Objectives of the Course

This course provides an introduction to the practice of diplomacy. It outlines the evolution of diplomatic method and various approaches to diplomatic practice both conventional and unconventional. It also examines the changing forms of diplomatic relations, bilateral and multilateral, institutions and processes, the provisions of diplomatic law and the latest developments and innovations in diplomatic communication, such as the advent of virtual and public diplomacy.

Learning Outcomes

After completion of the course students are expected to:
1. Illustrate familiarity with the evolution of modern diplomatic thought and practice.
2. Analyse the different types of diplomatic relation and contact and the work of diplomatic organisations such as foreign ministries and missions.
3. Compare the processes of negotiation, mediation, diplomatic communication, and the function of diplomatic ceremony and law.
4. Assess in a critical manner the process of negotiation, mediation, diplomatic communication, and the function of diplomatic ceremony and law.
5. Trace the development of multilateral diplomacy and its functioning.
6. Assess the impact of technology and of the new media on diplomatic conduct.
7. Develop oral and written communication skills in the formulation of conceptual problems and be able to organize the available time and cope with deadlines.
8. Demonstrate the learning skills, including use of IT, to allow them to continue education in a self-directed manner and to work on an academic level within the intended professional field.
9. Use libraries, bibliographical material and academic research in an efficient manner.
Course Contents
1. Origins and definition of diplomacy
2. The emergence of the Modern Diplomatic System
3. The New Diplomacy
4. Structure and functions of Foreign Ministries
5. Bilateral diplomatic relations
6. Unconventional diplomatic relations
7. Telecommunications and diplomacy
8. Multilateral diplomatic relations
9. Mediators and mediation
10. Conduct of negotiations
11. Politicians and diplomacy
12. Summary and Conclusions

Learning Activities and Teaching Methods:
Lectures, class discussion, tutorial sessions

Assessment Methods
Exam, Essay, Class participation.

Required Textbooks/Reading:

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