COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
Seminar on Contemporary Diplomacy
POL W3962 Section 004

Professor: Rebecca Murphy (rsm26)
Class time: Monday 18:10-20:00
Location: 401 Hamilton Hall
Office hours: Monday 15:00-17:00, 812 IAB

Seminar on Contemporary Diplomacy

This seminar will allow students to conduct in-depth research on diplomacy in the modern era, with a focus on the post-Cold War period. The purpose of this course is to examine how states manage their external relations and to explore the conditions under which diplomacy has contributed positively or negatively to various foreign policy outcomes. This involves studying not only how states attempt to shape their foreign relations through diplomacy, but also the evolution of diplomatic strategies and tactics that states use, and challenges to implementing these strategies. In this course, the study of contemporary diplomacy will be divided into three sections: diplomacy in the context of international relations theory; approaches to conducting diplomacy; and diplomacy in different issue areas, including economics and security, broadly conceived.

The primary requirement of this course is a 30-35 page research paper on an approved topic of your choosing. The topic must be submitted for approval no later than 4 March. Students will be required to deliver a brief presentation on one of two dates: 8 April and 15 April with the final paper due at the beginning of class 29 April. It will count for 70% of the final grade. A three-five page paper, on an assigned topic, will count for 20% of the final grade. The topic will be assigned in class on 11 February and be due at the beginning of class on 18 February. Students are also expected to have completed the assigned readings before each session and to contribute to weekly discussions. Participation will count for 10% of the final grade.

The books listed under the readings marked with an * are required and can be purchased at Book Culture. All the readings will be on reserve at Lehman Library.

Class Schedule

January 28  What is diplomacy and where does it fit into IR theory? Part I
What can international relations theories tell us about diplomacy?
February 4  What is diplomacy and where does it fit into IR theory? Part II
Does diplomacy play a more powerful role in international relations when examined through liberal and constructivist lenses?

February 11  Domestic Politics, Leaders and Diplomacy
Examining the effects of domestic institutions and individuals on statecraft.
(Assignment Distributed)
Nicolson, *Diplomacy*, ch. 4.
Recommended:

February 18  Approaches to Conducting Diplomacy
Multilateralism, Bilateralism or Unilateralism: How do the “isms” complement or complicate diplomatic efforts?
(Assignment Due)
Craig and George, *Force and Statecraft*, ch. 4.
Romeo Dallaire, *Shake Hands with the Devil* (Random House, 2003), chs. 11-12 (skim), and ch.15.

February 25  Diplomatic Strategies Part I
Political Negotiations – managing a peaceful outcome to the end of the Cold War
Craig and George, *Force and Statecraft*, pp. 58-60.

March 4  Diplomatic Strategies Part II
Economic Negotiations – the completion or collapse of trade agreements
Kenneth Dyson and Kevin Featherstone, The Road To Maastricht: Negotiating Economic and Monetary Union (Oxford University Press, 1999), ch. 1.

March 11 Diplomatic Strategies Part III
Coercive Diplomacy: avoiding conflict versus going to war - when does the same strategy result in disparate outcomes? The cases of Haiti and the Persian Gulf War.
Craig and George, Force and Statecraft, pp. 198-202, 212-219.
http://csis.org/files/media/csis/pubs/the_united_states_and_coercive_diplomacy.pdf

March 18 Spring Recess

March 25 Diplomatic Strategies IV
Development Diplomacy – Can diplomatic goals be advanced with development policy?
http://www.brookings.edu/~/media/research/files/papers/2012/2/15%20afpak%20ferris/0 215_afpak_ferris

April 1 Diplomatic Strategies V
Unique challenges and opportunities of arms control treaties, environmental agreements and energy exploration
Craig and George, Force and Statecraft, ch. 8.
Jeffery A. Larsen, “Introduction to Arms Control,” in Arms Control: Cooperative Security in a Changing Environment (Lynne Rienner, 2002),
http://belfercenter.hks.harvard.edu/files/Keohane%20and%20Raustiala%20HPICA1.pdf (skim)

April 8 Research Presentations

April 15 Research Presentations
April 22  Implications of 9/11 on Diplomacy
How has terrorism impacted statecraft? Has diplomacy become more or less important in international relations? Negotiating with terrorists.
Craig and George, Force and Statecraft, ch. 6.
Martha Crenshaw, “Coercive Diplomacy and the Response to Terrorism,” in The United States and Coercive Diplomacy, ch. 8.

April 29  Emerging Diplomatic issues: Uprising in the Middle, East, the Evolving EU and Asia’s Resurgence
(Papers due)
Giles Merritt, “Where is Europe’s Foreign Policy,” Project Syndicate http://www.project-syndicate.org/commentary/where-is-europe-s-foreign-policy-
European Union, New York Times (13 December 2012)

May 6  The Future of Diplomacy
Overview and consideration of the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead for diplomacy and understanding the effect of modern technology on foreign relations.