

GOVT 342: Diplomacy

Mason Korea Spring 2024
10:30-13:10 Tuesday

Instructor: Prof. Soyoung Kwon
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Course Description:

This course offers an introduction to contemporary diplomacy by looking at its tasks, procedures, instruments, and problems. The course examines how states manage their external relations and explores the conditions under which diplomacy contributed positively or negatively to various foreign policy outcomes. It also looks at the ways foreign policy decisions are made and implemented highlighting the role of individuals and institutions responsible.

The course is comprised of two parts. The theoretical part is organized to study diplomacy in the context of international relations theory, approaches to conducting diplomacy, and the modes of diplomacy in different issue areas. The practical part is organized to learn about diplomatic strategies, the art of negotiations, communication skills, and diagnostic and prescriptive characteristics of effective diplomacy as tools of statecraft. Students will study diplomatic cases and conduct diplomatic negotiation simulations, through which students can expand their understanding of diplomatic practice and international relations.

The classes are designed to have both lectures and interactive workshops, in which participants share their understanding of the readings (lectures) and exchange ideas through discussions and briefings. Other supplementary formats of learning will be introduced, including role-play of diplomatic functions as a messenger, analyst, communicator, and negotiator. It may offer an opportunity to grasp a comprehensive understanding of the unfolding events, and to exercise critical but constructive thinking on the pending issues. This course would serve as an adequate basis for further study in global governance, international politics, or conflict analysis and resolution. The modules are also helpful for those who seek a career in diplomatic service or government agencies.

Course Objectives

The course aims to help students to learn:

- Theoretical and practical aspects of diplomacy with an understanding of the essence and objectives of diplomacy
- Factors that facilitate cooperation or foster competition in international negotiations

- The art of and ingredients for successful international negotiations
- Effective public speaking, presentation, leadership, and teamwork
- Diplomatic skills to be a competent messenger, analyst, communicator, and negotiator.

Course materials

The following texts are required for the course:

1. Berridge, G. R. 2022. *Diplomacy: Theory and Practice* 6th ed. Palgrave & MacMillan.
2. Freeman, Chas. 2012. *Arts of Power: Statecraft and Diplomacy*. US Institute of Peace Press.
3. Andrew Cooper ed. 2013. *The Oxford Handbook of Modern Diplomacy*. Oxford University Press. (online version available on GMU library)
4. Additional reading materials will be posted on BB

For scholarly research, refer to the following journals:

<i>Diplomacy & Statecraft</i>	<i>Global Governance</i>
<i>International Peacekeeping</i>	<i>Cooperation & Conflict</i>
<i>Security Dialogue</i>	<i>International Affairs</i>
<i>International Interaction</i>	<i>International Studies Review</i>
<i>Foreign Affairs</i>	

Course Requirements and Grading

Prerequisites: GOVT 132 or GOVT 133 or CONF 101. Please note that this course requires the level and workload equivalent to the 300 level classes.

Active participation: Active participation means having arrived in class with notes on the readings and questions/comments, volunteering for role-play exercises, taking an active part in class discussions. Attendance will be taken into consideration.

Exam. There will be a written mid-term exam. For the written mid-term, you will be asked to identify terms and write short essay responses— both lectures and readings – up to the date when the exam is given.

Diplomatic Simulations. The class will form teams, each representing a selected country or party, and simulate negotiations on the issue of contention. The teams are required to undertake background research on the respective countries or issues, draw up country negotiating strategies and develop national/party negotiation positions with clearly identified ‘red lines’ in writing. Each team will select its leader (head of the delegation), technical experts, and communicator in the

conduct of the negotiations. At the end of the session, the class as a whole will make an internal assessment of the actual exercise, focusing on the content and manner of presentation of each team's principal arguments and counterarguments as well as the strengths and weaknesses of their respective negotiating positions in the framework of the art of negotiations and the modes of diplomacy. The teams are required to submit their negotiating positions and assessments in the activity sheet provided in hard copy, which will be accounted as part of the workshop project evaluation.

Research Paper: Students will be required to write a term paper of approximately 3000 words. Paper topics can be found below. Students are required to submit all papers electronically via blackboard (not via email) by the due date. Deadlines must be strictly observed. There will be a penalty for the delay of submission. Failure to submit after seven days will result in a grade of zero for that paper. All papers will be in **Microsoft Word format and 1.5 spaced**; use 12 in **Times New Roman Font**; and use **Chicago style in-paragraph citations** with bibliography.

The Chicago style citation guide can be found at:

http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.html For assistance on writing a political science paper, check out "How to Write a Good Paper"

<http://bss.sfsu.edu/sguo/courses/Howto.htm>

Research Topics: success or failure case(s) of a different mode of diplomacy which you will learn in class. You will analyze the case(s) to follow the process of diplomacy and to bring out the decisive factors that contributed to the success/failure. You could extend your critical thinking and lessons learned to other similar cases. This should include at least two academic journal articles as references. The contents of the academic journals (literature review) should be clearly presented in the paper.

Requirements, Evaluation, Grading Rubric

<i>Criteria</i>	<i>Content of Evaluation</i>	<i>%</i>
Participation & Assignments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Class attendance & participation in role-play exercises 20 pts ● Oral Briefing 20 pts ● Worksheet and written assignments 60 pts 	25
Mid-term Exam	Written Exam (incl. short essay responses) Testing the mastery of the course materials	25
Workshop Projects	Application of the course materials <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Post-simulation Review 50 pts ● Case Study Presentation 50 pts 	25
Research Paper	Clear presentation of your argument in a written form Research efforts	25

Grading scale:

Points Accumulated	Grade	GPA
97-100	A+	4.0+
93-96	A	4.0
90-92	A-	3.67
87-89	B+	3.33
83-86	B	3.00
80-82	B-	2.67
78-79	C+	2.33
74-77	C	2.00
70-73	C-	1.67
60-69	D	1.00
0-59	F	0.00

Course Policies and Information:

Diversity Statement: George Mason University promotes a living and learning environment for outstanding growth and productivity among its students, faculty and staff. Through its curriculum, programs, policies, procedures, services and resources, Mason strives to maintain a quality environment for work, study, and personal growth.

An emphasis upon diversity and inclusion throughout the campus community is essential to achieving these goals. Diversity is broadly defined to include such characteristics as, but not limited to, race, ethnicity, gender, religion, age, disability, and sexual orientation. Diversity also entails different viewpoints, philosophies, and perspectives. Attention to these aspects of diversity will help promote a culture of inclusion and belonging as well as an environment where diverse opinions, backgrounds, and practices have the opportunity to be voiced, heard, and respected. Please see <http://ctfe.gmu.edu/professional-development/mason-diversity-statement/> for the full GMU diversity statement.

Participation and Attendance: This is a very interactive class and will be run in a seminar-style format with an emphasis on discussion and group work. Students are expected to have read all assignments before class and participate actively and responsibly in a class discussion based on thoughtful consideration of the literature and experience. Class participation will be reflected in your grade. Unexcused absences will adversely affect your final grade. To claim an excused absence, you must provide proper proof within three calendar days of your return from that absence. You are responsible for all announcements, assignments, materials, and date changes covered or made in class while you are absent.

Class Discussion and Oral Briefing: Students will present, give briefings, and facilitate discussions in this class, especially on assigned readings. All questions and vigorous discussion and debate are encouraged in this course, with the expectation that all aspects of the class will be conducted with civility and respect for differing ideas, perspectives, and traditions. A discussion board will be used to freely share ideas and opinions for each module. In our class, we deal with sensitive and sometimes controversial materials and ideas. I expect that each class is approached with seriousness, critical thinking, cultural awareness and sensitivity, and respect for your peers, our guests, the material, and myself. Above all else, have fun and enjoy the interaction and group work.

Writing Guidelines

Your written assignments for this class will be graded according to the following criteria.

The relative weight given to each of these categories will vary depending on the nature of the assignment.

1. Clear and sound content, including a well-stated thesis, related points to support that thesis, and applicable, logically presented, and specific evidence, clarity of argument.
2. Depth of engagement with ideas; originality; the seriousness of thought; conceptual complexity.
3. Well-organized structure; text “flows” with a coherent and effective transition between and among ideas; appropriate voice, tone, and style for audience and purpose (e.g. no slang or contractions); accurate word choice.
4. Sufficiently and consistently cited and documented; one style of citation used throughout the paper; references adequate number and the appropriate type of sources; uses quotations and reference marks appropriately.
5. Correct mechanics including grammar, syntax, spelling, and punctuation.

All papers should be thoroughly proofread before being handed in and will be marked down for excessive typographical errors. Quality of writing is critical because if the writing is poor, then you are likely to be unable to communicate clearly or make an argument that is strong and carefully supported.

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: Mason is an Honor Code university. The principle of academic integrity is taken very seriously and violations are treated gravely. When you use someone else’s work, you will give that source full credit, typically in the form of an in-text citation and bibliographic reference.

Electronic Devices & Technology: You will need a reliable computer and internet access to view course materials in Blackboard.

Communication: I will be available online (via email or zoom). In case you need to talk to me privately, we can visit during my office hours or make appointment. Do not hesitate to ask for guidance and clarification, whatever the issue is. We could also use the time before/after the class to address any questions and concerns you may have in a timely manner.

Email Policy: In compliance with the university-wide initiative, our correspondence will be only through GMU assigned email accounts. Please check your email account regularly for updates and important announcements. This also means that you must use the blackboard. Please check the syllabus before emailing me regarding the course matters. I will not respond to email inquiries that arise from a lack of attention to the syllabus or class absence. I am happy to respond to clarification requests on assignments, though I strongly prefer to address these matters during class time.

Academic Accommodations: If you are a student with a disability and require some special arrangements or assistance to meet the course requirements, please contact the instructor as soon as possible to make the necessary accommodation.

Important Dates: <https://masonkorea.gmu.edu/academic-calendars/spring-2023>

Class Schedule: Topics and readings

Week 1 (2/20)	Induction	Introduction and Course Overview
Week 2 (2/27)	Workshop	<p><i>An introductory video on Diplomacy</i></p> <p>Conceptualization of Diplomacy: What is Diplomacy? People / Place / Mission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What is diplomacy? - Who are diplomats? - How US national security policy is created? <p>How US Foreign Policy is Made: https://www.fpa.org/features/index.cfm?act=feature&announcement_id=45&show_sidebar=0 https://diplomacy.state.gov/discover-diplomacy/diplomacy-101/ https://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/index.do</p>
Week 3 (3/5)	Lecture	<p>Diplomatic institutions and missions <i>Roles and Functions of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Embassy & Consulates, other related actors and institutions</i></p> <p><i>Berridge Chap.8-9, Chap. 15-16</i> <i>The Oxford Handbook of Modern Diplomacy, Chap. 4 and Chap. 5</i> https://diplomacy.state.gov/diplomacy/what-is-a-u-s-embassy/</p>
		Group Work: Diplomatic Organizational Chart Flow
Week 4 (3/12)	Lecture	<p>Origin and Evolution of diplomacy <i>Berridge 1-3 and 115-119</i> <i>Joseph Siracusa. Diplomacy: A Very Short Introduction, Chap. 1.</i></p> <p>New Diplomacy <i>John Robert Kelly, The New Diplomacy: Evolution of a Revolution, Diplomacy & Statecraft 21:2, 286-305</i></p> <p>Reference: <i>The Vienna Convention on Diplomatic and Consular Relations Berridge 137-146;</i> <i>The Oxford Handbook of Modern Diplomacy, Chap. 28</i></p>
	Seminar	<p>Oral Briefing At the beginning of the course, you will be randomly assigned as a “desk officer” for a country from a list provided by the instructor. Among other sources, you may read about your selected country here: www.state.gov [select countries & areas]. Write a short briefing report and present (no more than 5min). https://www.state.gov/department-press-briefings/ (read most recent Department Press Briefing listed)</p> <p>*Role-Play: Messenger</p>

Week 5 (3/19)	Lecture	Relations among state in an anarchic world National interests and national power <i>Freeman 3-5 and 9-21</i>
	Seminar	Oral Briefing At the beginning of the course, you will be randomly assigned as a “desk officer” for a country from a list provided by the instructor. Among other sources, you may read about your selected country here: www.state.gov [select countries & areas]. Write a short briefing report and present (no more than 5min). https://www.state.gov/departments-press-briefings/ (read most recent Department Press Briefing listed) *Role-Play: Messenger
Week 6 (3/28)	Lecture	The Structure of diplomacy and its uses: Types / Modes / Tracks of diplomacy <i>Freeman 33-85: 93-104</i> <i>The Oxford Handbook of Modern Diplomacy, Chap.1</i> <i>“The Relationships between track 1 and track 2 diplomacy” on BB</i> <i>“Track two Pathways” on BB</i>
	Seminar	Diplomatic Communications *Role-Play: Communicator
Week 7 (4/2)	Lecture	Making Foreign Policy: Actors and Processes <i>Berridge Chap. 1</i> <i>Smith et al. Foreign Policy, Chap. 6 BB</i>
	Seminar	Diplomatic Notes, Foreign Policy Analysis, Reporting, and Briefing *Role-Play: Analyst
Week 8 (4/9)		Spring Recess
Week 9 (4/16)		Mid-term Exam
Week 10 (4/23)	Lecture	Political Negotiations and Diplomatic Strategies <i>Freeman 87-92; Berridge Chap. 2-5</i> <i>The Oxford Handbook of Modern Diplomacy, Chap. 17</i>
	Seminar	*Role-Play: Negotiators Diplomacy in Action Negotiations (Team Assignment & Group Work) Prep session: briefing and strategy paper will be provided.

Week 11 (4/30)	Workshop	Diplomatic Negotiation Simulation Strategy Sessions - worksheet Formal and Informal sessions Final Resolution and Post-simulation Review
Week 12 (5/7)	Lecture	Diplomatic Strategy 1. Multilateral Diplomacy and Mediation <i>Berridge chap. 17</i> <i>The Oxford Handbook of Modern Diplomacy, Chap.7 and 13</i>
	Seminar	Case Study: successful case vs. failed case (Group 1 & 2) Multi-party negotiations
Week 13 (5/14)	Lecture	Diplomatic Strategy 2. Coercive Diplomacy Sanctions, Boycott, Containment <i>Sayde-hope Crystal: Coercive Diplomacy theoretical and practical evaluation (BB)</i>
	Seminar	Case Study: successful case vs. failed case (Group 3 & 4) Coercive Diplomacy as an Alternative to War?
Week 14 (5/21)	Seminar	Diplomatic Strategy 3: Public Diplomacy <i>Berridge Chap. 13</i> <i>The Oxford Handbook of Modern Diplomacy, Chap.24</i> https://uscpublicdiplomacy.org/page/what-is-pd https://afsa.org/rethinking-public-diplomacy-post-pandemic-world
		Case Study: successful case vs. failed case (Group 5 & 6) Cultural and Sport Diplomacy
Week 15 (5/28)		Conclusion: Perspectives on Diplomatic Practice <i>Berridge pp.266-268</i>
Week 16		Final Exam