



## The International MA Program in Conflict Resolution and Mediation

The Gershon H. Gordon  
Faculty of Social Sciences  
Tel Aviv University

### Environment, Conflict, and Cooperation: From Threat to Opportunity Global and Middle Eastern Perspectives

*Spring 2024*

Thursdays 15:00-17:30

Naftali 004

**Instructor:** Clive Lipchin

**Email:** [clivearava@gmail.com](mailto:clivearava@gmail.com)

#### I. Overview:

In this course environment is conceived in a broad sense of physical factors that condition human affairs. This includes geographical factors, such as territory, as conceived by political borders, as well as the availability, pattern and distribution of natural resources. The course will cover varying perspectives on conflict and cooperation over shared resources, within as well as among nations. Topics will be first introduced on a global level and will then focus on the Middle East (particularly Israel, Jordan and the Palestinian Authority).

#### II. Learning Objectives

This course will prepare students to:

1. To apply conflict and cooperation theory to environmental conflicts
2. To become familiar with global environmental problems and their connection to conflict and cooperation
3. To become familiar with environmental problems in the Middle East and the political contexts in which they are formed and the possible pathway for their resolution

#### III. Course Requirements

##### **Grading**

• Student participation	10
• Role play policy brief	45
• <u>Role play negotiation exercise</u>	<u>45</u>
• Total	100

*Students are required to submit an electronic copy of final assignments, rather than a hard copy. Electronic submission is possible via email to the lecturer and/or Moodle. If submitted by email, CC [coreygs@tauex.tau.ac.il](mailto:coreygs@tauex.tau.ac.il).*

*In this class there will be no late submissions and no incompletes will be given.*

Students are expected to participate actively in class. The course assignments will be a group project. The project will consist of a negotiation exercise on climate change negotiations. The project will consist of both an oral presentation and written assignment.

#### Assignment extensions:

Requests for extensions for assignments throughout the semester can go directly to the lecturer and is at the discretion of the lecturer. There are no extensions given for final assignments.

#### IV. Class Schedule and Readings (note: additional readings may be added)

Reading assignments should be completed before the class for which they are assigned.

##### **Topic One:**

- Welcome and introduction
- Our environmental crisis: sustainability and resilience

##### **Topic Two:**

- Overview of environmental security and conflict

##### **Topic Three:**

The management and regulation of natural resources or how to avoid conflict over resources

##### **Topic Four:**

- Environmental Risk Assessment: Case study on wastewater management and reuse

##### **Trip to Dead Sea: TBD**

##### **Topic Five:**

- Plastics: A global scourge or a global necessity

##### **Topic Six:**

- Mega engineering and the Dead Sea
- Role play policy brief and introduction to water allocation model

##### **Topic Seven:**

- Environmental justice
- Environmental and land conflict in Israel: The Case of the Negev Bedouin

##### **Topic Eight:**

- Population and environment dynamics: The Case of the Demographic threat in Israel

##### **Topic Nine:**

- Energy and conflict

##### **Topic Ten:**

- Climate change and conflict

##### **Topic Eleven:**

- Water scarcity and conflict: Transboundary water management in the Middle East

##### **Topic Twelve:**

- Role play negotiation exercise

#### V. Academic Fraud

Any person found guilty of academic fraud will be subject to severe sanctions. Some examples of academic fraud include:

- plagiarism or cheating of any kind;
- submitting work of which the student is not the author, in whole or in part (except for duly cited quotations or references);
- presenting research data that has been falsified or concocted in any way; and
- submitting, without written prior approval from the professors concerned, the same work for more than one course.