

Course title:	International Peace Mediation and International Negotiations
Instructor:	Dr. Thomas R. Henschel
Email address:	henschel@trhenschel.de
Track:	B-Track
Language of instruction:	English
Prerequisites:	Students should be able to speak and read English at the upper intermediate level (B2) or higher.
Contact hours:	72 (6 per day)
ECTS-Credits:	7

Course description

To successfully overcome the multiple challenges of our time, people must cooperate peacefully with one another. Otherwise, we as humanity will not be able to cope with climate change, ensure equal access to resources and shape a future in which peace, self-determination, freedom, and prosperity are possible.

In this course we discuss what it takes and how it is possible for people to cooperate with each other, solve problems collaboratively and resolve conflicts peacefully. The course examines the different conditions and models for cooperation. To this end, the latest results from cognitive and behavioral research, psychology, sociology, game and systems theory as well as complexity theory are presented and their relevance for creating conditions for cooperation is examined. Building on the scientific foundations, theories and methods for the peaceful resolution of differences and conflicts are then introduced. The focus here is on mediative skills and international peace mediation. However, cooperation and conflict resolution are not just knowledge, but can and must be learned and trained. In the course, students are given the opportunity to transform the knowledge they have learned into concrete skills through role plays and exercises. The experiences gained in the exercises are reflected on together. In this way, knowledge does not remain external, but is linked to concrete experiences. This creates the basis for implementing what has been learned.

The concrete practical relevance is further strengthened by two visits to Berlin NGOs that are active in international peace work. We will also invite guest speakers from the practice of international peace policy and discuss with them. Subject to availability, international guest speakers may also be invited to join the course via video conference.

Berlin has a very special significance for international peace work due to its history. Especially here, students can experience how a society dealt with its own through the Holocaust, war crimes, collapse, liberation, and new beginnings. These experiences will be embedded by visiting memorial sites in Berlin and students will thus be able to use concrete history to shape the future.

Student profile

The course is designed for students with different academic backgrounds and a general interest in international politics, peace missions and mediation.

Prerequisites

There are no special prerequisites for the course.

Course Requirements

- 1.) Attendance and class participation
- 2.) Exam
- 3.) Presentation

Required language skills

The language of instruction is English. Language proficiency on an advanced intermediate level (B2) is a prerequisite for participation. For orientation purposes, you can assess your language skills here (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR): <https://rm.coe.int/CoERMPublicCommonSearchServices/DisplayDCTMContent?documentId=090000168045bb52>)

Grading

Attendance and class participation: 40%
Presentation: 30%
Exam: 30%

Readings

A digital course reader will be provided.

Course schedule

Date	Program*
Tuesday, June 04, 2024	<p>A World of Diversity and Differences Introduction to scientific constructivism. Building on an account of the history of phenomenology, the development of Newton's worldview is discussed and its increasing deconstruction over the course of the 20th century through the work of W. Heisenberg, Edward. N. Lorenz, Humberto Maturana and Francisco Varella among others towards the constructivist approach. We discuss the foundations of the model and its implications as a source of diversity and difference in the world. The unit is concluded by presenting the narrative approach.</p>
Friday, June 7, 2024	<p>Creating Added Value from Diversity and Differences Introducing the Harvard Model of Negotiation. Based on the historical classification of the development of this model in the 1970s, the strategic options and principles for cooperation are presented and discussed. Based on an innovative communication model, the initial findings can then be trained in exercises.</p>
Tuesday, June 11, 2024	<p>Case Learning The peace negotiations between Egypt and Israel over the Sinai Peninsula are considered a model case for appropriate international peace mediation. In this session we present the case and discuss the roles of those involved. What factors were effective in making the negotiations successful? First student presentation</p>
Friday, June 14, 2024	<p>International Peace Mission: Praxis Example Preparation and visit to an NGO in Berlin</p>
Tuesday, June 18, 2024	<p>Creating Spaces for Mutual Understanding Introduction of the U-Model of Mediation. Structure of Mediation, definition, principles of mediation and how to do it. Case learning and Role Games in mediation</p>
Friday, June 21, 2024	<p>Conflict Dynamics and Analysis Introduction of scientific models for conflict theory, its dynamics and escalation character. Presentation of analysis tools and practical training in exercises.</p>
Tuesday, June 25, 2024	<p>A World of Complexity Introduction to complexity theory and presentation of models for skillfully dealing with complexity. Factor analysis and working with criteria, options and</p>

	scenarios.
Friday, June 28, 2024	Peace Mission Concept Introduction of the multilevel Peace Mission Concept, including the current concept on foreign policy of the Federal Government of Germany.
Tuesday, July 2, 2024	International Peace Mission: Praxis Example Preparation and visit to an NGO in Berlin
Friday, July 5, 2024	A New International Policy? Presentation of plans and models for an international policy approach from the perspective of an international policy for peace, participation, and equal rights for everybody.
Tuesday, July 9, 2024	Case Learning: Student Presentation The students present cases of international peace work and these are analyzed using the newly learned theories and methods.
Friday, July 12, 2024	Final exam and remaining students' presentations

*Field trips are subject to change depending on the availability of appointments and speakers. On field trip days, class hours may be adjusted.