Diplomacy and Conflict in the Middle East
CRN 18662 - POLS 30392 Sec. 01
Fall Semester 2009 Syllabus
Political Science Department lecture
Pasquerilla Center 112, T R 12:30p-1:45p
3 Credit Hours

Office: 415 Decio Hall; Phone: 574-631-6084; Email: abligh@nd.edu
Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday, 11:15am-12:15pm and 2:15pm-3:15pm
and by appointment

Diplomacy is usually employing a wide repertoire of foreign policy tools and military means all aiming at advancing the strategic standing of a nation state. These means range from a wide range of diplomatic tools to a variety of military operations. This course deals with the “military and diplomatic toolbox” available to policy makers, its application and the way the diverse approaches have been integrated into Middle Eastern politics since World War II. Among the topics to be discussed: types of negotiations (bilateral, multilateral, conferences and other international forums, back track diplomacy etc.), and definition and analysis of a large number of intended and achieved results (temporary agreements, non belligerency, permanent peace treaties and local agreements on one element of a wider conflict). Also to be discussed is the military dimension which has usually accompanied the diplomatic track in Middle Eastern diplomacy and have included from local campaigns, limited wars, terror to general wars.

Course Structure: Two 75-minute classes per week

Prerequisites: If you attended POLS 30390 Sec. 01 Diplomatic History of Middle East in fall 2008 it is an advantage but not a prerequisite.

Required Textbooks

By the end of the semester, it is hoped that the student will:
a) Have developed an understanding of the historical roots of Arab-Israeli relations since the beginning of the conflict.
b) Be able to identify and apply core theories to help understand and explain the past and current processes.
c) Identify, understand and explain the role of each of the pertinent players.

Grading

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<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mid-term Essay</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>exam</td>
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<td>Home essay I</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<td>Home essay II</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<td>Final Examination</td>
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Paper - Home essay

- To be submitted electronically by e-mail to abligh@nd.edu as attachment.
- Must be double spaced, font 12, footnotes 11, and typed up on Word Processing software.
- The papers are due on Sept 22th and Nov 24th by midnight.
- Failure to submit the paper on time will automatically result in a deduction of half a letter grade for each week or part of it the paper is late.
- The student should maintain a complete copy of the paper, including all appendixes for the student’s records.

Class Schedule & Readings

**PLEASE NOTE:** Each session’s reading material is divided between required (in bold fonts) readings and optional reading (no more than 3 items). Also, the class schedule is a planned outline, but it is highly likely that there will be some shifting throughout the academic semester as not all topics will fit an entire class session (either requiring more or less time.)

Section 1: International Relations (IR) Theory and the Psychology of Leadership
**Week 1 - Introduction: What is security?**
Aug 25 - First Day of Class
Aug 27

**Week 2 - Rationality & the Concept of “Crazy States”**
Sept 1

Sept 3

**Week 3 - Realism and Neo-Realism in Foreign Policy; Cognitive Process of Foreign Policy Decision Making**
Sept 8

Sept 10

**Week 4 – Perception & Deterrence; Sovereignty**
Sept 15

**Sept 17:**

**Section 2: War and Peace**

**Week 5- Declaring War; Casus Belli**

**Sept 22**

**Sept 24**

**Week 6- Just War Theory; Concluding War**

**Sept 29**

Oct 1

Week 7 – Mediation, using Camp David (1978) as a test case
Oct 6

Oct 8

Week 8 - International Peace Conferences
Oct 13

Oct 15: Midterm Exam

Week 9- No Class- Fall Break

Section 3: Keeping the Peace- Strategies and Complications
Week 10 – Bilateral and Multilateral International Agreements, using nuclear proliferation as a test case

Oct 27

Oct 29

Week 11- International Military Forces

Nov 3

Nov 5

Week 12- Public and Secret Diplomacy

Nov 10

Nov 12

Week 13- Small Groups and Foreign Policy Making

Nov 17


Nov 19


**Week 14- Terrorism & Hostage Situations**

Nov 24 **Home Essay II Due**


Nov 26 – Thanksgiving (No class)

**Week 15- Terrorism (cont); Test Cases**

Dec 1

Dec 3

**Week 16- Test Cases (Cont)- Conclusion of Class**

Dec 8

Dec 10