

CONF 340 - 006: Global Conflict Analysis and Resolution  
Fall 2009

Class Time: Mondays, 7:20 to 10:00 pm

Location: Innovation Hall 215G

Instructor: Ho-Won Jeong, Tel: 703 993-1300; E-mail: hwjeong@gmu.edu,  
hwjeong@verizon.net

#### COURSE OUTLINE

This course is designed to help students enhance their understanding of the issues and sources of conflicts in many parts of the world. It will orient students toward models and conceptual tools needed to understand the causes and processes of conflict that originates from political struggle, insecurity, economic disparity or environmental degradation. The class will examine both actors and structures involved in shaping and transforming political, economic and social forces. Students will be encouraged to apply their knowledge of conflict dynamics and resolution to the analysis of the global dimensions of conflict.

The root causes of conflict in a global context are examined in terms of the uneven impact of economic development and suppression of ethnic, gender and other group rights. Overall, economic deprivation, cultural differences, ethnic struggle, and ecological crisis will be some of the most important topics for the class. The format of this course will consist of lectures, discussion based on reading assignments, class presentations, and exercises. In assisting students in building their ability to develop independent thinking and a critical knowledge base, CONF 340 relies on an interactive class environment.

#### REQUIREMENTS

Exams will provide students with an opportunity to demonstrate their understanding of key concepts and theories. The midterm will constitute 25% of the course grade; the final will count for 40%. Writing projects are aimed to advance students' ability to present their research on globally important issues. An essay (25% of the total grade) will be due on November 30. More details about the assignment will be discussed in class. Some class sessions involve students' active participation in discussion and exercises. The remaining 10 percent of the final grade will be assigned to class participation.

#### REQUIRED READINGS

Jeong, Howon (2008) *Understanding Conflict and Conflict Analysis*, London: Sage

Jeong, Howon (2005) *Peacebuilding in Post-conflict societies*, Boulder: Lynne Rienner

Lewicki, Roy et al. (2001) *Essentials of Negotiation*. McGraw-Hill

#### Course Schedule

Week 1 (8/31): Introduction: Course Overview

Week 2 (9/14): Conflict Mapping

Jeong, Howon (2008) Understanding Conflict and Conflict Analysis, chapters 1-6

Week 3 (9/21): Conflict Dynamics

Class discussion

Week 4 (9/28): Conflict Process

Jeong, Howon (2008) Understanding Conflict and Conflict Analysis, chapters 7-11

Week 5 (10/5): Conflict Resolution

Class exercise and training by Dr. Mary Hope Schoewel

Week 6 (10/13): Midterm

Week 7 (10/19): Negotiation

Lewicki, Roy et al. (2001) Essentials of Negotiation. McGraw-Hill

Week 8 (10/26): Peace building

Ho-Won Jeong (2005), Peacebuilding in Postconflict Societies

Week 9 (11/2): Peace building and empowerment

Guest lecturer: Professor Hazel McFerson

Week 10 (11/9): Environmental Conflict

Discussion based on class handout and lecture

Week 11 (11/16): The Planet Earth

Ecological ethics; biodiversity

Week 12 (11/23): Globalization and the Environment

Presentations

Week 13 (11/30): Globalization and the Environment

Presentations

Week 14 (12/7): Integration

Exercise

Week 15 (12/14): Final Exam

7:30 ♦ 10:15 pm