



Course program and reading list

Semester 1 Year 2024

School: Lauder School of Government, Diplomacy & Strategy M.A

International Mediation

Lecturer:

Dr. Lesley Terris lterris@runi.ac.il

Teaching Assistant:

Ms. Diana Salatskaya diana.salatskaya01@post.runi.ac.il

Course No.:	Course Type :	Weekly Hours :	Credit:
24024	Lecture	2	2

Course Requirements :	Group Code :	Language:
Final Paper	241240240	English



Course Description

Mediation has become one of the most commonly used methods for the resolution of conflict in the global system. Yet, not all conflicts are mediated and not all mediation attempts succeed. In this course we will survey and analyze the practice and theory of mediation in inter and intrastate disputes. Using historical examples, we will explore the perspectives of the mediator and the disputing parties with regard to mediation; analyze strengths and weaknesses of different types of mediators, explore the strategies and tactics used by mediators under different conditions. Special attention will be devoted to issues regarding the motivations for and costs involved in mediation in international conflicts, mediators' roles and styles, trust issues, and power concerns. We will assess the contribution of different theoretical concepts to our understanding of real mediation processes, while examining their limitations in light of the complexities of the international system.



Course Goals

Course goals

The goals of the course are to (1) introduce students to the theories of negotiation and mediation in international relations (2) provide students with an understanding of mediation as a foreign policy tool and the underlying motivations for mediation (2) explore the practical implications of findings from mediation research for current conflicts.



Grading

Grade Composition

Take-home exam: 100% (based on course readings and class content).



Lecturer Office Hours

By appointment



Teaching Assistant

TA: Diana Salatskaya

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Reading List

Course Plan

Week 1. 21 December 2023. Mediation in international relations. General overview of the course structure and content; Research approaches to the study of mediation; Mediation as a method of conflict resolution in history.

Week 2. 28 December 2023. Mediation and Mediators. Players and Motivations: Why Mediation? The benefits and costs of mediation, for mediators and disputants; The mediator's toolbox: mediation strategies and tactics.

Nagel, Robert U. and Clayton, Govinda 2017. *Mediation and Foreign Policy*. In: *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Foreign Policy Analysis*. Oxford University Press.

Bercovitch, Jacob and Richard Jackson 2009. Mediation and International Conflict Resolution (Chapter 3). In *Conflict Resolution in the Twenty-First Century: Principles,*

Methods and Approaches. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, pp. 32-46.

Week 3. 4 January 2024. Mediation as an integral part of negotiation. The mediator's toolbox; mapping the negotiation domain (stakeholders, issues & reservation points)

Raiffa, Howard 1982. *The Art and Science of Negotiation: How to Resolve Conflicts and Get the Best out of Bargaining*. Harvard University Press, pp. 33-65.

Further reading:

Carnevale, Peter 1986. Strategic Choice in Mediation, *Negotiation Journal* 2:41-56.

Week 4. 11 January 2024. Division Strategies & Negotiation Styles

Hopmann, Terrence 2001. Bargaining and Problem-Solving: Two Perspectives on International Negotiation. In Chester A. Crocker, Fen Osler Hampson, and Pamela Aall (eds.) *Turbulent Peace: The Challenges of Managing International Conflict*, Washington, DC: United States Institute of Peace Press, pp. 445-468.

Week 5. 18 January 2024. Psychological biases and the Role of Mediation

Arrow, Kenneth, Mnookin, Ross, Tversky, and Wilson 1995. *Barriers to Conflict Resolution*. WW Norton and Company: pp. 3-59.

Terris, Lesley & Orit Tykocinski 2016. Inaction Inertia in International Negotiations: The Consequences of Missed Opportunities, *British Journal of Political Science* 46 (3): 701-717.

Week 6. 25 January 2024. Mediator Impartiality

Carnevale, Peter and Sharon Arad. 1996. Bias and Impartiality in International Mediation, in Jacob Bercovitch (ed.) *Resolving International Conflict: The Theory and Practice of Mediation*. Boulder, CO.: Lynne Rienner Publishers, Inc., pp. 39-53.

Kydd Andrew. 2003. Which Side Are You On? Bias, Credibility and Mediation. *American Journal of Political Science*, 47(4), pp. 597-611

Case Studies:

Thornton, Thomas 1985. The Indo-Pakistani Conflict: Soviet Mediation at Tashkent, 1966, in Zartman and Touval (eds.). *International Mediation in Theory and Practice*. Boulder, CO: Westview Press, pp. 141-171

Week 7. 1 February 2024. Mediating Across Cultures

Cohen, Raymond 1996. Cultural Aspects of International Mediation, in Bercovitch (ed.) *Resolving International Conflict: The Theory and Practice of Mediation*. Boulder, CO.: Lynne Rienner Publishers, Inc., pp. 107-128.

Case Studies:

Gary Sick 1985. The Partial Negotiator: Algeria and the US Hostages in Iran, in Zartman and Touval (eds.). *International Mediation in Theory and Practice*. Boulder, CO: Westview Press, pp. 21-65.

Week 8. 8 February 2024. Ripe for Mediation: Timing & Conditions

Haas, Richard 1988. Ripeness and the Settlement of International Disputes, *Survival* 30: 232-251.

Zartman, I. William 2001. The Timing of Peace Initiatives: Hurting Stalemates and Ripe Moments, *The Global Review of Ethnopolitics* 1(1): 8-18.

Regan, Patrick and Allan Stam 2000. In the Nick of Time: Conflict Management, Mediation Timing, and the Duration of Interstate Disputes. *International Studies Quarterly* 44: 239-260.

Case Studies

Bercovitch, Jacob and S. Ayse Kadayifci. 2002. Conflict Management and Israeli-Palestinian Conflict: The Importance of Capturing the "Right Moment", *Asia-Pacific Review* 9(2): 113-129.

Week 9. 15 February 2024. Film

Week 10. 22 February 2024. Wrap up. The Unintended Consequences of Mediation

Terris, Lesley, 2022. Unintended Consequences of International Mediation. Oxford Encyclopedia of Politics. *Oxford University Press*