

# GVPT 409A: Peace, Justice, and Conflict Resolution

## Fall 2018

Class Time: TR 2:00pm - 3:15pm

Class Location: ARC 1105

Professor: [Gabriella Lloyd](#)

E-mail: [glloyd@umd.edu](mailto:glloyd@umd.edu)

Office: 2117F Chincoteague Hall

Office Hours: MW 1-3pm

Other times by appointment

### 1. Learning Outcomes

This course examines classic and contemporary perspectives on peace, justice, and conflict resolution after armed conflict. The goal of this course is to expose students to the advantages, risks, and challenges of the most prominent methods of conflict mitigation and resolution, including mediation and arbitration; peacekeeping, peacemaking, and peacebuilding; the protection of civilians, Responsibility to Protect, and humanitarian assistance; elections, democratization, and power-sharing; and transitional reconciliation and justice. We will do this by reading, discussing, and synthesizing classic and cutting-edge Political Science research on these topics.

### 2. Required Resources

Course website: [elms.umd.edu](http://elms.umd.edu)

Textbooks:

1. Ramsbotham, Oliver, Tom Woodhouse, and Hugh Miall. 2011. *Contemporary Conflict Resolution*, 4th ed. Cambridge, UK: Polity. (“CCR” in reading list)
2. Thakur, Ramesh. 2006. *The United Nations, Peace and Security: From Collective Security to the Responsibility to Protect*. Cambridge University Press, 2nd ed
3. Collier, Paul. 2009. *Wars, Guns and Votes: Democracy in Dangerous Places*. Harper Collins
4. Kerr, Rachel and Eirin Mobekk. *Peace & Justice: Seeking Accountability After War*. Cambridge: Polity Press, 2007.

### 3. Activities, Learning Assessments, & Expectations for Students

#### 2.1 Reading Assignments

I have posted our readings to the course website on ELMS. Readings that are not on ELMS can be found in the assigned textbooks. The Course Outline lists all of the readings on the dates they

are due. You should read each assignment before the date it is due, so that you can be an active and informed participant in this course.

## 2.2 Writing Assignments

You will have 5 writing assignments this semester. **All papers should be written in 12 Times New Roman font, double-spaced, with 1-inch margins.** All references and in-text citations should follow [The Chicago Manual of Style](#). Writing assignments are due by 11:59pm on the specified due date. Papers received at or after 12am (midnight) will be subject to the late policy. Papers will be collected via Turnitin on our course ELMS page. If the portal closes before you can submit your assignment, email it to me directly at [glloyd@umd.edu](mailto:glloyd@umd.edu). I will post more detailed guidelines for each paper to the course webpage.

### 1. Topic Paper

- Length: 1 page
- Task: Choose a topic from the list of paper topics that you think would be interesting to focus on in your other papers. Explain why this topic interests you and share at least one research question related to this topic that you are considering pursuing in your other papers.
- Due: September 11

### 2. Annotated Bibliography

- Length: 3-5 pages
- Task: List at least 15 references that will help you get started on your Final Paper. Below each reference, include a 1 paragraph in which you summarize the content in your own words and describe how it will help you develop your Final Paper.
- Due: October 11

### 3. Literature Review Paper

- Length: 5-7 pages
- Task: Write a review of existing literature on your chosen topic. Focus on including the most prominent articles/books written on your topic, and include at least 15 references. Your literature review should include classic and cutting-edge research on your chosen topic.
- Due: November 1

### 4. Theory Paper

- Length: 4-6 pages
- Task: Identify a gap in existing knowledge on your chosen topic. Produce a theory that will fill this gap and explain something that is Political Scientists currently do not understand. It should be original, unique, grounded in existing research, and add to state-of-the-art knowledge on your topic.
- Due: November 20

### 5. Final Paper

- Length: 11-15 pages

- Task: Revise and resubmit your literature review and theory papers in one complete, cohesive paper. In an additional section (2-3 pages), present some preliminary information on how you would design a test for your theory.
- Due: December 15

## 2.3 Paper Topics

Chose the topic for your final paper from this list.

Non-violence	Military victories
Pacifism	Protection of civilians
Civilian victimization during armed conflict	Responsibility to Protect (R2P)
Credible commitment problems	Humanitarian assistance
Mediation	Peacebuilding
Arbitration	Elections/democratization
Peacekeeping	Power sharing
Peacemaking	International mechanisms of post-conflict justice
Negotiated settlements	Domestic mechanisms of post-conflict justice

## 3. Course Policies

### 3.1 Cellphones

I expect you to make the responsible and respectful decision to refrain from using your cellphone in class. If you have critical communication to attend to, please excuse yourself and return when you are ready. For more information about the science behind the policy watch: <http://youtu.be/WwPaw3Fx5Hk>.

### 3.2 Letters of Recommendation

Students that have completed my course are welcome to request a letter of recommendation. I will not write letters for deadlines that are less than one month away.

### 3.3 Attendance and Participation

Students are expected to have completed all of the assigned readings for each class and be prepared to discuss them. Please be on time for class and stay until the end, unless you have made special arrangements with me. Entering late and leaving early is distracting to the instructor and to other students. If you must enter late or leave early, please take the seat nearest an exit and enter or leave as quietly as possible.

### 3.4 ELMS

Important communication regarding the class is conducted via ELMS. This includes posting of the syllabus, announcements, and grades. Students are required to be proficient users of ELMS and to ensure that their emails registered with ELMS are up to date and checked regularly.

### 3.5 Contacting Me

Do not use ELMS to email me. Instead, email me directly at [glloyd@umd.edu](mailto:glloyd@umd.edu). You are also welcome to come to my office hours (Monday/Wednesday 1-3pm) in 2117F Chincoteague Hall.

### 3.6 Extra Credit

Graded assignments in the class provide students with ample opportunity to demonstrate mastery of the materials. Therefore, no extra credit assignments will be assigned in the class. Do not ask if you can make up your own assignment for extra credit. *The answer is no.*

## 4. Campus Policies

It is our shared responsibility to know and abide by the University of Maryland's policies that relate to all courses, which include topics like:

- Academic integrity
- Student and instructor conduct
- Accessibility and accommodations
- Attendance and excused absences
- Grades and appeals
- Copyright and intellectual property

Please visit [www.ugst.umd.edu/courserelatedpolicies.html](http://www.ugst.umd.edu/courserelatedpolicies.html) for the Office of Undergraduate Studies' full list of campus-wide policies and follow up with me if you have questions.

### 4.1 Get Some Help!

You are expected to take personal responsibility for your own learning. This includes acknowledging when your performance does not match your goals and doing something about it. Everyone can benefit from some expert guidance on time management, note taking, and exam preparation, so I encourage you to consider visiting <http://ter.ps/learn> and schedule an appointment with an academic coach. Sharpen your communication skills (and improve your grade) by visiting <http://ter.ps/writing> and schedule an appointment with the campus Writing Center. Finally, if you just need someone to talk to, visit <http://www.counseling.umd.edu>.

Everything is free because you have already paid for it, and **everyone needs help**... all you have to do is ask for it.

### 4.2 Names/Pronouns and Self Identifications

The University of Maryland recognizes the importance of a diverse student body, and we are committed to fostering equitable classroom environments. I invite you, if you wish, to tell us how you want to be referred to both in terms of your name and your pronouns (he/him, she/her, they/them, etc.). The pronouns someone indicates are not necessarily indicative of their gender identity. Visit [trans.umd.edu](https://trans.umd.edu) to learn more.

Additionally, how you identify in terms of your gender, race, class, sexuality, religion, and disability, among all aspects of your identity, is your choice whether to disclose (e.g., should it come up in classroom conversation about our experiences and perspectives) and should be self-identified, not presumed or imposed. I will do my best to address and refer to all students accordingly, and I ask you to do the same for all of your fellow Terps.

### 4.3 Religious Observance

In accordance with the University's policy on the observance of religious holidays, it is the student's responsibility to inform me of any absences due to these holidays well in advance and in writing within the first two weeks of the semester.

### 4.4 Absence Due to Illness

As per University policy students may submit a self-signed note for a medically necessitated absence from a single section during the semester. Such documentation is sufficient unless it coincides with a Major Scheduled Grading Event (a paper deadline). Any student missing more than one section or a Major Scheduled Grading Event is required to provide documentation from the Health Center or from an outside health care provider that verifies the dates of treatment and time frame during which the student was unable to meet academic responsibilities.

### 4.5 Code of Conduct

It is assumed that all students are familiar with and adhere to the code of academic integrity. See <https://www.president.umd.edu/administration/policies/section-iii-academic-affairs/iii-100a>.

## 5. Grades

Grades are not given, but earned. Your grade is determined by your performance on the learning assessments in the course and is assigned individually (not curved). If earning a particular grade is important to you, please speak with me at the beginning of the semester so that I can offer some helpful suggestions for achieving your goal.

All assessment scores will be posted on the course ELMS page. If you would like to review any of your grades, or have questions about how something was scored, please email me to schedule a time for us to meet in my office.

### 5.1. Late Work

Please submit your papers by the end of the day on each assignment's specified due date. Papers submitted after the portal closes (at 12am/midnight) will be late. Late papers will be accepted without penalty only in the event of a medical or family emergency or university-sanctioned event. Unexcused late papers will receive a penalty of 1 point per minute late, with the first point assigned at midnight. I am happy to discuss any of your grades with you, and if I have made a mistake I will immediately correct it.

## 5.2 Grade Disputes

Any formal grade disputes must be submitted in writing and within one week of receiving the grade.

### 5.2 Grade Items and Points Possible

Grade item	Points possible
Topic Paper	5
Annotated Bibliography	15
Literature Review Paper	25
Theory Paper	25
Final Paper	30
Total	100

## 5.3 Final Letter Grades

Final letter grades are assigned based on the percentage of total assessment points earned. To be fair to everyone I have to establish clear standards and apply them consistently, so please understand that being close to a cutoff is not the same this as making the cut ( $89.99 \neq 90.00$ ). It would be unethical to make exceptions for some and not others.

Letter grade	Points range	Letter	Points range
A	93-100	C	73-76
A-	90-92	C-	70-72
B+	87-89	D	66-69
B	83-86	F	< 65
B-	80-82		

## 4. Course Schedule

Topic: Introduction

August 28  
30 CCR Chapter 1

Topic: Studying conflict resolution

September 4 CCR Chapter 2  
The Research Question  
6 CCR Chapter 3-4

Topic: Non-violence, pacifism, and peaceful conflict resolution

11 CCR Chapter 5  
**Topic Paper due**  
13 Literature Review Handbook  
Knopf. 2006. "Doing a Literature Review"  
Duke writing studio

Topic: The risks armed conflict poses to civilians

18 Davenport and Stam. 2009. What Really Happened in Rwanda?  
20 Valentino, Huth, and Balch-Lindsey. 2004. "Draining the Sea"  
Cohen. 2013. "Explaining Rape during Civil War"

Topic: Credible commitment problems

25 Walter. 2009. "Bargaining Failures and Civil War"  
27 Kydd and Walter. 2002. "Sabotaging the peace"

Topic: Building trust through mediation and arbitration

October 2 Lake and Rothchild. 1996. "Containing fear"  
4 Call. 2008. "Knowing Peace When You See It"

Topic: Containing and ending violent conflict (Peacekeeping and peacemaking)

9 CCR Chapter 6-7  
11 Thakur Intro.-Part I  
**Annotated Bibliography Paper due**

Topic: Containing and ending violent conflict (Peacekeeping and peacemaking)

16 Thakur Parts II-III  
18 Thakur Part IV-Conclusion

Topic: Mitigating the risks of violent conflict for civilians

- 23 Willmot and Sheeran. 2013. “The Protection of Civilians Mandate in UN Peacekeeping Operations”
- 25 Clark, Golder, and Golder. Chapter 2
- Stern and Druckman. 2000. “Evaluating interventions”

Topic: Postwar reconstruction I (peacebuilding)

- 30 CCR Chapter 8
- November 1 CCR Chapter 9

**Literature Review Paper due**

Topic: Postwar reconstruction II (elections and power sharing)

- 6 Wars, Guns, and Votes Parts I-II
- 8 No class (Peace Science Annual Meeting)
- 13 Wars, Guns, and Votes Part III

Topic: Introducing post-conflict justice (Nuremburg, ICTY, ICTR)

- 15 Kerr and Mobekk Intro-Chapter 2
- 20 Kerr and Mobekk Chapter 3
- CCR Chapter 10
- Theory Paper due**
- 22 No class (Thanksgiving)

Topic: International and domestic mechanisms of post-conflict justice

- 27 Kerr and Mobekk Chapter 4-5
- 29 Kerr and Mobekk Chapter 6-Conclusion

Topic: The future of conflict resolution

- December 4 CCR Chapters 11-13
- 6 CCR Chapters 14-15, 19-20
- 15 **Final Paper due (No class)**

**Note:** This is a tentative schedule, and subject to change as necessary – monitor the course ELMS page for current deadlines. In the unlikely event of a prolonged university closing, or an extended absence from the university, adjustments to the course schedule, deadlines, and assignments will be made based on the duration of the closing and the specific dates missed.