**Antalya Bilim University**

**Department of Political Science and International Relations,**

**POLS 423**

**Diplomatic Theory and Practice**

**Fall 2019-2020**

Class time& Place: Tuesdays & Fridays, 11:30-13:00, at A1-01

Office hours: Tuesdays & Fridays, 11:30-13:00

H. Avni Aksoy

haaksoy@antalya.edu.tr

**Course Description**

The course proposes to offer a general idea of the practice of contemporary diplomacy, especially vis-à-vis diplomatic communication. Starting with a historic background and a brief overview of how a modern diplomat operates, the course will provide basic tools of diplomatic operations to the interested students of international affairs. At the end of the course, the students will have acquired the initial skills for addressing the complex issue of communicating policies, positions and arguments, both in conventional diplomatic channels and in the global media that is fast becoming increasingly internet- and social media-focused. Familiarizing the students with the *modus operandi* of modern diplomats within a wider historical and cultural context is another objective.

The course will also endeavor to present the complicated mechanisms of contemporary diplomatic practices to the students and to encourage them to acquire a critical view of various facets of diplomacy. As this requires a certain grasp of the practice of diplomacy in international relations, a number of source texts will be recommended reading.

The course will be composed of lectures with discussions based on presentation of various types of diplomatic communications. The aim is to encourage students to engage in research and critical discussions based mainly on their research findings.

Students are required to be present at all classes and be prepared to defend their findings in class discussions.

**Course book**

There is no course book, as this unique course is based on the lecturer’s career experience and is not taught in any other higher education institutions.

**Recommended readings:**

- Joseph M. Siracusa, *Diplomacy: A Very Short Introduction*, Oxford University Press

- Geoff R. Berridge, *Diplomacy: Theory and Practice*

- Lloyd Axworthy, *The Oxford Handbook of Modern Diplomacy*

- Carne Ross, *Independent Diplomat: Dispatches from an Unaccountable Elite*, C. Hurst & Co, Ltd.

- Roberts (ed.), *Satow's Diplomatic Practice*

- Jovan Kurbalija (Ed), *Modern Diplomacy*, 1998, DiploPublishing <http://www.diplomacy.edu/resources/books/modern-diplomacy>

Useful websites:

[www.mfa.gov.tr](http://www.mfa.gov.tr) [www.foreignpolicy.com](http://www.foreignpolicy.com)

[www.un.org](http://www.un.org) [www.diplomacy.edu](http://www.diplomacy.edu)

[www.ipinst.org](http://www.ipinst.org) [www.securitycouncilreport.org](http://www.securitycouncilreport.org)

**Developing Graduate Attributes**

Students will be encouraged to develop the following graduate attributes by undertaking the course activities and mastering the course contents. These attributes will be assessed within the assessment tasks:

* skills involved in scholarly enquiry;
* an in-depth engagement with the international relations disciplinary knowledge;
* the capacity for analytical and critical thinking;
* the ability to engage in independent and reflective learning.

**Academic Honesty and Plagiarism**

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. Plagiarism is a type of intellectual theft. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement. Although plagiarism is well established in Turkish educational system, you will be punished heavily if you are caught do it.

**Assessment Criteria:**

1. **Attendance & Participation (10%)**: Attendance and participation make up 15 % of your overall course grade. Students are expected to read the assigned chapters and other readings before the class. They are expected to participate in class discussions, present their views and answer questions. Students are required to exhibit proper discipline, behavior, and responsibility.
2. **Midterm (30%):** Students are responsible for all class material covered until the midterm exam.
3. **Final exam (60%)**: This exam is cumulative and will focus on all units and topics studied throughout the course, but emphasis will be after midterm.

**Course Schedule**

WEEK 1 (16-20 Sep) Introduction to general concepts of diplomatic practice and communication.

WEEK 2 (23-27 Sep) Description of foreign policy as related to national interest & how foreign policy is organized and implemented (Foreign Ministry)

WEEK 3 (30 Sep-4 Oct) Organization of foreign representations: Embassies; Consulates; Permanent Reps; Secret Intelligence (Part I)

WEEK 4 (7-11 Oct) Organization of foreign representations: Embassies; Consulates; Permanent Reps; Secret Intelligence (Part II)

WEEK 5 (14-18 Oct) Multilateral Diplomacy (Conferences; International Organizations; Summits)

WEEK 6 (21-25 Oct) Some better-known examples of diplomatic communications

WEEK 7 (28 Oct-1 Nov) Public diplomacy

WEEK 8 (4-8 Nov) Midterm Exam

WEEK 9 (11-15 Nov) Economic and Commercial Diplomacy

WEEK 10 (18-22 Nov) Disaster and emergency diplomacy, humanitarian concerns

WEEK 11 (25-29 Nov) Diplomacy Without Diplomatic Relations; Negotiation Part I

WEEK 12 (2-6 Dec) Diplomacy Without Diplomatic Relations; Negotiation Part II

WEEK 13 (9-13 Dec) Kinds of diplomatic correspondence

WEEK 14 (16-20 Dec) Term review