Welcome!
Please read below to get a sense of what we will be exploring and what will be expected.

Course Description
In our time of tremendous social, political, and economic change, diplomacy persists as a prominent feature of international relations. It has been alternatively reviled as facilitating war and misperception, too antiquated to mitigate global issues, and yet also praised as the only useful process for peace and effective communication. In this course, we will explore theories of violence and conflict, distributive (win-lose) and integrative (win-win) approaches to conflict and negotiation, and contemporary international relations issues allowing for discussion about diplomacy, its function, practice, limits, and response to change. Special attention will be paid to cases after the end of the Cold War: the increasing breadth of diplomatic issues and the intensity of bilateral and multilateral interaction.

Objectives
We will encounter a common set of materials and ideas and share our thoughts about them. It is my goal to stimulate and encourage thoughtful, articulate written work, class interaction, and a curiosity about our topic! I believe that our seminars are particularly conducive to an engaging learning environment. As your instructor, I will introduce ideas and cases through presentations, but will partially rely on your engagement in seminars to make sessions fruitful.

Regarding content and skills, I believe the development of your analytical skills is just as important, if not more important, than the content of the course, whether you foresee yourself as a project manager or a scholar. Rigorously gathering and assembling background information, making observations, thinking critically about phenomena you observe, and constructing strong arguments and interpretations require practice, patience, and collaboration. We will discuss how to get the most out of lectures and seminar discussions, how to structure critique and analysis of text, and exchange ideas constructively to build understanding.
Course Outline

Seminar 1 – Introduction to the World System

- Course overview (including administrative details)
- Skills Lab
  - Basic Research skills: making observations, bibliographies and research
  - Assignment preparation: journal entry formation, review article, play essay structure
- In the Mix of Things
  - Setting the stage to understand world politics
  - Levels of analysis
  - International relations theory
  - Power in international relations
  - What is diplomacy

Lecture 1 - Theories of International Relations

- Causes of War: Theories of Conflict and Violence
  - Individual level
  - Social level
  - State/Regime level
  - Systemic level
  - One Case, Multiple Levels

Seminar 2 - Theory and Practice of Peacemaking

- Skills Lab
  - Making an argument
  - Critique: testing your argument
- In the Mix of Things
  - Excerpt from A Walk in the Woods: A Play in Two Acts
  - Conflict mediation
  - Dynamics and constraints of negotiation
  - Case studies

Lecture 2 - International Organization and International Law

- Intergovernmental Organizations
- Nongovernmental Organizations
- International Law
  - Public International Law
  - Trade Law
  - International Criminal Law

Seminar 3 - Conflict Resolution Skills

- Skills Lab
  - Conflict Resolution Skills
  - Negotiation Behavior
In the Mix of Things
  o Excerpt from A Walk in the Woods: A Play in Two Acts
  o Power differential in negotiation

Lecture 3 - Globalizations and its Actors
  ● Development
  ● Security
  ● Environment
  ● Identity

Seminar 4 - Simulation and Research wrap-up
  ● Skills Lab
    o Quick review of assignments to be submitted
  ● In the Mix of Things
    o Excerpt from A Walk in the Woods: A Play in Two Acts
    o Negotiation Simulation
    o Wrap-up
**Assignment Due Dates and Grading**

Your assignments are due 30 days after the completion of your NSLC program. Your assignments must be submitted through the Blackboard site (further instructions to be given).

Your grade (A to F) will be based on successful and timely completion of the written assignments listed below. An “A” grade will only be awarded for superior work that demonstrates a mastery of the concepts discussed in class and reflects thorough and thoughtful research conveyed in well-written assignments. A “B” grade will be awarded for good work, and a “C” grade for average work. Substandard, incomplete, or otherwise unacceptable work will received either a “D” or “F”.

As an American University independent-study student, you may ask that your work be graded on a “pass/fail” basis. See me for further information about this option. Once your work has been graded, you will be sent an official American University transcript. You will be asked to complete a transcript request form on the first day of classes. Please be sure that you fill this form out carefully and accurately. Finally, please keep a copy of all materials submitted to your professor, as the originals will not be returned.

**Graded Assignments**

**1 credit option**

**Reflexive Journal**

For your reflexive journal, you should reflect upon the connections between your visits, lectures, and seminars. What are you learning? What answers and questions arise? Although making sound observations is a critical step to analysis, better journals attempt to relate the observations to theoretical concepts, problems, and questions posed in the lectures and seminars. I will expect 5 one-page (double-spaced) entries, approximately 1000 words.

**Simulation Essay**

You are required to write a double-spaced essay of 750-1000 words. It will describe the negotiation experience from the seminar and provide analysis of the results. I will speak more about this in the seminars!

**Online Participation**

This has two parts. First, I will post a piece of media and a set of response questions. You will post your response and comment on, at least, one of your peer’s responses. Second, you will also post a short summary of a press release or news article, as well as the URL. You should end the summary with a question for your classmates to discuss. You will then post a short response to at least half of your classmates’ discussion questions.

**Graded Assignments**

**3 credit option**
Reflexive Journal 15% of final grade
For your reflexive journal, you should reflect upon the connections between your visits, lectures, and seminars. What are you learning? What answers and questions arise? Although making sound observations is a critical step to analysis, better journals attempt to relate the observations to theoretical concepts, problems, and questions posed in the lectures and seminars. I will expect 5 one-page (double-spaced) entries, approximately 1000 words.

Simulation Essay 20% of final grade
You are required to write a double-spaced essay of 750-1000 words. It will describe the negotiation experience from the seminar and provide analysis of the results. I will speak more about this in the seminars!

Online Participation 20% of final grade
This has two parts. First, I will post a piece of media and a set of response questions. You will post your response and comment on, at least, one of your peer’s responses. Second, you will also post two entries. Each will include a summary of a press release or news article, as well as the URL. You should end the summary with a question for your classmates to discuss. You will then post at least one short response to all of your classmates’ discussion questions.

Article Review 20% of final grade
You will select two articles to review and write a double-spaced essay between 750-1000 words articulating the main argument of the articles, discussing its strengths and weaknesses, and evaluating their relative usefulness.

A Walk in the Woods 25% of final grade
You will read A Walk in the Woods: A Play in Two Acts by Lee Blessing and write an essay analyzing how the play addresses different topics discussed in class. Use specific excerpts from the play and assigned articles to support your arguments. I will speak more about this in the seminars!

Paper Requirements
All papers must meet the following minimum standards:
- On a title page, you should provide a title, your name, the date of submission, and a word count (not including bibliography or foot/endnotes).
- Papers should be numbered and have no grammatical or spelling errors. Try to convey your ideas in logical, simple, and direct sentences. Proofread your work carefully before turning it in. Use 12 point font. Double-space please. Prefer Word document.
- References to authors must be cited using a standard citation method. (See: Kate L. Turabian, A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations, or a similar reference work for guidance.) Either footnotes or endnotes are acceptable. I prefer utilizing in-text citation and endnotes. When an author's work is paraphrased, credit must be given to the author. Anything quoted must be indicated with quotation marks and a citation. For passages longer for two sentences, indent and single-space the text, and use a citation (no quotation marks necessary in this case).
How to turn in work via e-mail:
All assignments must be submitted through the Blackboard site (further instructions to be given).

Your work should be attached a single document. Please do not submit your work in separate documents – it should all be sent together. I prefer Microsoft Word, but .rtf files are fine as well. Please remember to keep a copy of the e-mail that you send for your records.

Academic Integrity:
All students are governed by American University's Academic Integrity Code. The Academic Integrity Code details specific violations of ethical conduct that relate to academic integrity. By registering, you have acknowledged your awareness of the Academic Integrity Code, and you are obliged to become familiar with your rights and responsibilities as defined by the code. All of your work (whether oral or written) in any and all classes is governed by the provisions of the Academic Integrity Code. Academic violations include but are not limited to: plagiarism, inappropriate collaboration, dishonesty in examinations whether in class or take-home, dishonesty in papers, work done for one course and submitted to another, deliberate falsification of data, interference with other students’ work, and copyright violations. The adjudication process and possible penalties are listed in American University’s Academic Integrity Code booklet, and is also available on the American University website. Being a member of this academic community entitles each of us to a wide degree of freedom and the pursuit of scholarly interests; with that freedom, however, comes a responsibility to uphold the high ethical standards of scholarly conduct.

The full code is available on-line at http://www.american.edu/academics/integrity/code.htm
Required Article Reading
All available through Blackboard

Diplomatic Theory and Practice

Claude, Inis (1963) “Collective Legitimacy
Lisowski, Michael (2005) “

Negotiation