1. **Title of the module**

POLI8280 (PO828) Theories of Conflict and Violence (Canterbury)

1. **Division which will be responsible for management of the module**

Division of Human and Social Sciences

1. **The level of the module (Level 4, Level 5, Level 6 or Level 7)**

Level 7

1. **The number of credits and the ECTS value which the module represents**

20 Credits (10 ECTS)

1. **Which term(s) the module is to be taught in (or other teaching pattern)**

Autumn or Spring

1. **Prerequisite and co-requisite modules**

None

1. **The courses of study to which the module contributes**

The study of Theories of Conflict and Violence () is a core component of the courses for the MA in Peace and Conflict Studies and the MA in International Conflict Analysis. It is also an optional module on the MA in Comparative Politics, MA in International Relations, the MA in International Security, the MA in the Politics of Terror and the MA in European and Global Governance.

1. **The intended subject specific learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**
   1. Students will first be engaged with a comprehensive understanding of the key concepts in the study of conflict, nationalism and ethnic politics as well as be introduced to the relationship between ethnicity and sources of division and violence in conflict-prone societies.
   2. Moreover, students will be exposed to the broader forms of conflict in contemporary world politics and the diverse interpretations of the causes leading to violence.
   3. Students will be also provided with a detailed and critical analysis of the political and constitutional options in societies beset by ethnic conflict, with particular emphasis being given to mechanisms directed at the achievement of political accommodation.
2. **The intended generic learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**

Upon completion of this module, students should be able to develop a sufficient understanding of different methods of conflict regulation. The module will examine the principal strategies and techniques of conflict management in diverse settings, including:

* 1. the dynamic and changing nature of conflict resolution and management.
  2. the range of conceptual components associated with conflict management, including intervention, peace-building and reconstruction.
  3. the context and practicalities of negotiations for instance on issues involving refugees and settlers
  4. usefulness (and problems) of mediation and third-party interventions,
  5. territorial management of divisions, whether by means of power-sharing, ‘re-scaling’, or partition;
  6. mediation and negotiation
  7. civil society and transitional justice in peace-building

1. **A synopsis of the curriculum**

The course provides an overview and framework for considering the evolving field of international conflict resolution. This module examines how conflict research has evolved within the field of political science through an in depth analysis of nationalism and community identities. It will initially investigate different levels of conflict and violence from the intrapersonal to the communal and, finally, to the state and international level. Then, the module will examine competing theories on conflict and violence. The theoretical reflections will focus on different aspects of conflict, ranging from inter-state to intra-state conflict as well as rationalists, institutional and psychological approaches in preventing conflict. In each instance, various and contested concepts are discussed and analysed through an examination of social and political theory. Specific case studies and new security concerns will be reviewed.

1. **Reading list (Indicative list, current at time of publication. Reading lists will be published annually)**

Neophytos Loizides, *The Politics of Majority Nationalism: Framing Peace, Stalemates and Conflict*, Stanford 2015 (available on Moodle)

Stefan Wolff,  Ethnic Conflict: a Global Perspective, Ch2, Ethnicity and Nationalism,   Oxford University Press, 2006, pp. 25-57.

Kalyvas, S. *The Logic of Violence in Civil War* 2006 (available in library as e-book)

Loizides, N. Designing Peace Processes: Institutional Innovations in Cyprus and Divided Societies (manuscript available on moodle for free)

Hugh Miall, Oliver Ramsbotham, Tom Woodhouse (2005). Contemporary Conflict Resolution: The Prevention, Management and Transformation of Deadly Conflicts, Cambridge: Polity.

1. **Learning and teaching methods**

The module will be delivered through formal in-class teaching and personal study. An indication of the breakdown between these elements is:

Total contact hours: 22

Private study hours: 178

Total study hours: 200

1. **Assessment methods**
   1. Main assessment methods

Essay (6000 words) 100%

13.2 Reassessment methods

100% Coursework

1. ***Map of module learning outcomes (sections 8 & 9) to learning and teaching methods (section12) and methods of assessment (section 13)***

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Module learning outcome** | 8.1 | 8.2 | 8.3 | 9.1 | 9.2 | 9.3 | 9.4 | 9.5 | 9.6 | 9.7 |
| **Learning/ teaching method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Private Study** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Presentation | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** |
| Class Discussion | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** |
| **Assessment method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Essay | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** | **X** |

1. **Inclusive module design**

The School recognises and has embedded the expectations of current equality legislation, by ensuring that the module is as accessible as possible by design. Additional alternative arrangements for students with Inclusive Learning Plans (ILPs)/declared disabilities will be made on an individual basis, in consultation with the relevant policies and support services.

The inclusive practices in the guidance (see Annex B Appendix A) have been considered in order to support all students in the following areas:

a) Accessible resources and curriculum

b) Learning, teaching and assessment methods

1. **Campus(es) or centre(s) where module will be delivered**

Canterbury

1. **Internationalisation**

The module is designed to take into account the international nature of the research in the subject of politics and international relations, and incorporates texts with a broad range of international authors. The module will draw on expertise within the School of Politics and International Relations, which is international in its academic staff. Furthermore, the School typically attracts an international student body at the Masters level, and staff are experienced in teaching and supporting international students.

**DIVISIONAL USE ONLY**

**Revision record – all revisions must be recorded in the grid and full details of the change retained in the appropriate committee records.**

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| Date approved | Major/minor revision | Start date of delivery of revised version | Section revised | Impacts CLOs (Q6&7 cover sheet) |
| 15/09/2021 | Minor | Sept 21 | 13 | No |
|  |  |  |  |  |