

## Politics of Conflict (K001349)

Due to Covid 19, the education and evaluation methods may vary from the information displayed in the schedules and course details. Any changes will be communicated on Ufora.

<b>Course size</b>	<i>(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)</i>		
<b>Credits</b> 5.0	<b>Study time</b> 150 h	<b>Contact hrs</b>	45.0 h

### Course offerings in academic year 2020-2021

A (semester 1)	English	Gent
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### Lecturers in academic year 2020-2021

Adam, Jeroen	PS05	lecturer-in-charge
Marijnen, Esther	PS05	co-lecturer

### Offered in the following programmes in 2020-2021

	crdts	offering
<a href="#">Master of Science in Teaching in Social Sciences (main subject Political Science)</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Master of Science in Political Science (main subject International Politics)</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Master of Science in Conflict and Development Studies</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Master of Arts in Global Studies</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Exchange Programme in Political and Social Sciences</a>	5	A

### Teaching languages

English

### Keywords

Conflict, Democracy, Violence, Politics, Political Philosophy, Genocide, Authoritarianism

### Position of the course

This course is a core course of the program, offering advanced knowledge of key issues of conflict and violence from a political perspective. Together with Politics of Development the course offers a broad theoretical framework to which other, more specialized courses in the program are able to refer. Students critically apply and interiorize the frameworks taught in this course in the parallel course 'Politics of Conflict: Seminars'. In the parallel course *Politics of Conflict: Seminars* students apply the acquired knowledge and insights of this course through more activating teaching methods.

### Contents

The course offers an introduction to different theories discussing the interaction between conflict, democracy, violence and politics. More specifically, the following debates are being tackled in an extensive manner: 1) the nature of violence and the relationship between violence and politics, 2) the role played by violence and conflict in modernity and (post-) colonialism; 3) deliberative versus agonistic democracy and politics, 4) the structure-agency debate when analyzing different forms of violence and violence, 5) the role of violence and conflict in theories of democracy and liberalism.

### Initial competences

This course cannot be followed as a separate course or an elective; unless the course is explicitly mentioned as a possible elective in your program.

### Final competences

- 1 To gain basic insight on different theories concerning the interaction between conflict, democracy, violence, space and politics. (M.1.1, M.1.2)
- 2 To be able to relate and assess these different theories against each other. (M.1.1,

M.3.3)

- 3 To be able to formulate a personal and critical assessment of these theories, hereby indicating their added value and deficiencies. (M.3.2)
- 4 To apply and rework these theories, based on concrete cases of conflict and violence or a specific problem statement. (M.1.6)
- 5 To be able to historically situate major thinkers and schools in debates about politics, violence, democracy and conflict (M.1.1, M.1.4)

#### **Conditions for credit contract**

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

#### **Conditions for exam contract**

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

#### **Teaching methods**

Guided self-study, lecture

#### **Extra information on the teaching methods**

The course consists of lectures (10 lectures, 30 hours) that are complemented with minor assignments and question-driven contents. In addition, the lecturer offers reading questions that allow students to prepare for the classes (guided self-study, 15 hours). These lectures are further supported by the activating teaching methods deployed in the parallel Politics of Conflict: Seminars course.

#### **Learning materials and price**

Online articles and book chapters that will be put online and free of cost.

#### **References**

All references for this course can be found online at the Ufora site of this course

#### **Course content-related study coaching**

Q&A during classes.  
Interactive counselling through UFORA.  
Individual consulting-hours on demand.

#### **Evaluation methods**

end-of-term evaluation

#### **Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the first examination period**

Open book examination

#### **Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the second examination period**

Open book examination

#### **Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation**

Assignment

#### **Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation**

examination during the second examination period is possible

#### **Extra information on the examination methods**

The written open book exam (15 points) tests whether the students have acquired the basic learning outcomes as specified above. Some short assignments (5 points) spread over the first semester will allow for the evaluation of the process of guided self-study. This will enable the students to better understand different cross-linkages between the different classes. These will also allow for a critical reflection by the students over the course of the first semester about the different themes discussed.

#### **Calculation of the examination mark**

The final mark is based on: open book examination (15 points) and assignment (5 points)

#### **Facilities for Working Students**

Possibility to take the open book exam at a different time in the academic year after consultation with the lecturer-in-charge.

Possibility to make an appointment for feedback during and after office hours after consultation with the lecturer-in-charge.