

Sociology 625 Conflict Resolution: Theory and Research  
Spring 199X Available Statewide through the IHETS Network

Official description: Main theories applicable to the management and resolution of conflict are reviewed, along with relevant research (3 hours credit).

This course is intended for persons whose work will lead them to specialize in resolving conflicts. It will give a broad overview of social conflict and the various ways it may be resolved. It will also give specific training in some of the more commonly practiced forms of conflict resolution.

Mondays, 5:30-7:30 p.m., January 12 through May 4, 1988

Plus two Saturdays, 8:30-5:30 p.m., April 18 and 25

This course serves as a foundation course for the following three graduate programs:

- The Conflict Resolution specialization for the MS in Sociology
- The Conflict Management supporting area for the MS in Human Resource Development \*
- The non-degree Certificate of Mediation \*

Note: The HRD and Certificate of Mediation programs can be completed with only limited on-campus classwork.

For more information, write or call:

Office of Credit Outreach, Indiana State University, Terre Haute, IN 47809

Phone 812: 237-2341

or

Conflict Resolution Program, Department of Sociology, I.S.U., Terre Haute, IN 47809

Phone 812: 237-3446

E-mail: soschel@scifac.indstate.edu

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Sociology625: Schedule

Sociology 625 Conflict Resolution: Theory and Research Spring 1998

#### SCHEDULE

Monday evening meetings, 5:30-7:30 p.m.:

- January 12-- Introduction (pp. 1-16)
- January 19-- Martin Luther King, Jr. Day-- No class
- January 26-- Conflict Resolution Research I (pp. 17-30)

February 2-- Conflict Resolution Research, II (pp. 30-36) \*

- February 9-- individual Characteristics Theories (pp. 37-57)

- February 16-- Social Process Theories (pp. 59-78)
- February 23-- Social Structural Theories (pp. 79-102)
- March 2-- Formal Theories (pp. 103-116) \*
- March 9-- Spring Break-- No class
- March 16-- Coercion (pp. 117- 134)
- March 23-- Negotiation & Bargaining, I (pp. 135-147)
- March 30-- Negotiation & Bargaining, II (pp. 147-154) \*
- April 6-- Adjudication (pp. 155-172)
- April 13-- Alternative Dispute Resolution, I (pp. 173-192)
- April 20-- Alternative Dispute Resolution, II (pp. 193-217)
- April 27-- Student Projects
- May 4-- Student Projects and Course Wrap-up \*
- Saturdays, April 18 and 25, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Mediation Workshops
- April 18-- The Process of Mediation; Interpersonal Communication in Mediation
- April 25-- Community Mediation; Criminal Justice Mediation

\* Indicates test days. Brief tests will be incorporated into class plans on these days.

Note: Page numbers indicated above (in parentheses) are assignments from the primary textbook, *Conflict Resolution: Theory, Research, and Practice* (SUNY Press, 1996). Also note: The above plans are subject to change during the course of the semester.

## WEEKLY QUESTIONS

Each student will submit in advance a question for each week's meeting. These questions will be used as a central part of class discussions each week. Questions should be mailed to the instructor (James Schellenberg, Department of Sociology, Indiana State University, Terre Haute, IN 47809) or sent by e-mail (soschel~scifac.indstate.edu) or FAX (812-237-8072). They should be mailed no later than Thursday of the week before the class meeting; if sent by e-mail they must be sent before Monday noon

## Schedule

The day of the class. These weekly questions should be clearly related to the readings or other substantive matters for that week's work. Other questions about the class may be raised as well, but these should be

in addition to the substantive questions.

#### EXAMS 1:

, There will be four exams during the semester. These will be given before the end of class sessions on February 2, March 2, March 30, and May 4. Written answers for these questions must be RECEIVED by The instructor (by direct delivery, regular mail, FAX, or by e-mail) no later than the following Friday noon. These tests, except for the last one, will cover particular segments of the course; the final exam will be comprehensive in nature. In answering test questions, students are on their honor to do independent work. They can, however, consult written (or other) materials; these will be essentially "open book" and "take home" exams. Even when a source is used, answers should be in the student's own words-- unless specific passages are explicitly quoted (and referenced). Answers are strongly encouraged to be in type written or word processing form.

#### SPECIAL PROJECTS

Each student is to select a special report project for personal investigation. He or she is to write a report on this investigation, and be prepared to give a brief oral report on it (at one of the class meetings near the end of the term). The paper (generally expected to be between 8 and 12 pages in length) is due on April 27, 1998. Oral reports will mostly be given on April 27 and May 4. There are three options regarding the subject of this special investigation:

- (a) an in-depth examination of a particular theory of conflict and/or conflict resolution; (b) a review of research results in a particular area of conflict resolution studies; or
- (c) a detailed analysis of a particular case study of conflict resolution or conflict management.

It is hoped that this project will allow the student to pursue work of special personal interest beyond the topics of common coverage by the class as a whole.

#### GRADING

A letter grade will be assigned for each test for each student. These tests will count for 50% of the term grade (10% for each of the first three exams, and 20% for the final exam). The other 50% will be based

- on a letter grade representing everything else (including weekly questions, class participation, the special student projects, and Saturday workshop participation).