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Fall 2012

International Mediation

Daniel Herman
Seton Hall University

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Herman, Daniel, "International Mediation" (2012). *Diplomacy Syllabi*. 303.
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Seton Hall University

John C. Whitehead

School of Diplomacy and International Relations

Course: International Mediation

DIPL 6117

Fall 2012

Class: Thursdays 4 – 6:10 PM

Location: Alfieri Hall – Room 123

Prof. Daniel Herman

Office Hours: By Appointment

Course Description

This graduate seminar will examine the theory and practice of international mediation designed to end violent conflict and reconstruct peaceful social and political relations.

This seminar will combine the case study method with active learning techniques. Students will pursue individual and team-based research, problem-solving, role-playing, simulation and other collaborative activities in class and online.

This seminar will help students write and present concise and critical analyses of international conflict mediation exercises.

Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

- Explain the different kinds of international conflict today and their causes
- Utilize an analytical framework for critically examining conflicts and possible solutions
- Evaluate a variety of tools to resolve conflicts, including diplomacy, mediation, multilateral efforts, economic incentives, peacekeeping missions, military action and institution-building.

In summary, this course will present essential knowledge for students who intend to participate directly or indirectly in peacemaking through diplomacy, international nongovernmental organizations or global civil society.

Course Outline at a Glance

Week	Activity		
1-2	Literature Survey: Part 1		
	Introduction to International Mediation and Conflict Resolution		
3	Organizational Study		
	Mediation Support Unit of UNDP's Policy and Mediation Division (PMD)		
4-5-6-7	Conflict Mediation Case Studies		
	Team 1	Team 2	Team 3
	Case Study 1	Case Study 2	Case Study 3
8-9	Literature Survey: Part 2		
	Theory and Practice of International Conflict Mediation		
10-11	Conflict Mediation Case Studies		
	Team 1	Team 2	Team 3
	Case Study 4	Case Study 5	Case Study 6
12-13-14	Literature Survey: Part 3		
	Theory and Practice of International Conflict Mediation		

Detailed Schedule

The bracketed number correspond to the filenames uploaded to Blackboard

Class: 8/30

Course Introduction and Overview

8/30 Assigned Readings

- [1] Ramsbotham, Woodhouse and Miall (2007), "Introduction to Conflict Resolution: Concepts and Definitions", pp. 3-31.
- [2] Bercovitch and Jackson (2009), "International Conflict and its resolution: Moving from the Twentieth to the Twenty-First Century", pp. 1-16.
- [3] Greenberg, Barton, and McGuinness, "Introduction: Background and Analytical Perspectives" in Greenberg, Barton, and McGuinness (2000), pp. 1-11.
- [1] Ramsbotham, Woodhouse and Miall (2007), "Conflict Resolution: Origins, Foundations and Development of the Field", pp. 32-54.

Class: 9/6

Discussion of 8/30 Assigned Readings

9/6 Assigned Readings

- [4] Crocker, Hampson and Aall (1999), "Introduction", pp. 3-17;
- [2] Bercovitch and Jackson (2009), "Mediation and International Conflict Resolution", pp. 32-46.
- [5] Bercovitch and Gartner (2009), "New approaches, methods and findings in the study of mediation", pp. 1-13
- [6] Mitchell, "Mediation and the Ending of Conflicts", in Darby and Mac Ginty (2003), pp.77-85.

Class: 9/13

Discuss readings assigned September 6

**9/13 Assignment: The Policy and Mediation Division of the UN Dept. of
Political Affairs**

The Work of the Mediation Support Unit

<http://www.un.org/wcm/content/site/undpa/>

DPA's Mediation Support Unit, established in 2008, works closely with the Department's regional divisions to plan and support mediation efforts in the field. Among its functions, MSU provides advisory, financial and logistical support to peace processes; works to strengthen the mediation capacity of regional and sub-regional organizations; and serves as a repository of mediation knowledge, policy and guidance, lessons learned and best practices

Team members have provided support in dozens of negotiations, and hold expertise on issues including power-sharing, natural resources and conflict, constitution-making, cease-fires and other security arrangements, and gender issues as they relate to conflict.

9/16: Essay #1 DUE (8/30, 9/6)

Includes readings and discussions of Aug. 30 and Sept. 6

Class: 9/20 Beginning of Case Studies Round One

Discussion of 9/13 assignment on Mediation Support Unit

Beginning of Case Studies Round One

9/23: Essay #2 DUE (UNDPA's MSU)

Includes research on the UN DPA's Mediation Support Unit

Class: 9/27

Case Studies: in-class team activities

Class: 10/4

Case Studies: in-class team presentations

Class 10/11: Team Presentations

Class discussion of Case Studies

10/11 Assigned Readings:

- [4] Crocker, Hampson and Aall, "Multiparty Mediation and the Conflict Cycle" (pp. 19-45) and "The Practitioner's Perspective", (pp. 47-62) in Crocker, Hampson and Aall (1999)
- [5] Bercovitch and Gartner (2009), "Is there method in the madness of mediation? Some lessons for mediators from quantitative studies of mediation", pp. 19-42.

10/14: Essay #3 DUE on Case Studies

Class 10/18:

Class discussion of readings assigned 10/11

10/18 Assigned Readings

- [6] Darby and Mac Ginty (2003), "Introduction: What Peace? What Process?", pp. 1-6
- [6] Guelke, "Negotiations and Peace Processes" in Darby and Mac Ginty (2003), pp. 53-64.
- [6] du Toit, "Rules and Procedures for Negotiated Peacemaking", in Darby and Mac Ginty (2003), pp. 65-76.
- [6] Wolfsfeld, "The Role of the News Media in Peace Negotiations: Variations over Time and Circumstance" in Darby and Mac Ginty (2003), pp. 87-99.

Class: 10/25

Discussion of readings assigned 10/18

Beginning of second set of Case Studies

10/28: Essay #4 DUE on readings from 10/11 and 18

Class: 11/1: second set of Case Studies

Continue second set of Case Studies: in-class team activities

Class: 11/8 Case Studies Team Presentations

11/8 Assigned Readings

- [3] Barton and Greenberg, "Lessons of the Case Studies" in Greenberg, Barton, and McGuinness (2000), pp. 343-369.
- [1] Ramsbotham "Future Directions: Towards Cosmopolitan Conflict Resolution" in Ramsbotham, Woodhouse and Miall (2007), pp. 316-331.

11/11: Essay #5 DUE on Case Studies Round 2

Class: 11/15

Discuss readings from 11/8

11/15 Assigned Readings

- [7] Dayton and Kriesberg (2009), "Introduction", pp. 1-12.
- [7] Kreisberg and Millar, "Protagonist strategies that help end violence" in Dayton and Kriesberg (2009), pp. 13-29.
- [7] Hermann and Gerard, "The contributions of leadership to the movement from violence to incorporation" in Dayton and Kriesberg (2009), pp. 30-44.

Class: 11/29

Discuss readings from 11/15

11/29 Assigned Readings

- [8] Lyons (2005), "Demilitarizing Politics and Building Peace", pp. 1-33 and "Encouraging the Demilitarization of Politics", pp. 185-190.
- [9] Stedman, "Introduction", in Stedman, Rothchild and Cousens (2002), pp. 1-40.
- [9] Downs and Stedman, "Evaluation Issues in Peace Implementation" in Stedman, Rothchild and Cousens (2002), pp. 43-69.
- [9] Stedman, "Policy Implications" in Stedman, Rothchild and Cousens (2002), pp. 663-671.

Class: 12/6

Discuss readings from 11/29

Course Wrap-up

12/9: Essay #6 DUE

Team-Based Active Learning Exercises for Case Studies

This course will be centered around major peace process negotiation simulations that evolve and unfold across the entire semester. This is an opportunity to strategize, react to dynamics, learn from experiences and mistakes, anticipate moves, and to plan. The following outlines the responsibilities of each student and team.

Team Responsibilities

- Each team will be responsible for three case studies during Weeks 3 through 12.
- Each member of the team will be responsible for a unique role in the class presentation (conflict participant, mediator, interested third party, etc.)

Individual Responsibilities

- Research tasks for each Case Study
- Written Reports

Collaborative Projects for each Case Study

- Discussion Boards (on Blackboard)
- Team Wiki (on Blackboard) including a collection of online resources
- In-class team meetings (mandatory)
- Class Presentation by each team for each case study
- Each student will grade (i.e. rank the contribution of) fellow team members

Case Study Assignments

Written and oral assignments for each Case Study will address the following:

- Who were the main conflicting parties?
- Historical origins of conflict
- When did the conflict begin?
- What major issues were at stake?
- When did the mediation occur?
- Who were the principal mediators?
- What form(s) did the mediation activity take?
- Were there any key turning points in the mediation process?
- Was the mediation “successful”? By what criteria?
- How do various authors explain the success or failure of the mediation activities? What role, if any, did international law play?
- What role, if any, did mediation play in the implementation of the mediated agreement?
- What hypotheses about mediation does this case suggest?
- Are there any general lessons or insights you can gain from this case?
- issues in dispute, role of the UN and mediators, and resolution to date
- What unanswered questions about mediation do these examples raise for you?

Case Studies: Suggested Selections

Region	Conflict
Europe	Kosovo / Serbia Russia / Georgia / Abkhazia / South Ossetia / Chechnya, Armenia and Azerbaijan / Nagorno-Karabakh Northern Ireland
East Asia	North Korea, Cambodia, Indonesia / East Timor/ Aceh, Philippines, South China Sea
South / Central Asia	India-Pakistan (Kashmir Dispute), Nepal, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan
Middle East / Southwest Asia	Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan, Palestinian-Israeli Conflict, Lebanon, Cyprus
Africa	Ethiopia-Eritrea, Somalia, Chad, Congo, Western Sahara Sudan / South Sudan, Uganda, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Cote d'Ivoire, Liberia, Burundi South Africa, Namibia, Angola, Mozambique,
Central and Latin America	El Salvador, Haiti, Nicaragua, Colombia (FARC rebellion), Ecuador-Peru, Falkland-Malvinas islands

Crocker's Five-Phase Model Of Mediation Tradecraft

Step 1: Conflict Diagnosis

- Getting the diagnosis right: a framework for conflict analysis
- Analyzing the parties and their interests (direct/indirect); their internal structures, the 'balance of forces'; role of military and other 'balances'
- Which third parties care? Why? Can this case be mediated?

Step 2: Developing A Strategy

- Strategic implications of timing and ripeness
- Defining the agenda for negotiation
- Identifying sources of leverage: the power bases of mediation

Step 3: Designing And Launching The Mediation Mechanism

- How the mediator gains access and becomes 'interesting' to the parties;
- Avoid 'process traps' and 'precondition games'

Step 4: Shaping The Settlement Package

- settling the past or settling the future; peace and justice issues
- how much to include in a settlement; what to settle?
- developing formulas: disaggregating issues, linkage
- Mediation exercise scenario and role assignments

Step 5: Endgame Strategy And Post-Settlement Implementation

- The concept of a continuing peace process
- Sequencing security, political and others issues
- Sustaining the 3rd party role: leadership and parenting in peace processes
- How to institutionalize the peace process for implementation phase

Required Textbooks

Note: assigned readings from these textbooks *have been uploaded to the Blackboard website for this course.*

- Bercovitch, Jacob and Richard Jackson, Conflict resolution in the twenty-first century : principles, methods, and approaches (Ann Arbor : University of Michigan Press, 2009)
- Bercovitch, Jacob and Scott Gartner, eds. International Conflict Mediation: New Approaches and Findings (Routledge Press, 2009)
- Crocker, Chester A., Fen Osler Hampson, Pamela Aall, editors. Herding cats : multiparty mediation in a complex world (Washington, D.C. : United States Institute of Peace Press, 1999)
- Darby, John and Roger Mac Ginty, eds., Contemporary peacemaking : conflict, violence and peace processes (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2003.)
- Dayton, Bruce W. and Louis Kriesberg, eds., Conflict transformation and peacebuilding : moving from violence to sustainable peace (New York : Routledge, 2009)
- Greenberg, Melanie C., John H. Barton, and Margaret E. McGuinness, Words over war: mediation and arbitration to prevent deadly conflict (Lanham, Md. : Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2000)
- Lyons, Terrence, Demilitarizing Politics: Elections on the Uncertain Road to Peace (Lynne Rienner, 2005)
- Ramsbotham, Oliver, Tom Woodhouse and Hugh Miall. Contemporary Conflict Resolution (Malden, Massachusetts: Polity Press, 2007).
- Stedman, Stephen John, Donald Rothchild and Elizabeth M. Cousens, eds. Ending Civil Wars: The Implementation of Peace Agreements (Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2002)

Grading

Attendance	5
In-class Participation (contribution to class discussions and in-class team meetings)	25
Online Participation (Team Discussion Boards and Wiki)	15
Assessments from Teammates	5
Six Written Assignments	50
Total	100