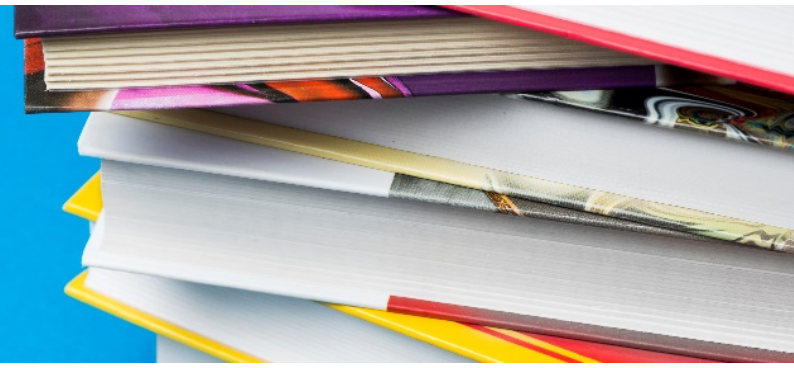




Short Syllabus

Course Title	Credits
Psychology and Political Conflict	4
Lecturer	
Rony Berger	
Contact details	
Bergerrony@gmail.com Office hours: Wed. 15:45-16:45	
Semester	
Spring	
Short Description	
<p>What causes conflicts such as those in Bosnia, Rwanda, North Ireland Ukraine and the Middle East to erupt? How come people who live harmoniously for years, can one day commit heinous acts of violence against their neighbors? Why did 9/11 happen? Why so many European Moslems joined the notorious Islamic State of Iraq and Syria organization?</p> <p>These are some of the questions we will be grappling with in this class which combines political and social psychology perspectives regarding conflicts and their resolutions. The premise of this class is that understanding the psychological causes of political conflicts is essential if we are to affect patterns of behaviors that are harmful for humanity and promote patterns of behavior beneficial for humanity.</p> <p>We will start by introducing the major concepts and theories of political psychology focusing on the role of personality, cognition, emotions, social identity, attitudes and intergroup relationships in the political arena. Thereafter, the class will be divided into two parts. The first part will focus on the underlying reasons for political conflicts with particular emphasis on violent conflicts. The second part will focus on theories and practices to resolve conflicts including understanding barriers and strategies for conflict resolution well as issues regarding reconciliation and peace-building efforts. The class will not only introduce the students to theoretical and conceptual dilemmas in the field but will also attempt to address real life current political conflicts. The class will be comprised of didactic lectures, class discussions, and most importantly, analysis of case-studies regarding past of current political conflicts. Each student will be required to present a topic from the textbook or other readings and to be responsible for facilitating a discussion regarding the topic.</p>	
Final grade components	
Minor assignments: 10% class presentation Midterm: paper of 10% 4-5 pages.	



Short Syllabus

Final requirement:

70% paper of 10-12 pages

Participation:

10% active participation in class.

Attendance

Attendance is mandatory. Students are permitted a maximum of three unauthorized absences without penalty. Any additional absences will affect the final grade and may result in failure of the course.*

Academic Conduct

Plagiarism is taken extremely seriously. Any instance of academic misconduct which includes: submitting someone else's work as your own; failure to accurately cite sources; taking words from another source without using quotation marks; submission of work for which you have previously received credit; working in a group for individual assignments; using unauthorized materials in an exam and sharing your work with other students, will result in failure of the assignment and will likely lead to further disciplinary measures.*

Final assignment

Exam dates and submission deadlines are published on the Liberal Arts website. Courses with a final exam also have a second make-up exam. Students requiring an extension for a final paper must submit an Academic Committee Request Form to the Liberal Arts office in advance of the deadline. Late papers will be subject to a point deduction.*

Additional requirements

Please keep phones turned-off while in class.

* See Liberal Arts academic handbook for further details