Resolution and Transformation

Pre-Requisites: None

Learning Objectives:

Conflict is a natural and common phenomenon in social interaction however, in the global perspective, conflicts are often explained as a perpetual feature of power politics, inherent in the international political order. This course aims to provide students with a conceptual understanding of conflict approaches as well as conflict resolution mechanisms which will encompass international and indigenous perspectives. Additionally, a range of tools for conflict management will be evaluated in context of contemporary and protracted conflicts.

Learning Outcomes:

After completing the course, students will be able to:

- Identify and differentiate conflict approaches and theoretical perspectives
- Develop conflict mapping skills and evaluate conflict management tools
- Understand the role of regional and international organizations in conflict resolution paradigm

Course Contents:

The topics covered include: nature of conflicts from peace and realist paradigms, state conflicts and conflicts between non-state actors, conflict prevention, management and resolution approaches, impacts and limitations of resolution approaches, mediation, negotiation, preventive diplomacy, intervention and international diplomacy, peacemaking, peacekeeping and post-conflict peacebuilding. Impact of socio-cultural and ethno-religious forces on conflict escalation and de-escalation.

Text Books and Software:

1. Jeong, Ho-Won. (2008). Understanding Conflict and Conflict Analysis. London: Sage Publications.
2. Sandole, D.J., Byrne, S., Sandole, I. and Senehi, J. (Eds.). (2009). Handbook of Conflict Analysis and Resolution. NY: Routledge.
3. Wallensteen, P. (2002). Understanding Conflict Resolution: War, Peace and the Global System. London: Sage Publications.
4. Ramsbotham, O., Woodhouse, T. and Miall, H. (3rd ed., 2011). Contemporary Conflict Resolution: The Prevention, Management and Transformation of deadly conflicts. Cambridge: Polity Press
5. Galtung, J. (2004). Transcend and Transform: An introduction to Conflict Work. London: Pluto Press.
6. Miller, C.E. (2nd ed., 2005). A glossary of terms and concepts in Peace and Conflict studies. M.E.King (Ed.). University for Peace.