



HDDR 6352

International Conflict Engagement

Instructor: Daniel Rainey

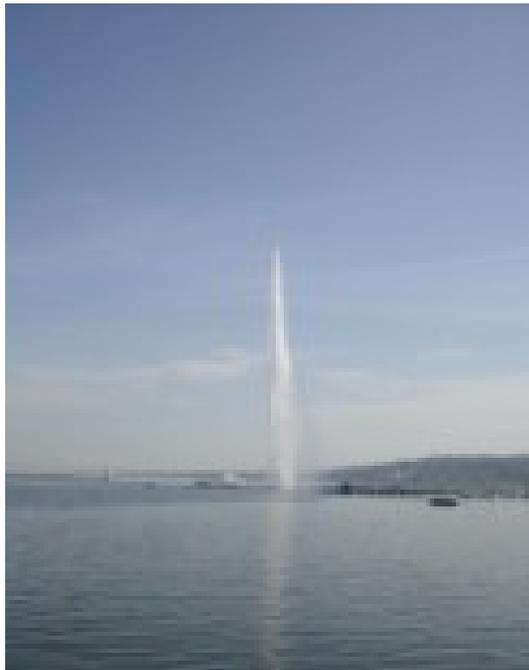
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June 7 & 8, 2014, in Plano

June 22 – 29, 2014, in Geneva, Switzerland





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Course Overview

The study of conflict engagement in an international context can be framed in many ways. For this study abroad course we will look at the issues related to conflict engagement in a chronological spectrum that runs from what John Burton once called "provention" - work done before overt or physical conflict breaks out - through "engagement" during times when conflict is live and ongoing, to "peacebuilding" or "capacity building," done when hot conflict has concluded or paused.

The course will begin with a weekend session at SMU in Plano and conclude with a week in Geneva, Switzerland, visiting non-governmental organizations (NGO's) and international intervention offices.

Topics discussed in the Plano session and in the visit to Geneva will include approaches to direct intervention, the relationship of dispute resolution theory to actions in international conflict engagement, and the challenges of working in day-to-day high stress environments.

Course Philosophy

The instructor for this class appreciates the myriad possible approaches to any topic related to dispute resolution, and the role that our own professional experiences, ethnic backgrounds, religious beliefs, and political orientations play in the way we analyze situations and act as either advocates or as interveners. The members of the class will bring in many experiences and viewpoints, all of which can contribute to our understanding of how human beings interact in stressful situations. In light of this acknowledgement, I invite you to:

- a) Respect all points of view regardless of where you are on these issues;
- b) Listen to gain insight;
- c) Reflect on what the other person is trying to communicate, whether or not you agree;
- d) Accept that we are here as a learning community, in which each person is both a teacher and a learner.



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Course Expectations

Due to the highly experiential nature of the course, the following expectations will ensure that you get the most rewarding and engaging experience from the class.

Preparation and Participation: The success of this class is dependent on our ability to discuss class readings intelligently, and actively participate in discussions. We have ambitious goals for the class and they cannot be met unless everyone is ready to work when we get together.

Attendance: Attendance at the Plano sessions is required. If you are not in attendance, it is not possible for you to contribute meaningfully.

Required Reading:

[Available in hard copy and Kindle on Amazon.com]



Craig Zelizer, *Integrated Peacebuilding*. Westview Press, Boulder, Colorado, 2013. ISBN: 13-978-1-59139-111-1

Host Organization Web Sites. The instructor will distribute a list of web sites for the organizations to be visited in Geneva.



NOTE: Please read all of Integrated Peacebuilding as soon as possible, and be ready to discuss it in class on June 7. Please peruse all of Organization Web Sites before the Plano class meetings.



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COURSE ELEMENTS & GRADES:

This course is heavily experiential: each student will participate in all of the meetings in Geneva, and each student will participate in the development of a series of questions for our hosts.

Element #1 - Course Participation (30%)

Each student must attend and be active in each of the class meetings. This is an individual grade based on attendance and activity in the discussions and negotiation simulations.

Element #2 – Required Readings and Responses (20%)

At the beginning of the first class meeting in Plano (June 7) each student will be required to turn in a 1-2 page review of Integrated Peacebuilding. The review should use the review format supplied by the instructor. (10%)

At the beginning of the second class meeting (June 8) each student will be required to turn in a set of questions they have developed for our Geneva hosts, based on a review of the hosts' web sites and issues raised in class discussions. Together, the class will develop a final list of opening questions for each host. (10%)

Element #2 – Journal and Reaction Essay (50%)

Submit by e-mail in text format (not .pdf) by Monday, July14, 2014

Each student will be asked to maintain a journal during the time in Geneva. The journal should contain comments about how the information obtained from our hosts may be useful, and how it may affect or inform your own notion and practice of dispute engagement. There is no page limit or page requirement – the requirement is that you keep the journal in a contemporary manner, making notes about things you think are important or useful to you. Please don't wait until the night before the journal is due to gin up a bunch of entries. I will be able to tell. Due via e-mail to my SMU e-mail account (lrainey@smu.edu) as a text attachment (Word, etc.). Do not submit .pdf's.



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Grading Scale

The following scale, based on the department standard, will be used to calculate final grades:

A	94-100%
A-	90-93%
B+	87-89%
B	84-86%
B-	80-83%
C+	77-79%
C	74-76%
C-	70-73%

Key Learning Objectives	How Achieved
1. Students will be able to understand and describe the variety of activities undertaken under the umbrella term "peacebuilding," and be able to list common behaviors associated with each activity.	Students will read descriptions of each style, discuss the theory of integrative peacebuilding with the instructor and with guest interveners.
2. Given specific organizational orientations, students will be able to identify and analyze the "issues", "positions" and "interests" assumed by each peacebuilding organization.	Students will read descriptions of each organization's goals and mission, discuss the elements with the instructor and organizational representatives.
3. Students will be able to identify and describe the potential entry points and requirements for engaging in international conflict engagement.	Students will actively reflect upon the nature of international conflict engagement work in journals and in discussions with the instructor and organizational hosts.



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Class Schedule

The following schedule is based on commitments from organizations based in Geneva. Some of the specific meeting times may change, and other organizations will be added as potential hosts confirm meeting times and places.

Date	Day	Activity
06/07/14	Saturday	Class Meeting in Plano
06/08/14	Sunday	Class Meeting in Plano

Date	Day	Activity
06/22/14	Sunday	Arrive Geneva – lunch and dinner on your own. Check in to IBIS Geneve Centre Nations at 3pm.
		Class Orientation in the hotel – 5pm.

Date	Day	Activity
06/23/14	Monday	Breakfast in Hotel
		Meeting: International Organization for Migration (IOM)
		Lunch on Your Own
		Meeting: TBD
		Dinner on Your Own

Date	Day	Activity
06/24/14	Tuesday	Breakfast in Hotel
		Meeting: Etat Geneve
		Lunch on Your Own
		Meeting: Court of Arbitration for Sport
		Meeting: International Committee of the Red Cross
		Dinner on Your Own



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Date	Day	Activity
06/25/14	Wednesday	Breakfast in Hotel
		Day Trip: Chamoix
		Lunch With the Group
		Day Trip Return to Geneva
		Dinner on Your Own

Date	Day	Activity
06/26/14	Thursday	Breakfast in Hotel
		Meeting: International Labour Organization (ILO)
		Lunch on Your Own
		Meeting: World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)
		Dinner on Your Own

Date	Day	Activity
06/27/14	Friday	Breakfast in Hotel
		Day Trip: Annency-le-Vieux
		Lunch With the Group
		Day Trip Return to Geneva
		Dinner on Your Own



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Date	Day	Activity
06/28/14	Saturday	Breakfast in Hotel
		Morning Capstone Discussion
		Lunch on Your Own
		Afternoon Free
		Capstone Dinner with the Group

Date	Day	Activity
06/29/14	Sunday	Breakfast in Hotel
		Checkout: 11:00 am.



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NOTE:

The information below is required content for all SMU syllabi – the language is taken from standard university guidelines.

Disability Accommodations: Students needing academic accommodations for a disability must first contact Ms. Rebecca Marin, Coordinator, Services for Students with Disabilities (214-768-4557) to verify the disability and establish eligibility for accommodations. They should then schedule an appointment with the professor to make appropriate arrangements. (See University Policy No. 2.4.)

Religious Observance: Religiously observant students wishing to be absent on the holidays that require missing class should notify their professors in writing at the beginning of the semester, and should discuss with them, in advance, acceptable ways of making up any work missed because of absence. (See University Policy No. 1.9.)

Honor Code: Students are reminded of the SMU Honor Code as referenced in the *Student Handbook*. Intellectual integrity and academic honesty are both the foundation and the goals for this program. Please reference and review the university policies on the responsibilities, policies, and penalties regarding academic honesty at the URL below:

http://www.smu.edu/studentlife/PCL_05_HC.asp

Class Decorum: Turn off (or set on vibrate) all cell phones or pagers. Do not read newspapers, books for other classes, or other outside reading material during class. Walking into class late is disruptive as is leaving early. If you have to leave early, make arrangements before class begins, and then, when you leave, do so quietly. Professional respect and courtesy for your fellow students is imperative at all times.