

2020 Summer Session – GVPT 808D and GVPT 808K/409K
Multi-Track Diplomacy: Transforming Violent Conflict

June 1 – July 3, 2020



CIDCM
CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT & CONFLICT MANAGEMENT

- **Professional Development: Peacemaking skills from local to international**
- **Online Classes: Options to participate interactively evenings or weekends, or asynchronously ○ 40 or 80-Hour Program: 3 or 6 academic credits (grad or undergrad) & training certification ○ Simulations: Including optional weekend workshop on the current Israeli-Palestinian Conflict**

In the context of current shortcomings of leadership in official diplomacy and consequent missed opportunities in addressing the roots of instability around the world, the role of multi-track diplomacy in promoting peace and development and transforming violent conflict becomes more critical. Join us for a program of experiential learning and new perspectives on ways to resolve conflict and build a lasting peace, in local situations as well as in complex societal and international conflicts.

The goal is *to develop the knowledge and skills needed to facilitate transformation of community or societal conflicts*, including ethnic, religious or cultural tensions, using techniques of multi-track diplomacy. These techniques, engaging unofficial opinion leaders and applicable at all levels of society, provide an essential complement to official (“first track”) diplomacy and police work, from conflicts in local communities, to societal instability, terrorism or insurgent activities, as in our work in the Middle East, Latin America, South and South-East Asia, Africa, Eastern Europe and elsewhere.

Given continuing cycles of confrontation in Israel and the Palestinian territories, where CIDCM faculty are engaged in peace initiatives, our weekend workshop will search for common ground on a way forward in the wake of recent dramatic shifts in US policy. The workshop simulation engaging influential Israeli and Palestinian civil society representatives will be co-facilitated by experienced Israeli-American and Muslim-American professionals, Prof. Edward (Edy) Kaufman, and Prof. John Davies. In an effort to bridge the growing negotiation gap between parties, unofficial channels will be explored using leading-edge integrative techniques. New insights from the workshop, arrived at through trust building, skills building (in areas such as nonviolent communication, prejudice reduction, restorative justice and integrative problem solving) and consensus building, will provide out-of-the-box policy options to inform ongoing multi-track work in the region.

Multi-track diplomacy has become an important tool for current and intending professionals, including not only diplomats, government and IO agencies and CSO staff working for development, democratic reform, relief and humanitarian aid, but also other concerned citizens or stakeholders in areas of violence or instability. Offered at College Park by the Department of Government and Politics and sponsored by CIDCM, this University of Maryland *80-hour professional development program* is scheduled for *evenings and two weekends* for the convenience of professionals (*certification available*), as well as online for credits toward a degree.

Further Information

For more information, see below (or reverse), and please contact Prof. John Davies at jdavies@umd.edu or 240-441-8712 (text first to set up a call). The syllabus is available on request.

Instructors



Profs. John Davies and Edy Kaufman are Senior Associates with CIDCM, which has pioneered the development and application of multi-track diplomacy for resolving protracted ethnic, nationalist and other complex societal conflicts since the early 1980's. They're co-directors of CIDCM's *Partners in Conflict & Peacebuilding Program* and have collaborated over 25 years in leading conflict transformation initiatives in the Middle East, Latin America, Eastern Europe, South Asia & Africa. Edy Kaufman has been Director of CIDCM and of the Truman Institute for the Advancement of Peace in Jerusalem; and John Davies has trained UN peacekeepers, and co-developed global and regional conflict early warning/response networks.



Certification, Credits and Scholarships

Successful completion provides life skills for transforming conflict in families, communities and nations, while qualifying participants for certification of advanced training, and up to six academic credits for degree seeking students. Some scholarships may be available for those only needing three credits who would like to audit the second class and receive certification.

Program Structure, Credit and Readings

The program may be taken as one or two 3-credit courses at either the 400 (undergraduate) level, or (with more comprehensive readings and written work) at the 800 (graduate) level. *It is recommended but not required that both classes be taken*, except for those who have already completed GVPT 808J/409J in the Winter term, whom we welcome to join us for just the GVPT 808K/409K class.

Multi-Track Diplomacy and Conflict Transformation (GVPT808D – Prof. Davies)

Schedule for interactive class sessions: 12 webinars: Mon-Thurs evenings 6:00-9.20 pm, June 1-19.

Interactive participation is recommended (not required) especially for sessions including simulations.

Workshop in Multi-Track Diplomacy (GVPT808K/409K – Profs. Kaufman and Davies)

Schedule for interactive class sessions: 2 consecutive weekend workshops: Friday evenings 6-9pm, Saturday & Sundays 9am-1pm & 2-6pm, June 19-28, with final paper due by July 3. Covid19 permitting, there will be the option of joining us live on campus in the A. James Clark Building (AJC) room 2134. Otherwise interactive online participation is recommended where possible.

Readings: All required readings will be accessible online through the class ELMS page. Recommended texts are Davies & Kaufman *Second Track/Citizens' Diplomacy: Concepts and Techniques for Conflict Transformation* (2003), and Crocker, Hampson & Aall *Managing Conflict in a World Adrift* (2015).

Registration

For assistance, contact Prof. Davies at jdavies@umd.edu or 240-441-8712, or OES (Office for Extended Studies) at summer@umd.edu or 301-405-7762. UMD students may simply register as for any other classes; visiting students seeking academic credit must first apply for UMD admission; link to oes.umd.edu/incoming-current-visiting-students/summer-session. Enrollment in both courses is recommended but not required. Seats are limited. For tuition, fees, and payment, see above link to OES and select "Tuition & Fees."

Sample feedback from previous courses

"The track two diplomacy program at the University of Maryland is vigorous and full of energy and life. The instructors play a role more like facilitators and the students more like participants in conflict mediation workshops. Role play sessions on the Middle East conflict...were real and everybody became totally immersed in efforts to resolve this obstinate conflict... The instructors managed the sessions with wit, dexterity and tact. Their thorough knowledge not only of the subject matter but also of the different shades of conflicts, conflict hot-spots, means of mediation and conflict predictability was astounding... No student leaves without presenting real action commitments s/he is willing to undertake to resolve a conflict. If everybody were track two practitioners, no arms would sell and the wars would end." - John Monibah (Liberia)