

Module code	INR615	Level	6
Module title	Diplomacy and Conflict Resolution	Credit value	20
Core	Core	ECTS Credits	10
Courses on which the module is taught	BA (Hons) International Relations	Notional learning hours	200
		Teaching Period	Autumn

1. Module description

Conflicts are challenging and intractable – but diplomacy is a way to help resolve them. This module will reflect on a range of historical and regional experiences – from traditional China to the aristocratic way of taming the conflict of the imperialist European system of states, to the partial attempts to democratise diplomacy in the late twentieth century.

It introduces you to the phases and techniques of negotiations, including the role of mediators, international organisations and citizens. This will be applied to propose solutions to the recurrent problems in the Middle East, which involve significant issues of power; resources, both scarce (water) and abundant (oil); environment; statehood; terrorism; gender and culture. The module will include simulations and the attendance of external speakers. Other regions (including South and East Asia) will be discussed as well.

2. Learning outcomes

Upon successful completion of this module, you will be able to:

Collaboration (MLO 01)

collaborate and build networks to solve challenges in the complex settings of diplomacy and conflict resolution.

Professional Development (MLO 03)

articulate a plan which encompasses opportunities for your professional development in the area of diplomacy and conflict resolution.

Decision-making (MLO 04)

formulate informed decisions on diplomacy and conflict resolution issues, using critical and reflexive thinking.

Human and Environmental Impact (MLO 10)

evaluate the impact of conflict on people and on the environment to offer sustainable and diplomatic solutions.

3. Learning and teaching methods

Learning will be student-centred. You will engage with readings, group activities in and outside class, documentaries, films, visits, and the intervention of external speakers – notably, practitioners. You will also attend Chatham House events and establish a dialogue with our partner's interlocutors. The module will urge you to uncover the Western roots of current diplomacy and challenge them by engaging with other traditions (pre-Columbian America, Africa, South Asia, etc.). You will engage with activities and speakers dealing with issues of gender and global ecology.

Learning hours	
Directed learning	48 hours
Workshops/classes	48
Guided/Self-guided learning	152 hours
Total	200

4. Assessment, formative feedback and relative weightings

Assessment 1: Group Presentation

Weight (%): 50

Word Count or Equivalent: 15 minutes

You will collaborate with other students to work as a group in order to analyse a particular negotiation, either contemporary or historical.

Assessment 2: Essay

Weight (%): 50

Word Count or Equivalent: 2000 words

This essay will require you to outline key foreign policy positions and strategic objectives of a state in a negotiation. You will include a reflection on your learning process, and how this has shaped your forward thinking.

Each summative assessment will be preceded by an opportunity for formative assessment accompanied by formative feedback.

Mapping of assessment tasks for the module				
Assessment tasks	LO1	LO3	LO4	LO10
Presentation	x		x	x
Essay		X	x	x

5. Indicative resources

Barston, R. P. (2013). Modern Diplomacy (4th ed.). London: Routledge.

Berridge, G. R. (2010). Diplomacy: Theory and Practice (4th ed.). Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

Black, J. (2011). A History of Diplomacy (reprint ed.). London: Reaktion Books.

Cohen, R. (2013). Negotiating Across Cultures. Washington, DC: United States Institute of Peace Press

Hill, C. (2015). Foreign Policy in the Twenty-First Century (2nd revised ed.). Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

Holbrooke, R. (1999) To End a War – The Conflict in Yugoslavia – America's Inside Story – Negotiating with Milosevic. New York: Modern Library.

Hutchings, R. and Suri, J. (2020, eds.) Modern Diplomacy in Practice. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

Kerr, P. and Wiseman, G. (2013). Diplomacy in a Globalizing World: Theories and Practices. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Kremenyuk, V. A. (2002). International Negotiation: Analysis, Approaches, Issues (2nd ed.). New York: John Wiley & Sons.

Randolph, P. (2014). The Psychology of Conflict: Mediating in a Diverse World. London: Bloomsbury Continuum.