Course Description
This course is designed as a survey course on conflict and conflict resolution. We will utilize two main texts to critically analyze 1) the various tools available to moderate, reduce, and resolve specific conflicts, and 2) the relationship between human rights promotion and conflict management and resolution. Classes and assignments will elaborate upon and/or supplement the required readings with scholarly research and practitioner experience in the field. Theory as it informs the practice of policy analysis in areas of conflict and post-conflict will be considered in specific cases.

Student Learning Outcomes

. Understand the substantive information presented in lectures and readings.
. Engage in close reading of the material to identify, summarize, question and debate main arguments and themes.
. Integrate the consistencies among the readings/authors’ arguments and approaches in the field of conflict and conflict resolution.
. Identify inconsistencies, differences, and gaps in knowledge in the readings.
. Express sophisticated, clear ideas in writing.
. Formulate theoretical and practical critiques of the readings into writing.
. Conduct independent research.
. Collaborate with fellow students in group work.

Goals for GE Courses in the Social and Behavioral Sciences

. Goal 1: Explore and recognize basic terms, concepts, and domains of the social and behavioral sciences.
. Goal 2: Comprehend diverse theories and methods of the social and behavioral sciences.
. Goal 3: Identify human behavioral patterns across space and time and discuss their interrelatedness and distinctiveness.
. Goal 4: Enhance understanding of the social world through the application of conceptual frameworks from the social and behavioral sciences to first-hand engagement with contemporary issues.
Required Texts


There may also be required readings announced in class. These will be found online, on Blackboard, on reserve, or handed out in class.

Student Disabilities/Accommodations
Students who would like accommodations for a disability are advised to contact me as early in the semester as possible and to provide me with the form / documentation that lists your authorized accommodations—or you may place a copy of the form / documentation in my department mailbox in the Department of Political Science.

If you have a disability and need accommodations but have not contacted Student Disability Services, you can contact them at 619-594-6473 (Calpulli Center, Suite 3101).

Class Attendance and Participation
Formal or informal discussion will be an important feature of this class, and every student is expected to participate in class discussions. This requires attending class and having done the reading. You are expected to have done the readings for class and participate in informal (or formal, as the case might be) class discussions. This will determine 10% of your grade. A good grade in participation is contingent on BOTH regular attendance AND consistent contributions to class discussions. While I might not take attendance in every class, absences will be noted and will affect your grade. Although you are expected to come to every class, over the course of a semester unforeseen events will prevent some, if not most of you from having a perfect attendance record. For this reason, missing four classes will not affect the attendance part your grade. Missing more than four will, however, result in grade penalties. Depending on the number of absences these penalties will be as drastic as receiving no credit whatsoever for attendance and participation, or failing the course altogether. Please note that based on this policy there are no “excused” or “unexcused” absences (unless an official exception covered by SDSU policy). If, however, an emergency situation arises during the semester that will make it impossible for you to attend the course for a substantial amount of time, you should contact me.

Please note that the lectures and the readings, while complementary may not necessarily cover exactly the same ground. Therefore, missing classes would imply missing valuable class material that might appear on your exam/assignments. In addition, you also run the risk of missing a pop quiz.
One of the most important elements of any class is the input offered by the students. It is expected that you listen carefully and courteously to the comments made by your classmates, and participate actively in the class by adding your own comments and questions. To facilitate this process, **use of cell-phones or laptops is not permitted in the classroom. Cell-phone usage during class hours will lead to grade penalties.** (If accommodation for a disability requires a laptop or other device, please provide me with the proper documentation.)

It is particularly important that you refrain from using cell-phones, headsets, or any electronic device at any point during quizzes/exams. Since it is not possible for me to determine exactly what the actual purpose of any such activity might be – for example, a quick glance at your smart-phone, or using headsets while you write – the use of any electronic device, however fleeting and for whatever real or alleged purpose will constitute cheating and result in automatic failure for the course.

Disruptive behavior in the classroom may result in a final grade deduction or failure. If you have any concerns, do not hesitate to bring them to me.

At times, we may discuss sensitive issues (e.g. violence, such as rape, during war / conflicts). Regardless of the topic being covered, class discussions should remain sensitive and professional in nature. Respect—for our fellow human beings, classmates, the instructor, and guest speakers—is of utmost importance for a safe and enriching learning environment. Insulting behavior or slurs may result in a failure or a final grade deduction. If you have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

**Grading and Assignments**

Throughout the semester, there will be an unspecified number of pop-quizzes that will account for 10% of your total grade. Pop quizzes can be handed out at the beginning of any given class period and will pertain mostly to the readings assigned for that particular class. For this reason, it is important that you be punctual. There will be no make-up pop-quizzes. However, your chances of getting full credit will not be harmed if you miss one quiz only. If you take all the quizzes that are handed out during the semester, your lowest scoring test will be discounted. Please note that if you have several tests with the same low score, the rule will still apply – only one test will be excused.

During the course of the semester, you will have one in-class examination (Oct. 24th) based on the class readings as well as lectures up to that point. To reduce examination related stress as far as possible, a substantial portion of the class period prior to it will be devoted to reviewing themes and answering questions that you might have.

You will write an analytical paper on an approved topic that will require you to research beyond class readings, but also to draw on the class readings. The paper, to be submitted in hard-copy version as well as electronic version (on turnitin.com, a plagiarism detection software) will account for 50% of your grade.
The grade for the class will be determined as follows:

- Attendance and Class participation – 10%
- Pop-Quizzes – 10%
- Mid-Term (in-class), **Oct. 24th** – 30%
- Analytical Paper, **Due Dec. 10th** – 50%

Due dates will be strictly observed, unless there are documented medical emergencies or official exceptions granted by San Diego State University, in which case you will need someone in the pertinent office to directly contact me.

Plagiarism or cheating of any sort will result in automatic failure for the course and will be reported to the University. For information on cheating and plagiarism, see [http://senate.sdsu.edu/policy/pfacademics.html#Cheating](http://senate.sdsu.edu/policy/pfacademics.html#Cheating) and [http://its.sdsu.edu/resources/turnitin/pdf/Plagiarism_AcadSen.pdf](http://its.sdsu.edu/resources/turnitin/pdf/Plagiarism_AcadSen.pdf). If you have further questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact me or the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities, webpage [http://www.sa.sdsu.edu/srr/](http://www.sa.sdsu.edu/srr/).

**Syllabus and Course Caveat:**
The syllabus should be used as an outline for class. While I will do my best to stick with the plan outlined in this syllabus, I may make changes to the structure, schedule, exams, content, etc. of the course. In the event of a major campus emergency or extenuating circumstances, course requirements, deadlines, and grading percentages are subject to changes that may be necessitated by a revised semester calendar or other circumstances.

**Reading Schedule (subject to change)**

27 August: Introduction to Course

29 August: NO CLASS, BUT READ Mertus Introduction and Crocker Introduction-38

3 September: Crocker pages 39-82.

5 September: Crocker pages 83-130

10 September: Crocker pages 131-160 and 177-196 (Ch. 10 is not required reading.)

12 September: Crocker pages 197-239 Ch. 12-13

17 September: Crocker pages 277-298 Ch. 16 (Ch. 14-15 are not required.)

19 September: Crocker sections from Ch. 17: pages 299-302; and then read starting with “The 1998 and 2001 Strikes against Terrorism” section on page 308 to (but not including) the “Libya” section on page 310; and then read the Summary section from pp. 311-317.

24 September: Crocker pp. 319-330 Ch. 18 (Ch. 19-20 are not required reading.)
26 September: Crocker pp. 369-387 and 389-400. Ch. 21-22 (Ch. 23-26 are not required)

1 October: Crocker pages 477-492 (Ch. 27) and these pages within Ch. 28: pp. 497-top of p. 513 [i.e. top two lines on p. 513] and read the Conclusion section on p. 518.

3 October: Crocker pages 521-532 and 553-576 Ch. 29 and 31. (Ch. 30 is not required)

8 October: Crocker pages 603-615. Ch. 33. (Ch. 32 and 34-36 are not required)


15 October: Mertus pages 23-36. Ch. 1

17 October: Mertus pages 39-59. Ch. 2 (Ch. 3 is not required reading.)

22 October: Review

24 October: MIDTERM EXAM

29 October: Mertus pages 97-118
31 October: Mertus pages 121-126 (Ch. 5-6 are not required reading.)

5 November: Mertus pages 185-205 and 209-214.
7 November: Mertus pages 217-233. (Ch. 9 is not required reading.)

12 November: Mertus pages 277-297.
14 November: Mertus pages 309-332.

19 November: Mertus pages 345-370.
21 November: TBD.

26 November: Mertus pages 375-387 and 399-402.

3 December: Mertus pages 405-426.
5 December: Mertus pages 431-454. (Ch. 16-17 are not required reading.)

10 December: TBD. Last Class Wrap-Up

Final Paper is due in Political Science Main office (AH 4142) on DEC. 10th by 4pm (addressed to my attention) or it can be hand-delivered to me in class on DEC. 10th.

In addition to submitting the hard-copy, you must also submit an electronic version on turnitin.com, a plagiarism detection software, by 5pm on DEC. 10th.