Welcome to the course. This class will examine the many meanings of globalization—economic, political, and social—and explore how these global transformations are altering conflict dynamics at the international level. The course will explore when and under what conditions globalization processes may promote peace and under what circumstances they may aggravate old conflicts and lead to the emergence of new ones. The course will also explore the different methods of conflict intervention and resolution in international conflicts.

Attendance is not only mandatory but also crucial if you would like to succeed in this course. Some of the material will be discussed only in class and not in the readings. You should plan to complete the assigned readings prior to each class.

**Course Materials**

Required readings for this course come in two forms. Two books are required:


**Requirements:**

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<th>Component</th>
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<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
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<td>Exam</td>
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<td>Mock Briefing</td>
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<td>Pop Quizzes</td>
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**Participation:**

Regular attendance and consistent informed participation in class discussions and activities is expected. **It is critical to complete all assigned readings and reading notes prior to class.** Also, you should bring books and class materials with you to each class so that you can cite the text when needed in class. Further, you will need to take notes in class to capture the material discussed in class as most classes focus on discussion and students who take notes consistently tend to do better on the exam and to contribute more to discussion. We will frequently engage in small group work
and experiential activities so the quality of your participation and **preparation** is essential for maximizing learning and excelling on written assignments. Showing up on time is important, especially on days in which we have simulations and activities.

**Exam:**

This is a take-home essay examination. The exam will be posted on Blackboard under “Safe Assignments” and you will have two weeks to complete it and submit it. No late assignments will be accepted. The only exceptions to this policy are for those with a documented learning disability, emergent medical problem or a death in the family. In all cases, I will need to receive written documentation and discuss the issue with you. Your assignments should only contain your G number and not your name as the assignment will be graded anonymously. You are permitted to go to the writing center to seek feedback on your writing in advance of the due date and this is highly recommended. Remember it is advisable to make an appointment with the writing center well in advance of the due date.

Date: To be determined

**Mock Policy Briefing and Presentation:**

This assignment requires students to work together on a country specific analysis of major issues related to global conflict. The goal is to conduct analysis that could help inform responses to the issues you highlight and provide policymakers with vital information that makes their work easier. Each group will pick a single country (out of a list provided by the professor) to use as a case study for this project. Several groups will focus on violence prevention, while the others will focus on humanitarian crisis. For the preventions, group analysis will need to provide important context and analysis that makes the case for increased support from the international community and domestic actors to take additional action to prevent the escalation of violence. The other groups will focus instead on humanitarian crisis and make the case for more robust responses to those issues. The expected products include a slide.

**Pop Quizzes:**

Pop quizzes will occur at select points throughout the semester. These quizzes will ask you to offer a brief summary of the reading for that week and to highlight specific quotes that you found interesting. You may also be asked more specific questions about the arguments that were made by the author(s), references the authors made to other work or research cited in the reading.

You are permitted to use your reading notes during the quiz and anyone found looking at anything other than their reading notes will be considered as cheating and receive a zero for their reading notes and this will negatively impact their participation grade. This may also be an honor code violation.

*Under course content on Blackboard there will be a guide to help you write strong reading notes that prepare you for the quizzes.*
Student Resources:

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND HONOR CODE VIOLATIONS

All George Mason University students have agreed to abide by the letter and the spirit of the Honor Code. You can find a copy of the Honor Code at academicintegrity.gmu.edu. All violations of the Honor Code will be reported to the Honor Committee for review. The principle of academic integrity is taken very seriously, and violations are treated gravely. With specific regards to plagiarism, three fundamental and rather simple principles to follow at all times are that: (1) all work submitted be your own; (2) when using the work or ideas of others, including fellow students, give full credit through accurate citations; and (3) if you are uncertain about the ground rules on a particular assignment, ask for clarification. DO NOT copy and paste from the internet or submit papers from other classes. Finally, do not use your papers from other classes. If there is an important (small part) of a prior paper you wrote (not group work), you can use it (no more than 2-3 sentences) with proper citations! No grade is important enough to justify academic misconduct. If you have questions about when the contributions of others to your work must be acknowledged and appropriate ways to cite those contributions, please talk with the professor.

S-CAR requires that all written work submitted in partial fulfillment of course or degree requirements must be available in electronic form so that it can be compared with 4 electronic databases. Faculty may at any time submit a student’s work without prior permission from the student. S-CAR’s policy on plagiarism is supplementary to the George Mason University Honor Code; it is not intended to replace or substitute for it. Another aspect of academic integrity is the free play of ideas. 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. When in doubt, please ask for guidance and clarification.

Electronic Devices: Before each class, please remember to silence or turn off (not vibrate!) any electronic devices, especially cell phones. No calls or texting during class. No checking social media or surfing the web. If you must use your cell phone during class time for a personal emergency, please leave the room without disturbing the class. You may use your laptops or tablets to take notes and look up information pertinent to our class topics. However, you may NOT use this opportunity to complete tasks that are not related to our classroom, play games, surf the internet or chat with your friends on social media or elsewhere.

Email Policy: In compliance with a University-wide initiative, our correspondence will be only through GMU assigned email accounts. I do not reply to emails on weekends. I reply to student emails within 48 hours during the weekdays.

Please check your email account regularly for updates and important announcements. This also means that you must use blackboard. Please check the syllabus before emailing me regarding course matters and contact a classmate or a group member for notes if you miss class. I will not respond to email inquiries that arise from a lack of attention to the syllabus (i.e. office location, office hour times, due date for assignments, etc.) or class absences. I am happy to respond to clarification requests on assignments, though I strongly prefer to address these matters during class time.

Notice Mandatory Reporting: As a faculty member, I am designated as a “Responsible Employee,” and must report all disclosures of sexual assault, interpersonal violence and stalking to Mason’s Title IX Coordinator per George Mason University Policy 1412.
**Student Support:** If you wish to speak with someone confidentially for support, there are resources available to you on GMU main campus in Fairfax including the Student Support and Advocacy Center (703-380-1434) or Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) (703-993-2380).

**Services on GMUK campus:** You may also seek local counseling assistance from the IGC counseling center by calling 032 626-6142 or emailing wellness@gmu.edu. Mason’s Title IX Coordinator is available by calling 703-993-8730 or emailing cde@gmu.edu. For GMUK Psychological Services, you may call 032 626-6142 or visit the multi-complex building, room 3052. For GMUK’s Title IX Coordinator, you may contact Professor Zimmerman by calling 032 626-5110 or emailing dzimmer2@gmu.edu.

**Academic Accommodations:** If you are a student with a documented disability and need academic accommodations or assistance, please see me at the beginning of the semester. Even if the disability is not documented, speak with me right away so I can get you the assistance you need. The bottom line is that we want you to succeed in class!
SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND READINGS

February 25-Week 1: Introduction to Global Conflict Analysis

Readings:

Ramsbotham et al., *Contemporary Conflict Resolution*, Chapters 1, 4, skim Chapters 2 and 3

March 3-Week Two: Introduction: Conflict Resolution II

Readings:

Ramsbotham et al., *Contemporary Conflict Resolution*, Chapters 6,7,9

March 10-Week Three: Introduction: Globalization

Readings:


March 17-Week Four: Slow Violence and Environmental Conflict

Readings:


Slow Violence and the Environmentalism of the Poor,
Chapters TBD

March 24-Week Five: Globalization, Climate Change, and Conflict

Readings:

Ramsbotham et al., *Contemporary Conflict Resolution* Chapter 12.


March 31-Week Six: Migration, Diasporas, and Conflict

Readings:


April 7-Week Seven: Global Humanitarianism and the Ethics of Intervention

Readings:

Ramsbotham, Contemporary Conflict Resolution, Chapter 14


April 14-Week Eight: Ending Violent Conflict

Ramsbotham, Contemporary Conflict Resolution, Chapter 14

Additional Readings TBA

April 21-Week Nine: Patriarchy, Violence Against Women and Girls and Violent Masculinity

Readings:


April 28-Week Ten: Violence Prevention

Readings:

Annika Björkdahl (2013) Urban peacebuilding, Peacebuilding, 1:2, 207-221

Ramsbotham, Contemporary Conflict Resolution, Chapter 5
May 5-Week Eleven: No classes (Children’s Day)

May 12-Week Twelve: Peace Education

Readings:


May 19-Week Thirteen: Arts and Peacebuilding

Readings:


For this week students should find a media article that offers an example of the use of arts for the purpose of peacebuilding and be prepared to share that with your classmates

May 26-Week Fourteen: Democratic Mobilization and Constructive Conflict Escalation

Readings:


June 2-Week Fifteen: Closing and Reflections