



School of History, Philosophy,  
Political Science and International Relations

## INTP 248 Conflict Analysis Trimester 1, 2008

**Course Coordinator:** Jim Rolfe. Office: MY 511. Meetings by arrangement but generally Tuesdays 4.30pm-5.30pm. Telephone: 4960625, email: rolfejg@gmail.com.

**Tutors:** To be advised

**Classes:** Lectures: Mondays and Wednesdays 5.00 – 6.00, Hunter (HU) LT323

Tutorials: To be advised at first lecture

### Course content

An introduction to the study of the nature, scope, concepts and theories of conflict. The course will include discussion both of forms of conflict and of processes to mitigate and resolve it. The timetable for lectures and tutorials is attached at the end of this course outline. Any changes will be announced in lectures and displayed on the Programme noticeboard.

### Course objectives

By the end of the course students will:

1. understand the varying nature of conflict
2. be aware of the processes for managing and resolving conflict.

### Expected workload

This is a 22 point course and thus about 220 hours of work over the total 15 weeks of the trimester are required. Of the about 15 hours a week for this course, students should spend 3 hours in lectures and tutorials and the remainder researching the topic, revising course material and preparing assignments.

### Readings

Required tutorial readings are part of the tutorial list attached later in this course outline. These readings are available in closed reserve and (mostly) electronically through the library. INTP 248 *Course Material* is available for student purchase and a wider reading list will be distributed early in the course.

Additional course readings are also attached. All of the references are available in the library.

**Assessment requirements**

Two essays (30% each) and a final exam (40%) are used for assessment. Essay topics are attached at the end of this course outline.

- Essay 1 due 7 April 2008
- Essay 2 due 27 May 2008

Essays should be 1800 – 2200 words long and follow all scholarly conventions, especially those relating to citations. Extensions will be granted only by the course coordinator and only in rare circumstances. Essay two, especially, is not due until the end of teaching and if not received in good time will not be able to be marked in time for final grading.

The final examination will be a 3-hour exam scheduled in the examination period 9-28 June.

**Statement on penalties**

Late essays will be penalised with a deduction of 5% for the first day late, and 2% per day thereafter, up to a maximum of 8 days. Essays submitted more than eight days late will be accepted as fulfilling the mandatory course requirement, but will not be graded.

**Mandatory course requirements**

Both essays must be handed in and the exam completed.

Tutorials are mandatory. Material covered in tutorials will not necessarily be covered in lectures and may be included in the final exam.

Failure to meet mandatory requirements does not prevent a student completing other pieces of assessment, including any examination (ref. Assessment Handbook 2.4).

**Additional information**

Additional course information will be announced in lectures and posted on the Departmental notice board.

**The use of Turnitin**

Student work provided for assessment in this course may be checked for academic integrity by the electronic search engine <<http://www.turnitin.com>>. Turnitin is an online plagiarism prevention tool which identifies material that may have been copied from other sources including the Internet, books, journals, periodicals or the work of other students. Turnitin is used to assist academic staff in detecting misreferencing, misquotation, and the inclusion of unattributed material, which may be forms of cheating or plagiarism. At the discretion of the head of School, handwritten work may be copy typed by the School and subject to checking by turnitin. You are strongly advised to check with your tutor or the course coordinator if you are uncertain about how to use and cite material from other sources. Turnitin will retain a copy of submitted materials on behalf of the University for detection of future plagiarism, but access to the full text of submissions will not be made available to any other party.

## **Academic Integrity and Plagiarism**

Academic integrity is about honesty – put simply it means *no cheating*. All members of the University community are responsible for upholding academic integrity, which means staff and students are expected to behave honestly, fairly and with respect for others at all times.

Plagiarism is a form of cheating which undermines academic integrity. The University defines plagiarism as follows:

*The presentation of the work of another person or other persons as if it were one's own, whether intended or not. This includes published or unpublished work, material on the Internet and the work of other students or staff.*

It is still plagiarism even if you re-structure the material or present it in your own style or words.

*Note: It is however, perfectly acceptable to include the work of others as long as that is acknowledged by appropriate referencing.*

Plagiarism is prohibited at Victoria and is not worth the risk. Any enrolled student found guilty of plagiarism will be subject to disciplinary procedures under the Statute on Student Conduct and may be penalized severely. Consequences of being found guilty of plagiarism can include:

- an oral or written warning
- cancellation of your mark for an assessment or a fail grade for the course
- suspension from the course or the University.

Find out more about plagiarism, and how to avoid it, on the University's website:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

## **GENERAL UNIVERSITY STATUTES AND POLICIES**

Students should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied; see the *Victoria University Calendar* available in hardcopy or under "about Victoria" on the Victoria homepage at:

[http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about\\_victoria/calendar\\_intro.html](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/calendar_intro.html)

Information on the following topics is available electronically under "Course Outline General Information" at:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/newspubs/universitypubs.aspx#general>

- Academic Grievances
- Student and Staff Conduct
- Meeting the Needs of Students with Impairments
- Student Support

## Timetable

Lectures: Monday/Wednesday 5.10-6.00pm, HU 323

1.	25 Feb	Introduction – background and administration
2.	27 Feb	What is conflict analysis/why study conflict?
3.	3 Mar	Theories of IR and their relationship with conflict
4.	5 Mar	Theories of conflict
5.	10 Mar	Objective and subjective conflict analysis
6.	12 Mar	Why we fight – the causes of violent conflict
7.	17 Mar	Intractable conflict
8.	19 Mar	Forms of conflict: Pre-modern
9.	26 Mar	Forms of conflict: Modern
10.	31 Mar	Forms of conflict: Post-modern
11.	2 Apr	Forms of conflict: intrastate
12.	7 Apr	Forms of conflict: interstate
13.	9 Apr	Forms of conflict: insurgency
14.	28 Apr	Forms of conflict: asymmetric
15.	30 Apr	Managing conflict: peacekeeping
16.	5 May	Managing conflict: facilitation and mediation
17.	7 May	Managing conflict: diplomacy
18.	12 May	Managing conflict: intervention
19.	14 May	Those affected by conflict: human rights
20.	19 May	Ending conflict
21.	21 May	Conflict resolution
22.	26 May	Reconciliation
23.	28 May	Conclusion

## Tutorial Sessions

1. Conflict and society
  - a. Azar argues that conflict is an 'inseparable part of social interaction'. Do you agree?
    - i. Edward E. Azar, 'Protracted Social Conflict: An analytical framework', Chapter 1 in Edward E. Azar, *the Management of Protracted Social Conflict: Theory and Cases*, Aldershot, Brookfield, c1990
2. The causes of conflict
  - a. Can we ever give any one cause to conflict – either generally or in specific cases?
    - i. Hugh Miall, Oliver Ramsbotham and Tom Woodhouse, *Contemporary Conflict Resolution: the prevention, management and transformation of deadly conflicts*, Malden MA, 1999, especially chapters 1 and 3.
3. The nature of conflict: yesterday and today
  - a. Do Hammes' typologies of warfare work for you?
    - i. Thomas X Hammes, *The Sling and the Stone: On War in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, St Paul, MN, 2006, Chapters 1 -3.
4. The nature of conflict: tomorrow
  - a. Is the future to be more 'fourth generation warfare' as described by Hammes?
    - i. Thomas X Hammes, *The Sling and the Stone: On War in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, St Paul, MN, 2006, Chapters 1 and 14.
5. Peacekeeping
  - a. What do you understand by 'the responsibility to protect'. What are the lines of the debate?
  - b. What is the extent to which 'humanitarian intervention' has been a cloak for a range of different political interests by those intervening?
    - i. Report of the International Commission on Intervention and State Sovereignty, *The Responsibility to Protect*, <http://www.iciss.ca/report-en.asp>
    - ii. Edwin M. Smith, 'Collective security, peacekeeping and ad hoc multilateralism' in Charlotte Ku and Harold K. Jacobson eds., *Democratic accountability and*

*international institutions using military force*, Cambridge: 2002

6. Diplomacy and conflict resolution
  - a. Is Stedman's argument compelling? What other forms of diplomacy are there?
    - i. Stephen John Stedman, 'Alchemy for a New World Order: Overselling Preventive Diplomacy', *Foreign Affairs*, May/June 1995.
7. Human rights in conflict
  - a. What is international humanitarian law and why is it relevant?
  - b. Are women (and children) taken into account sufficiently?
    - i. [www.icrc.org](http://www.icrc.org)
    - ii. Christine Chinkin, 'Women, the Forgotten Victims of Armed Conflict', in Helen Durham and Timothy L.H. McCormack eds., *the Changing Face of Conflict and the Efficacy of International Humanitarian Law*, The Hague, Boston: 1999.
8. Methods of conflict resolution
  - a. What models are available for mediation and negotiation
    - i. Jacob Bercovitch and Allison Houston, 'Why do they do it Like This? An Analysis of the Factors Influencing Mediation Behaviour in International Conflicts', in Daniel Druckman and Paul F. Diehl eds., *Conflict Resolution*, vol 3, London: 2006.
    - ii. William Zartman, 'Toward the Resolution of International Conflicts', in I. William Zartman and J. Lewis Rasmussen, eds., *Peacekeeping in International Conflict: Methods and Techniques*, Washington: 1997
9. Reconciliation and the long term settlement of grievances
  - a. What works?
    - i. John Paul Lederach, 'Conflict Transformation in Protracted Internal Conflicts: the case for a comprehensive framework in Daniel Druckman and Paul F. Diehl eds., *Conflict Resolution*, vol 5, London: 2006.
10. Revision: Prepare for discussion on all aspects of the course.

## ADDITIONAL READING

This is a selection only of what is available and is intended to show the range of the literature with relevance to conflict analysis rather than to identify what might necessarily be 'best'. Students should familiarise themselves with what is in the library and work their way through the literature.

As well as these 'scholarly' books, you might also like to look at classics of literature such as *War and Peace*, *A Farewell to Arms* and similar.

### Books

- John Bayliss et al., *Strategy in the Contemporary World*, Oxford University Press, 2002.
- Jacob Bercovitch and Jeffrey Z. Rubin eds., *Mediation in International Relations: Multiple Approaches to Conflict Management*, St Martin's Press, 1992.
- Marshal Cohen et al, eds., *War and Moral Responsibility*, Princeton University Press, 1974.
- Martin van Creveld, *On Future War*, Brassey's, 1991.
- Yoram Dinstein, *War Aggression and Self-Defence*, Cambridge University Press, 1996.
- Niall Ferguson, *The War of the World*, Penguin, 2006.
- L.L. Farrar Jr. ed., *War: A Historical, Political and Social Study*, Clio Press, 1978.
- Ian Forbes and Mark Hoffman, eds., *Political Theory, International Relations and the Ethics of Intervention*, St Martin's Press, 1993.
- David Galula, *Counterinsurgency Warfare: Theory and Practice*, Praeger, 1964.
- Azar Gat, *War in Human Civilization*, Oxford University Press, 2006
- Daniella Groseffi, *Women on War*, Feminist Press, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed 2003.
- Bruce Hoffman, *Inside Terrorism*, Rev ed. Columbia University Press, New York: 2006
- Michael Howard ed., *Restraints on War: Studies in the Limitation of Armed Conflict*, Oxford University Press, 1979.
- Vivienne Jabri, *War and the Transformation of Global Politics*, Palgrave, 2007.
- Alan James, *Peacekeeping in International Politics*, St Martin's Press, 1990.
- Edward N. Luttwak, *Strategy: The Logic of War and Peace*, Belknap Press, 1987.
- Hans Morgenthau, *Politics Among Nations: The Struggle for Power and Peace*, Alfred A. Knopf, 4<sup>th</sup> ed., 1967.
- John Nagl, *Counterinsurgency: Learning to Eat Soup with a Fork*, University of Chicago Press, 2005.
- Naval Studies Board, *Post-Cold War Conflict Deterrence*, National Academy Press, 1997.
- Robert O'Connell, *Of Arms and Men*, Oxford University Press, 1989
- Robert O'Connell, *Ride of the Second Horseman*, OUP, 1995.
- Emerson M.S. Niou et al, *The Balance of Power: Stability in International Systems*, Cambridge, 1989.
- Ralph Pettman, *World Politics: Rationalism and Beyond*, Palgrave 2001.

Rupert Smith, *The Utility of Force*, Allen Lane, 2005  
Peter Turchin, *War and Peace and War*, London, 2005  
Michael Walzer, *Arguing About War*, Yale Nota Bene, 2005.

## **Journals**

There are many more articles in the scholarly journals that will be of little use than will be useful. Nonetheless students should get into the habit of going through at least the contents pages of journals to see what is covered in them.

*Cooperation and Conflict*  
*Ethics and International Affairs*  
*Global Governance*  
*Human Rights Quarterly*  
*International Security*  
*Journal of Conflict Resolution*  
*Journal of Peace Research*  
*Journal of Strategic Studies*  
*Negotiation Journal*  
*Review of International Studies*  
*Security Studies*



## Essay Topics

### **Essay 1:** Due 7 April 2008

1. Why study conflict?
2. Is conflict inevitable?
3. Can conflict truly be 'post-modern'?
4. Why has New Zealand typically involved itself in international conflict? Do the reasons accord with those given in the literature?
5. What can we learn about conflict from literature? Do the lessons have any validity for 'conflict analysis' as a discipline?
6. A topic of your own choice to do with forms of conflict. Course coordinator's approval required in advance.

### **Essay 2:** Due 27 May 2008

1. Does peacekeeping work?
2. How do we know when conflict is ended?
3. Could New Zealand establish itself in an international 'go anywhere' role as a mediator of intractable conflict?
4. If diplomacy worked, we wouldn't have conflict. Assess.
5. Can the sides in intractable conflicts ever truly reconcile their differences?
6. A topic of your own choice to do with conflict resolution. Course coordinator's approval required in advance.