

Ilia State University
Faculty of Arts and Sciences
Level- Masters
Syllabus

1.	Title of the Course	Introduction to Peace Studies
2.	Course Duration	1 Semester
3.	ECTS	6 Credits
4.	Contact Hours and Independent Work	<p>Contact hours: 32 Hours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Lectures - 14 hrs. – Seminars - 12 hrs. – Two Essay Papers in Class – 2 hrs. – Presentations – 4 hrs. <p><u>Independent Work: 118 hrs. Total: 150 hrs.</u></p>
5.	Instructor	<p>Giorgi Gvalia Professor, PhD Ilia State University Mob: 593 94 99 91 E-mail: giorgi_gvalia@iliauni.edu.ge</p>
6.	Prerequisites for the course	No prerequisites are required
8.	Course Description and Aims	<p>The course has two parts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The first, theoretical part of the course will review a wide range of theories exploring the nature and causes of conflict, the possibilities for conflict resolution, and the foundations of peace. It will provide students with a set of tools for the analysis of contemporary conflicts and show how evidence and theory can be effectively used to understand peace and conflict.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The second part of the course, will be aimed at exploring the sources and causes of the conflicts in the post-Soviet space. Students will be encouraged to approach empirical cases from the perspective of different theoretical schools and levels of analysis.
9.	Main Topics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Approaching Peace Studies Scientifically – The problem of Peace and War from the perspective of International Relations Theories – Major Theories of Peace – Levels of Analysis – Peace and Conflicts in the post-Soviet space
10	Learning Outcomes and Competencies (general and Specific)	<p>General and subject-specific skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Student will gain deep and comprehensive knowledge about the major theories in the field of Peace Studies; – Students will understand the relationship between the Peace Studies and the Discipline of International Relations – Students will gain techniques of conducting research in the field of Peace studies – Student will develop communication and presentation skills; – Student will gain the skills of conducting an independent work and project.
11.	Assessment System	<p>Grading Scale (100points):</p> <p>(A) 91 - 100 Excellent (B) 81 – 90 Very Good (C) 71 – 80 Good (D) 61 – 70 Satisfactory (E) 51 – 60 Sufficient (FX) 41 – 50 Fail, A student has the right to take the exam only once again. (F) 0 – 40 Low Fail. A student must take the course again to get a credit</p>

		<p>Evaluation Components</p> <p>Participation in seminar discussions - 10%</p> <p>2 Essays – 15 % each (In class)</p> <p>Research Project Presentations - 20 %</p> <p>Final exam- Research Paper - 30%</p> <p>Participation in seminars/discussions - Students should read required materials and engage in class discussions</p> <p>Essay - 500-600 word critical analysis of the assigned essay topic. Essay is done in class.</p> <p>Research Project Presentation – Students should present their research projects in class. Research project is the plan of Research paper that students should prepare by the end of the class. Project should describe following questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Research Problem 2. Research Questions/Questions 3. Theory and Methodology 4. Literature Review 5. Discussion of prospective outcomes and limitations of research <p>Research Paper – Students should prepare a research paper that will be submitted electronically during the examination period. Specific date will be defined.</p> <p>Research paper should represent original study conducted by student that will analyze particular conflict/conflicts through theoretical perspective/perspectives.</p>
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12.	Reference Literature and Other Resources	<p><u>Required Readings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peter Wallensteen, Peace Research: Theory and Practice (Routledge, Taylor&Francis Group, 2011) • David P. Barash, Charles P. (Peter) Webel, Peace and Conflict Studies (SAGE Publications, 2014) • Jennifer Sterling-Folker, Making Sense of International Relations Theory, Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2013) • David. P. Barash, Approaches to Peace: A Reader in Peace Studies., Oxford University Press, 2014) • Economic Interdependence and International Conflict: New Perspectives on Enduring Debates, Edward D. Mansfield and Brian M. Pollins, Eds, University of Michigan, 2006)
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13.	Topics	<p>Week 1</p> <p>Introduction to Syllabus</p> <p>Field of Peace Studies: Historical Developments and Contemporary Debates</p> <p>Week 2</p> <p>Peace Studies Methodology/Levels of Analysis</p> <p>Week 3-4</p> <p>The problem of Peace and War in IR Theories (Realism, Liberalism, Constructivism)</p> <p>Week 5-6</p> <p>Building ``Negative Peace`` (Disarmament and Arms Control, Peace through Strength? Diplomacy and Conflict Resolution)</p> <p>Week 7</p> <p>1st Essay Paper in Class</p> <p>Week 8-9</p> <p>Building Positive Peace (Human Rights, Movements Toward Democracy)</p> <p>Week 10</p> <p>2nd Essay Paper in Class</p> <p>Week 11</p> <p>Economic Interdependence and Peace</p> <p>Week 12-14</p> <p>Exploring Sources of the Post-Soviet Conflicts – Abkhazia, Samachablo Region/South Ossetia and Nagorno-Karabagh</p> <p>Week 15-16</p> <p>Research Project Presentations</p>
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