

# **SYLLABUS FOR THE BATCH FROM YEAR 2025 TO 2026**

**FOR**

## **Certificate on Conflict, Conflict Resolution and Diplomacy**



**Directorate of Open & Distance Learning  
Guru Nanak Dev University**

(ESTABLISHED UNDER STATE LEGISLATURE ACT NO. 21 OF 1969)

Accredited with CGPA of 3.85 on the four point scale by National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) And Conferred 'University with Potential for Excellence' Status and 'Category-I University' As Per University Grants Commission

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**Programme Eligibility:**

- +2 in any stream with at least 45% marks in aggregate (40% for SC/ST candidates).
- Any student pursuing Bachelor Degree, Master Degree, M.Phil., Ph.D. from GNDU campus constituted or affiliated college.

**Course Summary of Certificate Course in Conflict, Conflict Resolution and Diplomacy**

Paper Code	Subject	Marks			Credits
		Internal Assessment	End Term	Total	
ODCRD111T	Concepts and Theories of Conflict	30	70	100	4
ODCRD112T	Conflict and its Practical Aspects	30	70	100	4
ODCRD113T	Conflict Resolution Mechanisms and Practices	30	70	100	4
ODCRD114T	Conflict Resolution and Diplomacy	30	70	100	4
Total Marks and Credits		120	280	400	16

Certificate Course on Conflict, Conflict Resolution and Diplomacy (ODL) (Sem I)

**ODCRD111T**

**PAPER 1: Concepts and Theories of Conflict**

Time: 03 Hours

Credit: 4

Max. Marks: 100 Marks

Internal Assessment: 30 Marks

End Term: 70 Marks

**Instructions for the Paper-Setter/examiner:**

1. Question paper shall consist of Four sections.
2. Paper setter shall set Eight questions in all by selecting Two questions of equal marks from each section. However, a question may have sub-parts (not exceeding four sub-parts) and appropriate allocation of marks should be done for each sub-part.
3. Candidates shall attempt Five questions in all, by at least selecting One question from each section and the 5th question may be attempted from any of the Four sections.
4. The question paper should be strictly according to the instructions mentioned above. In no case a question should be asked outside the syllabus

Unit I

**Conceptualizing Conflict**

- Definition, nature, and characteristics of conflict
- Types of conflict: Interpersonal, organizational, societal, and international
- Causes and consequences of conflict

Unit II

**Classical and Modern Theories of Conflict**

- Liberalist and Marxist ideas on Conflict
- Structural theories and human needs theory of conflict
- Social Identity Theory (Henri Tajfel)

Unit III

**Economic and Social Dimensions of Conflict**

- Ethnic, Religious, and Caste-Based Conflicts
- Development and Displacement
- Organizational and workplace conflict

Unit IV

**Stake holder Analysis and power dynamics**

- Political and Regional Conflicts
- International conflicts: World wars and cold war
- Contemporary Conflicts: Ukraine, Isreal-Palestine

### **Suggested readings**

1. Galtung, J. (1996). Peace by Peaceful Means: Peace and Conflict, Development and Civilization.
2. Wallenstein, P. (2015). Understanding Conflict: An Introduction to Theory and History.
3. Burton, J. (1990). Conflict: Resolution and Prevention.
4. Fischer, M. (2006). Theories of Conflict and Conflict Resolution.
5. Kaldor, M. (2013). New and Old Wars: Organized Violence in a Global Era
6. Smith, Anthony D, Nationalism and Modernism, London, UK, 1998
7. Horowitz, Donald L, Ethnic Groups in Conflict, University of California Press, Berkeley, CA, USA, 1985 (Updated Edition: 2000)
8. Brass, Paul R, The Politics of India Since Independence, Cambridge University, Cambridge, UK, 1990
9. Guha, Ramachandra, India After Gandhi: The History of the World's Largest Democracy, HarperCollins, New Delhi, India, 2007

Certificate Course on Conflict, Conflict Resolution and Diplomacy (ODL) (Sem I)

**ODCRD112T**

**PAPER 2: Conflict and its Practical Aspects**

Time: 03 Hours

Credit: 4

Max. Marks: 100 Marks

Internal Assessment: 30 Marks

End Term: 70 Marks

**Instructions for the Paper-Setter/examiner:**

1. Question paper shall consist of Four sections.
2. Paper setter shall set Eight questions in all by selecting Two questions of equal marks from each section. However, a question may have sub-parts (not exceeding four sub-parts) and appropriate allocation of marks should be done for each sub-part.
3. Candidates shall attempt Five questions in all, by at least selecting One question from each section and the 5th question may be attempted from any of the Four sections.
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Unit 1:

**International Security and Geopolitics**

- Traditional vs. Non-Traditional Security Threats
- Terrorism, Cyber security, and Human Security
- The Role of NATO and Other Security Alliances

Unit 2:

**International Political Economy (IPE)**

- Global Trade and Economic Interdependence
- Theories of IPE (Mercantilism, Liberalism, Marxism)
- The Role of the WTO, IMF, and World Bank

Unit 3:

**Globalization and Contemporary Challenges**

- Climate Change and Environmental Diplomacy
- Migration, Refugee Crises, and Human Rights
- Peace Keeping to Peace Building and UN Peace building Commission

## Unit 4:

### **International Law and Conflict**

- Principles of International Law
- Conflict Management in International Law
- Treaties and Agreements in International Relations

### **Suggested Readings**

1. Ernest Satow, A Guide to Diplomatic practice, London, 1952
2. K. Webster, The Art and practice of Diplomacy, London, 1952
3. Stephen. D. Kertesz and M. A. Fitzsimons. (ed.), Diplomacy in a changing world , Notre Dame, 1959
4. Harold Nicolson, The Evolution of Diplomatic Method, London, 1954
5. Lester B. Pearson, Diplomacy in the Nuclear Age, Cambridge, 1959
6. Joseph M. Siracusa, Diplomacy: A very short introduction, Oxford 2010
7. Niccolò Machiavelli, The Prince, Penguin, 2003
8. Henry Kissinger, Diplomacy, Simon and Schuster, 1995
9. Robert Mnookin, Bargaining with Devil: when to Negotiate when to First, Simon and Schuster, 2010
10. Joshua S. Goldstein & Jon C. Pevehouse, International Relations, Pearson Publishers

Certificate Course on Conflict, Conflict Resolution and Diplomacy (ODL) (Sem I)

**ODCRD113T**

**PAPER 3: Conflict Resolution Mechanisms and Practices**

Time: 03 Hours

Credit: 4

Max. Marks: 100 Marks

Internal Assessment: 30 Marks

End Term: 70 Marks

**Instructions for the Paper-Setter/examiner:**

1. Question paper shall consist of Four sections.
2. Paper setter shall set eight questions in all by selecting two questions of equal marks from each section. However, a question may have sub-parts (not exceeding four sub-parts) and appropriate allocation of marks should be done for each sub-part.
3. Candidates shall attempt Five questions in all, by at least selecting One question from each section and the 5th question may be attempted from any of the Four sections.
4. The question paper should be strictly according to the instructions mentioned above. In no case a question should be asked outside the syllabus

**Unit I**

**Cultural Perspectives on Conflict Resolution**

Western vs. non-Western approaches

Indigenous methods of dispute resolution

Challenges in cross-cultural mediation

**Unit II**

**Arbitration, Litigation, and Legal Frameworks**

Differences between arbitration and litigation

Role of international courts (ICJ, ICC)

Dispute resolution in business and labor conflicts

**Unit III**

**Indian Approaches to Conflict Resolution**

Gandhian Philosophy and Non-Violent Resistance: Principles of Ahimsa and Satyagraha

Role of Indian Judiciary and Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)

Indigenous and Community-Based Conflict Resolution Mechanisms: Khap Panchayat

**Unit IV**

**Restorative Justice and Reconciliation**

The philosophy of restorative justice

Community-based conflict resolution strategies

Legal Frameworks for Conflict Resolution (International Law, UN Resolutions)

### **Suggested readings**

1. Fisher, Roger, Ury, William, and Patton, Bruce, *Getting to Yes: Negotiating Agreement without Giving In*, Penguin Books, New York, 2011
2. Moore, Christopher, *The Mediation Process: Practical Strategies for Resolving Conflict*, John Wiley & Sons Hoboken, NJ, 2014
3. Boule, L., & Alexander, N, *Mediation: Principles, Process, Practice*, LexisNexis Butterworths, Chatswood, Australia, 2005
4. Lewicki, Roy J., Saunders, David M., and Barry, Bruce, *Negotiation: Readings, Exercises, and Cases*, McGraw-Hill Education, New York, 2015
5. Ury, William, *Getting Past No: Negotiating with Difficult People*, Bantam, New York, 1993
6. Stulberg, Adam, *The Art of Mediation*, Aspen Publishers, New York, 2008
7. Lederach, John Paul, *Building Peace: Sustainable Reconciliation in Divided Societies*, United States Institute of Peace Press, Washington, D.C., 1997
8. Brass, Paul R, *The Politics of India Since Independence*, Cambridge University, Cambridge, UK, 1990
9. Guha, Ramachandra, *India After Gandhi: The History of the World's Largest Democracy*, HarperCollins, New Delhi, India, 2007



Certificate Course on Conflict, Conflict Resolution and Diplomacy (ODL) (Sem I)

**ODCRD114T**

**PAPER 4: Conflict Resolution and Diplomacy**

Time: 03 Hours

Credit: 4

Max. Marks: 100 Marks

Internal Assessment: 30 Marks

End Term: 70 Marks

**Instructions for the Paper-Setter/examiner:**

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2. Paper setter shall set Eight questions in all by selecting Two questions of equal marks from each section. However, a question may have sub-parts (not exceeding four sub-parts) and appropriate allocation of marks should be done for each sub-part.
3. Candidates shall attempt Five questions in all, by at least selecting One question from each section and the 5th question may be attempted from any of the Four sections.
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**Unit I**

**Fundamentals of Diplomacy**

- History and Evolution of Diplomacy
- Types of Diplomacy (Bilateral, Multilateral, Public, Cultural, etc.)
- Functions and Tools of Diplomacy

**Unit II**

**Conflict, War, and Peace building**

- Causes and Consequences of War
- Meaning and types of Peace
- Peace Keeping to Peace Building and UN Peace building Commission

**Unit III**

**Diplomatic Negotiations and Conflict Resolution**

- Negotiation Strategies in International Diplomacy
- Mediation and Arbitration in Global Conflicts
- Case Studies (Camp David Accords, Iran Nuclear Deal, etc.)

**Unit IV**

## **Diplomatic Protocol and Etiquette**

- Diplomatic Communication and Correspondence
- Crisis Management in Diplomacy
- Role of Media and Public Opinion in Diplomacy

## **Suggested Readings**

1. Ernest Satow, A Guide to Diplomatic practice, London, 1952
2. K. Webster, The Art and practice of Diplomacy, London, 1952
3. Stephen. D. Kertesz and M. A. Fitzsimons. (ed.), Diplomacy in a changing world , Notre Dame, 1959
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7. Niccolò Machiavelli, The Prince, Penguin, 2003
8. Henry Kissinger, Diplomacy, Simon and Schuster, 1995
9. Robert Mnookin, Bargaining with Devil: when to Negotiate when to First, Simon and Schuster, 2010

Joshua S. Goldstein & Jon C. Pevehouse, International Relations, Pearson Publis

## **Quality Assurance Mechanism and expected programme outcomes:**

HEI is having a following mechanism for quality assurance:

- All the courses are under Credit based Semester System as per UGC-ODL guidelines 2020.
- Curriculum is having a flexibility for continuous updation as per the current requirements and having a provision for each academic session, as per the feedback obtained from the students as well as subject experts
- Academic calendar is followed as per the approved schedule.
- Directorate is having a mechanism to obtain feedback from students under ODL mode and updating the course content and other facilities as per suggestions, requirements of the candidates.
- Progress and quality of the programme is monitored by the Centre for Internal Quality Assurance (CIQA)
- The quality of the programme is ensured with strict monitoring by the Director and the Course Coordinator along with Subject experts.