

Diplomatic History of Arab-Israeli Conflict

Final year module

Lecturer: [Asaf Siniver \(/staff/profiles/government-society/siniver-asaf.aspx\)](/staff/profiles/government-society/siniver-asaf.aspx)

This module examines the diplomatic history of the Arab-Israeli conflict from 1948 to the present, with a focus on the role of third party mediators to bring about resolution to the conflict between Israel and the Arab world.

The first part of the module provide a theoretical review of mediation in international conflicts, and addresses issues such as the role of third parties and the necessary conditions for effective mediation; the various mediation strategies; and the nature of the bargaining process.

The second part of the module applies the theory to the rich history of Middle East diplomacy from the first Arab-Israeli war in 1948 to the Oslo Peace Process and the Road Map.

The module concludes with a simulation exercise where students assume the roles of the disputants and various mediators to asses the contributions and failings of third parties to promote Arab-Israeli peace.

Learning outcomes

By the end of the module students should:

- Develop knowledge of the key theoretical questions regarding international mediation; show an understanding of key historical developments in the region; analyse the significance of developments in the region's diplomatic history, and the connections between them.
- Be able to think critically about subject matters; identify and address key issues in the modern political history of the Middle East; use both diplomatic and political histories of the region to construct explanations of key developments.
- Demonstrate an ability to think critically; be able to select and synthesise data from various primary and secondary sources; identify and compare key arguments; plan, research and write a piece of research.
- Communicate effectively both orally and in writing; improve their analytical, Organisational, and inter-personal skills.

Assessment

- Term One/Two: Presentation 10%
- Term One: 3,000 word assessed work 30%
- Term Two: 1 x 3,000 assessed essays 30%
- Term Three: 1 x 3,000 assessed essays 30% Plus simulation exercise