

**COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT**

**Academic School / Department:** Humanities & Social Sciences

**Programme:** International Relations

**FHEQ Level:** 6

**Course Title:** Diplomatic Studies

**Course Code:** INTR 6101

**Total Hours:** 160 (Lev 3-5) (4 US Credit)

Timetabled Hours: 45

Guided Learning Hours: 15

Independent Learning Hours: 100

**Credit**  
16 UK CATS credits  
8 ECTS credits  
4 US Credits

**Course Description:**

This course offers an overview of the history and practice of contemporary diplomacy. It begins with analysis of what a modern diplomat currently does, both at home and abroad, set within the context of diplomatic history and theory. The normal practice of diplomacy and the various techniques of international negotiation will be addressed by using both historical and contemporary examples. It will familiarize students with the activities of a modern diplomat within a wider historical and theoretical context.

**Prerequisites:**

70 Credits

**Aims and Objectives:**

- To develop a critical understanding of the historical development and differing interpretations of modern diplomatic practice and methods

- To engage with various source materials pertaining to diplomatic practice and methods
- To provide a background for eventual careers in fields (including work in government, international organisations, business and the media) which require articulate, clear-thinking individuals with a grasp of modern diplomatic practice
- To provide a framework to assist concerned citizens to think critically about issues that are of increasing importance in the 21<sup>st</sup> century
- To promote critical engagement with a wide range of literature, and the development of both a succinct writing style, and the ability to present complex arguments orally

**Programme Outcomes:**

6AIII; 6BI; 6CI; 6CII; 6DIII

A detailed list of the programme outcomes are found in the Programme Specification.

This is located at the archive maintained by Registry and found at:

<https://www.richmond.ac.uk/programme-and-course-specifications/>

**Learning Outcomes:**

By the end of this course, successful students should be able to:

- Demonstrates a systematic understanding of key scholars, texts and debates in the study of diplomatic history and contemporary practice.
- Demonstrates a systematic understanding of the dynamics and continuities of diplomatic practice, and the key problems raised in the empirical study of diplomacy.
- Demonstrates the communication skills needed to plan and manage for changing contexts, audiences and levels of complexity.
- Demonstrates the ability to formulate, synthesise and effectively articulate arguments potentially incorporating competing perspectives, concepts and evidence in formats and media relevant to diplomatic practice.
- Demonstrates skills and abilities that are directly relevant to careers in diplomatic practice.

**Indicative Content:**

- Overview of the evolution of diplomatic practice
- The standard and contemporary theories of diplomacy
- Familiarity with the works of key diplomatic theorists (ie Machiavelli, Grotius, Richelieu, Callières, Satow, Nicolson, Kissinger and Copeland)
- Contemporary diplomatic norms and practices
- International negotiations, both bi-lateral and multilateral
- Consideration of the current role of Public Diplomacy

**Assessment:**

This course conforms to the University Assessment Norms approved at Academic Board and located at: <https://www.richmond.ac.uk/university-policies/>

**Teaching Methodology:**

This course will be delivered face to face through a combination of lectures and interactive sessions. In addition to classroom activities, there are guided learning elements that are tutor led and arranged through Blackboard. These activities can be asynchronous online sessions, flipped classrooms, set readings with discussion boards or set guest lectures for example. Set activities are monitored by the instructor to ascertain student engagement. Students are encouraged to prepare for class and to play an active part, to raise questions, following-up ideas and interact with a wide range of provided material.

**Indicative Text(s):**

- Barston, R.P. (2019) *Modern Diplomacy*. 5<sup>th</sup> ed. Routledge.
- Berridge, G.R. (2022) *Diplomacy: Theory and Practice*. 6<sup>th</sup> ed. Palgrave.
- Berridge, G.R., Keens-Soper, M. and Otte, T.G. (2001) *Diplomatic Theory from Machiavelli to Kissinger*. Palgrave.
- Cooper, A.F., Heine, J. and Thakur, R. (eds.) (2013) *The Oxford Handbook of Modern Diplomacy*. OUP.
- Pigman, G. A. (2010) *Contemporary Diplomacy. Representation and Communication in a Globalised World*. Polity.
- Roberts, I. (ed.) (2023) *Satow's Diplomatic Practice*. 8<sup>th</sup> ed. OUP.

See syllabus for complete reading list

**Change Log for this CSD:**

Nature of Change	Date Approved & Approval Body (School or AB)	Change Actioned by Registry Services
First edition	Nov 2024	