Course title:	**International Peace Mediation and International Negotiations**
Instructor:	Dr. Thomas R. Henschel
Email address:	henschel@trhenschel.de
Track:	B-Track
Language of instruction:	English
Contact hours:	72 (6 per day)
ECTS credits:	8
Prerequisites:	Students should be able to speak and read English at the upper intermediate level (B2) or higher.

Course description

To successfully overcome the multiple challenges of our time, people must cooperate peacefully with one another. Otherwise, we as humanity will not be able to cope with climate change, ensure equal access to resources and shape a future in which peace, self-determination, freedom, and prosperity are possible.

In this course we discuss what it takes and how it is possible for people to cooperate with each other, solve problems collaboratively and resolve conflicts peacefully. The course examines the different conditions and models for cooperation. To this end, the latest results from cognitive and behavioral research, psychology, sociology, game and systems theory as well as complexity theory are presented and their relevance for creating conditions for cooperation is examined. Building on the scientific foundations, theories and methods for the peaceful resolution of differences and conflicts are then introduced. The focus here is on mediative skills and international peace mediation. However, cooperation and conflict resolution are not just knowledge, but can and must be learned and trained. In the course, students are given the opportunity to transform the knowledge they have learned into concrete skills through role plays and exercises. The experiences gained in the exercises are reflected on together. In this way, knowledge does not remain external, but is linked to concrete experiences. This creates the basis for implementing what has been learned.

The concept of enlightenment and the universal rights of all people proclaimed therein has been the subject of controversial debate. Is it a Eurocentric concept that served and still serves to justify oppression and colonialism or is it a perspective that can claim universal validity? In the course, we will analyze the academic discourse and ask ourselves whether and how these questions are raised and dealt with from African, Arab, indigenous and Asian perspectives.

The concrete practical relevance is further strengthened by two visits to Berlin NGOs that are active in international peace work. We will also invite guest speakers from the practice of international peace policy and discuss with them. Subject to availability, international guest speakers may also be invited to join the course via video conference.

Berlin has a very special significance for international peace work due to its history. Especially here, students can experience how a society dealt with its own through the Holocaust, war crimes, collapse, liberation, and new beginnings. These experiences will be embedded by visiting memorial sites in Berlin and students will thus be able to use concrete history to shape the future.

Student profile
The course is designed for students with different academic backgrounds and a general interest in international politics, peace missions and mediation.

Course requirements
1.) Class participation

2.) Exam

3.) Presentation

Required language skills
The language of instruction is English. Language proficiency on an advanced intermediate level (B2) is a prerequisite for participation. For orientation purposes, you can assess your language skills here (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR): https://rm.coe.int/CoERMPublicCommonSearchServices/DisplayDCTMContent?documentId=090000168045bb52

Attendance
Each course day consists of six teaching modules (45 minutes each). If you miss 8 modules (unexcused), your final course grade will drop by one grade. Coming more than 20 minutes late counts as one missed module (this also applies to excursion days). If you come late to class six times (up to 20 minutes) your entire course grade will also drop by one grade. If you miss 20 modules or more (unexcused), you will fail the class. Excused absences, such as those with medical documentation, do not count toward these totals.

Class times

9 - 10:30 am
11 am - 12:30 pm
2 - 3:30 pm

(Break times may be adjusted in consultation with the class.
Additionally, on field trip days adaptation of class times is possible.)

Grading
Class participation: 40%
Presentation: 30%
Exam: 30%

Readings
A digital reader will be provided.

Course schedule

Date	Program*
Saturday, May 29, 2027	Arrival day / Move-in day (no classes)
Sunday, May 30, 2027	Orientation day (mandatory)
Tuesday, June 1, 2027	**Introduction into the concept and structure of the Course** **A World of Diversity and Differences and how sciences helps us to understand it better:** Introduction to scientific constructivism. Building on an account of the history of phenomenology, the development of Newton's worldview is discussed and its increasing deconstruction over the course of the 20th century through the work of W. Heisenberg, Edward. N. Lorenz, Humberto Maturana and Francisco Varella among others towards the constructivist approach. We discuss the foundations of the model and its implications as a source of diversity and difference in the world. The unit is concluded by presenting the narrative approach.
Friday, June 4, 2027	**Creating Added Value from Diversity and Differences** Introducing the Harvard Model of Negotiation. Based on the historical classification of the development of this model in the 1970s, the strategic options and principles for cooperation are presented and discussed. Based on an innovative communication model, the initial findings can then be trained in exercises.
Tuesday, June 8, 2027	**Case Learning** The peace negotiations between Egypt and Israel over the Sinai Peninsula are considered a model case for appropriate international peace mediation. In this

	session we present the case and discuss the roles of those involved. What factors were effective in making the negotiations successful? **First student presentation**
Friday, June 11, 2027	**The fight for Universalism: Enligthment – a Eurocentric Perspective or a Universalistic approach?** **Student Presentation: A global debate** **Sankar Muthu:** Enlightenment versus Empire, 2024 **Ato Sekryi-Oti:** Left universalism. Africacentric Essays 2019 **Susan Neimann:** Left is not woke, 2023 --- Excursion: visit to an NGO in Berlin **The global fight for universal human rights - discussion with Wolfgang Kaleck, General Secretary of the ECCHR**
Tuesday, June 15, 2027	**Creating Spaces for Mutual Understanding** Introduction of the U-Model of Mediation. Structure of Mediation, definition, principles of mediation and how to do it. Case learning and Role Games in mediation
Friday, June 18, 2027	**Conflict Dynamics and Analysis** Introduction of scientific models for conflict theory, its dynamics and escalation character. Presentation of analysis tools and practical training in exercises --- **Student Presentation: Case Learning**
Tuesday, June 22, 2027	**A World of Complexity** Introduction to complexity theory and presentation of models for skillfully dealing with complexity. Factor

	analysis and working with criteria, options and scenarios. **Student Presentation: Case Learning**
Friday, June 25, 2027	**Peace Mission Concept** Introduction of the multilevel Peace Mission Concept, including the current concept on foreign policy of the Federal Government of Germany. **Student Presentation: The German concept of foreign policy** Visit at the German Parliament and meeting with the MdB and representative for the Foreign Policy Advisory Board
Tuesday, June 29, 2027	**International Peace Mission: Praxis Example** **Student Presentation: Integrated Concept of and Examples for International Peace Missions** Excursion visit to an NGO in Berlin and Discussion of the practical challenges of translating sophisticated concepts into concrete project work
Friday, July 2, 2027	**A new global policy - Where is the UN?** Presentation of plans and models for an international policy approach from the perspective of an international policy for peace, participation, and equal rights for everybody. **Student Presentation: A world in disorder: the multi-crisis and disruptive age of global policy** **The concept of Tianxia and its reception in the West**

	Zhao Tingyang: All under Heaven: The Tianxia System for a Possible World Order, 2023
Tuesday, July 6, 2027	**Case Learning: Student Presentation** The students present cases of international peace work and analyze them using the newly learned theories and methods.
Friday, July 9, 2027	**Final exam and remaining students' presentations** FUBiS farewell ceremony
Saturday, July 10, 2027	Departure day / Move-out day (no classes)

*Field trips are subject to change depending on the availability of appointments and speakers. On field trip days, class hours may be adjusted.