

George Mason University
SPRING 2005
MNPS 702-5P1/PUBP 651

PRACTICE OF PEACE OPERATIONS

Thursdays, 4:30-7:10 p.m.
Arlington Campus (Old Building), Room 267

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Overview

This course will examine knowledge, skills, and abilities required of the professional engaged in peace operations. Included in these are emerging professional challenges that require broad competence in theoretical, technical, institutional, and procedural knowledge. The course challenges students to question traditional assumptions concerning roles and responsibilities of actors involved in these missions. Of particular importance is developing an appreciation for the extent to which the applicability of different sets of decision approaches (e.g., cost-benefit analysis, asset management, or public participation) depends upon the consensus on values and objectives among participants involved in the operations, and the nature of the conflict addressed by the intervention. Peacemaking, peacebuilding, peacekeeping, and peace support approaches serve as the core thematic platform for investigating the practice of peace operations. Experiential reflections and practical knowledge are shared throughout the semester by guest speakers engaged in past, and present, missions.

Course Requirements

- 1) (10%) *Paper proposal and proposal presentation.* This proposal will be for the course research paper. A five to ten minute formal, in-class presentation will be required.
- 2) (45%) *A significant research paper,* 20 - 30 double spaced pages, with references (submitted via email).
- 3) (20%) *Completion of second UNITAR-POCI course* (details below).
- 3) (20%) *Weekly monitoring* of an active peace operation. This monitoring will include a short update in class and a written update (preferably 250 words), via email prior to class.
- 4) (5%) *Class participation.* The class is run as a seminar—full and active participation is expected of all students.

Texts:

Jett, Dennis C. 2000. *Why peacekeeping fails*. New York: St. Martin's Press.

Rieff, David. 2002. *A bed for the night: Humanitarianism in crisis*. New York: Simon & Schuster.

Correspondence Course:

This semester we will continue with the inclusion of a correspondence course into the regular syllabus. This course, The History of UN Peacekeeping Operations following the Cold War, by F.T. Liu, may be obtained via <http://www.unitarpoci.org>. The course must be completed and the graded certificate turned in prior to the April 14, 2005 class. Since this course will require significant time outside of the classroom two periods (March 31 and April 7) have been designated as compensatory time for this course.

Plagiarism:

All work must be your own. Inappropriate use of the work of others without attribution is plagiarism and a George Mason University Honor Code violation punishable by expulsion from the University. All students should familiarize themselves with this honor code provision (<http://www.gmu.edu/facstaff/handbook/aD.html>). To guard against plagiarism and to treat students equitably, written work may be checked against existing published materials or digital data bases available through various plagiarism detection services. Accordingly materials submitted to all courses must be available in electronic format.

Course Outline

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| 01: 27 January | Review of the Theory: The Conceptual Model of Peace Operations
Assignment of monitoring missions
Dr. King |
| 02: 03 February | Review of the Theory (continued). First mission presentation.
Dr. King |
| 03: 10 February | Speaker: The Diplomat in Peace Operations
Ambassador Timothy Carney |
| 04: 17 February | Speaker: The Politician and the Congressional Process
Ms Lorelei Kelly, Congressional Staff |
| 05: 24 February | Speaker: The Role of Conflict Management
Ms Elisabeth Kavtashvili, USAID |
| 06: 03 March | Speaker: Peacekeepers and the United Nations
BG John N. Musonda, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Zambia to the UN |
| 07: 10 March | Paper Proposal Presentations |

XX: 17 March	Spring Break (March 14-18): No class and no reports
08: 24 March	Speaker: The role of Humanitarians in Conflict Resolution Mr. Dayton Maxwell, USAID
09: 31 March	Compensatory Time: No class and no reports
10: 07 April	Compensatory Time: No class and no reports
11: 14 April	Speaker: DD&R Mr. Mike Bailey, RONCO Correspondence Course Certificates Due
12: 21 April	Speaker: Education and Training for Peace Operations Dr. Mike Baranick, National Defense University
13: 28 April	Speaker: Logistics and Administration in Peace Operations Mr. Peder Cox, PSI, Inc.
14: 05 May	Speaker: Reaching Consensus on Arms Reduction Mr. Ed Smith and Mr. Ed Pechous, IDA
XX: 12 May	Papers Due: No class

{All speakers need to be confirmed}