



Conflicts Prevention and Ensuring Sustainable Peace

Syllabus

• Course Details

Level of higher education	The Second (master's level)
Branch of knowledge	05 – Social and Behavioral Sciences
Specialty	054 – Sociology
Educational program	Conflict Resolution and Mediation
Discipline status	Normative
Course Form of education	Full-time
Year of training, semester	I курс, осінній семестр
Scope of the discipline	60 hours / 2 credits (Lectures – 18 h., seminar sessions – 18 h., self preparing – 24 h.)
Semester control/ control measures	credit examination, module test
Lessons schedule	http://rozklad.kpi.ua/
Language of teaching	English/Ukrainian
Information about head of the course / teachers	Phd, associate professor Olena Akimova, o.akimova@kpi.ua
Placement of the course	https://classroom.google.com/c/NjlxOTkxNjg5ODkz?cjc=x4cmeql

Course Programme

Description of the educational discipline, its purpose, subject and learning outcomes

The mission of Igor Sikorsky Kyiv Polytechnic Institute is to make a substantial contribution to the sustainable development of society through the internationalization and integration of education, cutting-edge scientific research, and innovative developments. It aims to create conditions for comprehensive professional, intellectual, social, and creative development of individuals at the highest levels of excellence within the educational and scientific environment.

In the pursuit of this ambitious goal, higher education seekers are offered the opportunity to acquaint themselves with the fundamental principles of sustainable development, the history of this concept, and the pathways to achieving sustainability at both the level of self-organization and the management of complex socio-economic systems. The course is customized to meet the needs of future professionals who will operate in the field of mediation and conflict resolution. Additionally, the knowledge and skills acquired as a result of this course can also be valuable to professionals in related fields.

Therefore, special attention is given during the study of this discipline to the examination of the causes and factors that determine the course of social conflicts. Education seekers will learn how to build social communication in light of achieving sustainable development goals and the promotion of sustainable peace.

The aim of mastering this discipline is to cultivate in students a comprehensive set of knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary for conducting scientifically grounded research, investigation, and forecasting of complex social systems' behavior through the lens of the laws and principles of sustainable development. It also aims to develop the capacity to prevent or mitigate the escalation of potential social conflicts within these systems.

The subject of this academic discipline encompasses contemporary approaches to the establishment of sustainable peace through conflict prevention, ensuring the well-being and quality of life of the population, and the mitigation of manifestations of social inequality.

The discipline contributes to the formation of the following competencies in students:

PC 4 Ability to collect and analyze empirical data using modern methods of sociological research.

PC10 Ability to use tools for conflict risk assessment and early prevention of conflicts in different spheres of life and at different levels of interaction of social actors

After mastering the academic discipline, students should demonstrate the following learning outcomes:

PL 01. Analyze social phenomena and processes using empirical data and modern concepts and theories of sociology

PL 03. Develop and implement social and interdisciplinary projects according to social, economic, legal, environmental and other aspects of public life

Prerequisites and postrequisites of the discipline (place in the structural and logical scheme of education according to the relevant educational program)

The study of this discipline builds upon the knowledge acquired during the previous years of education (bachelor's program) at Igor Sikorsky Kyiv Polytechnic Institute, specifically in courses such as "General Theory of Development," "Environmental Management," "Ukraine in the Context of Europe's Historical Development," "Sociology of Modernity and Modernization," "Contemporary Sociological Theories," and "Sociological Research of Social Structures, Organizations, and Management.

Content of the academic discipline

Topic 1: The Emergence of the Concept of Sustainable Development: Origins of the Idea, Global Community Responses and Decisions

Preconditions for the Emergence of the Concept and the Definition of "Sustainable Development." Sustainable Peace and Sustainable Development: Interrelation of Concepts. Dimensions and Components of Sustainable Development. The Role of Humans in the Evolution of the Biosphere. Defining the Limits of Growth. International Cooperation for Sustainable Development. Sustainable Development Goals and Millennium Development Goals. Sustainable Development Goal 16: Promoting a Just, Peaceful, and Inclusive Society – Key Terms and Definitions. United Nations Security Council and General Assembly Resolutions on Ensuring Sustainable Peace.

Metrics of Sustainable Development. Concepts of "Information," "Data," and "Knowledge." Requirements for Ensuring Proper Information Quality and Criteria for Data Quality for Sustainable Development Metrics. Data Sources for Measuring Sustainability: National Statistics, Open Data, Sociological Information, Public Information, Big Data. Notions of Indicators and Composite Indicators for Assessing the State and Development of Society and Its Components, Macroeconomic Indicators. Cognitive Limitations of GDP. Distinguishing between the Concepts of Indicator and Account. Composite Indicators for Evaluating Sustainable Development and Ensuring Sustainable Peace (Sustainable Development Index, State Fragility Index, Conflict Barometer, Global Peace Index, War Index, etc.).

Topic 2: Conflicts and Global Issues in the Context of Sustainable Development

Global Threats and the Assurance of Sustainable Peace. Globalization, Increased Competition, and International Conflicts. Global Risks to Sustainable Development. Global Environmental Risks on the Path to Sustainable Development. Global Social Threats to Humanity. Global and Regional Social Conflicts. Classification and Terminology of Global Threats According to the World Economic Forum Methodology. Conflict Intensity: The Heidelberg Institute's Methodology for Studying International

Conflicts. Factors of Social Consolidation. Global Threat of Climate Change. Johan Rockström's Planetary Boundaries Concept. Industrial Revolutions and the Issue of Increasing CO2 Emissions. Global Warming and Its Consequences. Threats to Biodiversity Loss. The Problem of Water Scarcity Worldwide. Climate Migration.

Poverty and Inequality as Sources and Root Causes of Global Social Conflicts. Disparities in Socioeconomic Development. Interconnection of Poverty and Social Inequality with Global Environmental and Economic Disparities. Poverty as a Social Phenomenon. Characteristics of Measuring Poverty and Inequality.

Topic 3: Challenges in Ensuring Sustainable Economic Development

***Sustainable Resource Management.** Linear and Circular Economies. Threats of Resource-Based Economies. Resource Curse. Growth Dilemma. Decoupling as a Key Principle of Green Economics. Kuznets' Environmental Curve. The Concept of Degrowth. Decoupling Environmental Pressure and Resource Decoupling. Contemporary Trends in Economic Development: Bioeconomy, Care Economy, Green Economy. Circular Economy Schools: Concepts of Biomimicry, Natural Capitalism, and Blue Economy.*

Topic 4: Social Responsibility in the Context of Ensuring Sustainable Peace

Social Responsibility and Conflict Prevention. Concept of Social Responsibility: History, Essence, and Principles. Social Irresponsibility as a Factor in Conflict Emergence. Models of Social Responsibility. Forms and Types of Social Responsibility. Actors of Social Responsibility. Business Social Responsibility as a Factor in Ensuring Sustainable Societal Development. Corporate Social Responsibility. Public-Private Partnerships in Ensuring Social Responsibility. Democracy and Autocracy in Conflict Prevention Systems. Effectiveness of Political Regimes in Crisis Resolution. Governance Quality and Trust in Authority. Participatory Democracy in the Digital Age: Evolution of the Idea. Post-Bureaucratic Management and Transparency. The Use of Open Data in Democratic Governance.

Governance for Sustainable Development. Socially Responsible State. Evolution of the Good Governance Concept as a Foundational Principle of Contemporary State Governance for Sustainable Development. Twelve Principles of Good Democratic Governance at the Local Level. Transparency and Accountability in Facilitating Dialogue Between Authorities and the Community. Digital Technologies in Ensuring Transparent Dialogue. Corruption and Ways to Combat It. Conflict of Interests and Strategies to Avoid It. The Concept of a Failed State: Causes and Indicators of State Fragility.

Stability and Social Dilemmas: Social Dilemmas and Social Compromise. Social Dilemmas and Their Resolutions. The Dialectics of Cooperative and Individual Choices. Geoethical Dilemmas. Resource Dilemmas, Public Good Dilemmas, the "Tragedy of the Commons," and the Problem of the "Free Rider." Issues of Common Good Use. The Concept of the "Tragedy of the Commons" in the Research of Elinor Ostrom and Garrett Hardin. The Growth Dilemma.

Dialogue in Achieving Social Consolidation. The Notion of Facilitated Dialogue. Steps in Conducting a Dialogue. Community Dialogues: Local Self-Governance and Sustainable Peace. Methodologies for Preliminary Analysis and Assessment of Conflict Situations: Stages and Data Sources. Survey Methodologies in Assessing Conflict Situations at the Local Level.

Educational resources

Basic literature:

1. "The Future is Now: Science for Achieving Sustainable Development. Global Sustainable Development Report," UN, 2019. Available: https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/24797GSDR_report_2019.pdf

2. "Planetary Boundaries and Human Opportunities," SDG Academy. <https://sdgacademy.org/course/planetary-boundaries-human-opportunities/>
3. UN Conferences and High-Level Events related to sustainable development. UN DESA, 2023. <https://sdgs.un.org/conferences>

Additional resources

Sustainable Development Analysis: Global and Regional Contexts / International Council for Science (ISC) and others; Scientific Supervisor of the Project M. Zgurovsky. — K. : Igor Sikorsky KPI, 2019. — P. 2. Ukraine in Sustainable Development Indicators (2018). — 112 p.

Sustainable Development Analysis: Global and Regional Contexts / International Council for Science (ISC) and others; Scientific Supervisor of the Project M. Zgurovsky. — K.: Igor Sikorsky KPI, 2019. — P. 1. Global Analysis of Quality and Security of Life (2019). — 328 p.

Educational content

1. Methodology for Mastering the Educational Discipline (Educational Component)

The course consists of 18 hours of lectures and 18 hours of seminar sessions, along with the completion of a module control work in accordance with the course structure, which is divided into four main topics.

Seminar sessions are designed to initiate and support discussions around the issues presented for consideration. Following the plan provided by the instructor, education seekers conduct a review of scientific and educational literature and actively participate in discussions moderated by the instructor.

The following problematic situations and topics will be addressed during the seminar sessions:

1. Dealing with a problematic situation: demographic crisis in Ukraine and the policy of national identity - a look into the future. Discussion on the origins of conflicts in the context of human capital restoration in Ukraine.
2. Approaches to assessing the level of societal peacefulness in indexes and indicators.
3. Ukraine in the system of conflict metrics and societal consolidation. Discussion: exploring the signs of state fragility in Ukraine.
4. The global threat of climate change. Climate, economy, society: work with a problematic situation.
5. Poverty and inequality as causes of global social conflicts. Case study: "Nordic exceptionalism in balancing the state and citizen interests."
6. The dilemma of resource growth and sustainable management. Social dilemmas in governance. Dealing with a problematic situation: conflict resolution on local self-government level (in merged territorial communities).
7. Democracy or autocracy: which regimes are more efficient in ensuring the well-being of the population? Handling a problematic situation.
8. Fragile state: the role of civil society and government institutions in conflict prevention.
9. Social dilemmas and social compromise. Facilitated dialogue in conflict prevention.

These topics represent a comprehensive exploration of societal challenges and conflicts, aiming to foster critical thinking and develop solutions to complex issues. Through rigorous discussion and analysis, we aim to better understand and address these challenges for the betterment of our society and the world at large.

Student self-study encompasses the following components: preparation for regular quizzes, preparation for seminar sessions, including the delivery of presentations and co-presentations, submission of electronic short informational reports within the deadlines set by the lecturer, preparation for module assessments.

Course Policy

Attendance policy:

The skipping the class does not result in the imposition of penalty points, as the final student rating is determined only based on the assessment of learning outcomes. However, the discussion of thematic assignment results, as well as the presentation/public speaking and participation in discussions and contributions during seminars, will be evaluated during classroom sessions.

For active participation in seminar activities, students should prepare for specific seminar sessions based on the literature recommended by the lecturer.

Missed Assessment Procedures:

Missed control measures can be made up for by students for valid reasons (e.g., medical leave, mobility, etc.) through independent work. For more details, please refer to the following link: [Link to Detailed Guidelines](#).

Appealing Assessment Results:

Students have the right to raise any questions related to the assessment procedures and can expect that they will be considered in accordance with pre-established procedures. Students have the right to reasonably challenge the results of assessment measures, explaining which criteria they disagree with according to the evaluation.

Calendar Control:

Calendar control is conducted with the aim of enhancing the quality of student learning and monitoring compliance with the syllabus requirements. Before the start of the first calendar assessment, a student should accumulate a minimum of 10 points, and before the start of the second assessment, a total of at least 30 points should be earned.

Academic Integrity. The policies and principles of academic integrity are defined in Section 3 of the Code of Honor of the National Technical University of Ukraine "Igor Sikorsky Kyiv Polytechnic Institute." More details: <https://kpi.ua/code>.

Ethical Behavior Standards. The ethical behavior standards for students and staff are outlined in Section 2 of the Code of Honor of the National Technical University of Ukraine "Igor Sikorsky Kyiv Polytechnic Institute." More details: <https://kpi.ua/code>.

Inclusive Education. The acquisition of knowledge and skills during the study of the discipline "Inclusive Green Growth" may be accessible to most individuals with special educational needs, except for those with serious visual impairments that prevent them from completing tasks using personal computers, laptops, and/or other technical devices.

Learning in a Foreign Language. During the completion of tasks, students may be recommended to refer to English-language sources.

Assignment of Incentive and Penalty Points. According to the Regulations on the Assessment System for Learning Outcomes, the total sum of incentive points cannot exceed 10% of the grading scale.

Incentive points		Penalty points	
Criteria	Wage	Criteria	Wage
Publishing the theses or the article	5-10 points	-	-
Participation in international, all-Ukrainian, and/or other events and competitions (related to the subject of the academic discipline).	5-10 points	-	-
Organizing and participating in events to disseminate information about the Sustainable Development Goals in Ukraine with the acquisition of a certificate (http://sdg.org.ua/).	5-10 б points	-	-

Preparation for seminars and assessment activities is carried out during students' independent work, with the opportunity for consultation with the teacher during designated consultation hours or through electronic correspondence (email, messengers).

Types of assessment and the rating system for evaluating the learning outcomes

Semester assessment is conducted in the form of credit examination. A 100-point rating system and a university scale are used to evaluate learning outcomes.

Continuous assessment: frontal questioning, participation in seminar activities, presentations, electronic reporting, module testing

Calendar control: conducted twice per semester as a monitoring of compliance with the syllabus requirements.

Semester control: credit examination.

Module testing: Each of the two parts of the module-based test contains two open-ended questions. For a comprehensive and well-argued answer to a question, students receive from 10 to 6 points, for a concise answer without relevant evidence - from 5 to 1 point, for an incorrect answer - 0 points.

<i>№</i>	<i>Types of assessment</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Wage</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Total</i>
1.	Presentation and public speech, participation in discussions	60%	3	20	60*
2.	Module testing	40%	40	1	40
	total				100

To obtain a pass (or credit) for the academic discipline, a student must have a rating of at least 60 points. Students who have a rating of less than 60 points at the end of the semester, as well as those who want to improve their grade, must complete a credit control work.

Table of correspondence between rating points and grades according to the university scale:

<i>Points</i>	<i>Grade</i>
100-95	Excellent
94-85	Very good
84-75	Good
74-65	Satisfactory
64-60	Enough to Pass
Менше 60	Failed

2. Додаткова інформація з дисципліни (освітнього компонента)

Teaching methods and forms encompass not only traditional university interactions such as lectures and seminars but also elements of teamwork, brainstorming, and group discussions. Additionally, to ensure the practical component of learning, elements of gamification (simulated games) and case study methods are applied during classes. Communication with the teacher is facilitated through the use of the "Electronic Campus" information system, the "Sikorsky" distance learning platform, as well as communication tools like email or messengers.

Optional learning: To gain a better understanding of the principles, concepts, and tools of sustainable peacebuilding, students are encouraged to take online courses via web links:

1. <https://coursera.org/learn/sustainable-development>
2. <https://coursera.org/learn/global-sustainable-development>
3. <https://coursera.org/learn/responsible-management>
4. <https://coursera.org/learn/global-sustainability-be-sustainable>
5. <https://coursera.org/learn/sdgbusiness>
6. <https://coursera.org/learn/corp-sustainability>
7. <https://coursera.org/learn/business-case-sustainability>
8. <https://coursera.org/learn/sustainability-through-soccer>
9. <https://coursera.org/learn/greening-the-economy>
10. <https://coursera.org/learn/sustainability>

Assigning a grade for control measures through the transfer of results from online courses is not provided for. Course syllabus (work program):

By:

Dr. Olena Akimova

Approved by the Sociology department (protocol № 12 from 23.06.2023)

Approved by the Methodical Commission of the faculty (protocol №11 from 27.06.2023)