Conflict and Dispute Resolution Studies Course Handbook 2018–2019
Introduction
Welcome to the School of Religion where we continue a tradition of scholarship that goes back to the very foundation of Trinity College Dublin.

The School of Religion is one of the twelve Schools that comprise Trinity College's Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences. It brings together biblical studies, theology, ethics, theory of religion, and international conflict and peace studies as independent but related disciplinary fields.

The School’s undergraduate and postgraduate courses explore encounters between religions and cultures from their roots in antiquity to the present day. They investigate the intellectual and institutional resources developed in historical and current interactions and conflicts and apply them to the challenges and the opportunities societies face in an age of globalisation.

The School has a strong commitment to community engagement, has campuses in Belfast and Dublin and is home to the Loyola Institute, the Trinity Centre for Biblical Studies and the Irish School of Ecumenics.

This Handbook summarizes and supplements the regulations that are contained in the University Calendar. However, in the event of any conflict or inconsistency between the General Regulations published in the University Calendar and information contained in programme or local handbooks, the provisions of the General Regulations in the Calendar will prevail.

Academic and administrative staff will be available at Orientation to explain most of these requirements, and to answer any queries that you may have about procedures and regulations.

An electronic copy of this Handbook will be available on the School of Religion/Programme website with copies available via the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE). A hard copy of this handbook in large print is available in the School office. Alternative formats of the Handbook can be provided on request.

There may be some modification during the year to the procedures and regulations outlined below: these will be brought to your attention as they arise.
Please note:
Familiarize yourself with College's regulations for postgraduate students. These are available in Part III of the Calendar, accessed at https://www.tcd.ie/calendar/graduate-studies-higher-degrees/

Your @tcd.ie email account is the only e-mail address used for official College business. Consult this email account regularly.

Your personal data is kept in accordance with the Student Data Policy: https://www.tcd.ie/info_compliance/data-protection/student-data/.

College regulations require that you remain resident in the Republic of Ireland, or in Northern Ireland, during the course of your studies. Absence for a substantial period in either of the teaching terms is not permitted.

Research abroad is permitted only with the approval of your Course Coordinator.

NOTE: This Handbook will be required for reference throughout the programme. You will receive a copy by e-mail and it is available on blackboard in the first folder of EM7600.
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1. PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

The PG Diploma in Conflict and Dispute Resolution Studies is structured into four Modules, each worth 15 ECTS (European Credit Transfers). On successful completion of the Modules students achieve the 60 ECTS necessary for a PG Diploma. The Modules are:

(EM7600) **Understanding Conflict**  
(Thursdays 7-10 pm, September-December 2018)

(EM7601) **Aspects and Dynamics of Conflict Mediation**  
(Tuesdays 7-10 pm, September-December 2018)

(EM7602) **Theories and Processes of Conflict Resolution**  
(Thursdays 7-10 pm, January-April 2019)

(EM7603) **Skills for Moving Beyond Conflict**  
(Saturdays and Tuesdays, January-April 2019)

There will be four Saturday workshops on mediation skills in January/February/March and April 2019.

For those opting for the MII assessment there will be a Saturday/Sunday assessment in April/May 2019.

2. PROGRAMME TEACHING METHOD

We take students from a wide range of academic and work backgrounds and we do not accept anyone who is not likely to succeed. We can distinguish between four dimensions of learning: lectures, practice-based learning, reading and writing.

2.1 Lectures

Formal lectures are intended to give students a structured background in the subject and a context in which to raise initial points and queries. For a student unfamiliar with the subject, they provide a useful overview and a set of basic guidelines for the three other aspects of study. The mix of backgrounds of students means that lectures must be pitched at a level that may not entirely suit beginners or specialists.

2.2 Practice-based Learning

A key component of this programme is the orientation that students receive in understanding the scope of Alternative Dispute Resolution possibilities and to evaluate the differences in a practical context. The practice-based learning will enable students to acquire the necessary skills and have opportunities to role-play for practices such as mediation, negotiation and restorative justice.

2.3 Reading
Reading for academic purposes is an acquired art: it must be selective, discriminating and critical. Module reading lists tend to give an overview of books and articles available in the TCD library. Their purpose is to provide a basis for selective reading on particular topics.

2.4 Writing

In an obvious sense, writing is essential to learning. It is true of learning that we do not know what we have learned until we demonstrate the ability to express it. In practice, therefore, writing notes, short pieces and extensive essays is a necessary part of study as well as a bureaucratic requirement of the academic life.

A few points to remember:

* Essays must address the title and be written coherently and grammatically on one side of A4 paper.

* Pay attention to structure: do not neglect to introduce the subject, develop the argument and reach a conclusion (preferably in that order!)

* Try to avoid unsupported assertions of an ethical or emotive kind. An essay is always improved by an author showing awareness of counter arguments and attempting to deal with contradictory evidence. No field of study is value-neutral, but values should guide – not distort - research.

3. COURSEWORK ASSESSMENT

The assessment for the PG Diploma in CDRS is based on two essays of 4,000 – 4,500 words each; a 4,000 – 4,500 Personal Reflection Log; and on a practical skills-based assessment.

3.1 Essays

Students must write one essay relating to material covered in the first teaching term and one essay relating to material covered in the second teaching term. Students will be given a list of essay titles to choose from for both semesters.

Students should submit one hard copy of their essay to cdrssec@tcd.ie and a soft copy using the turnitin software on Blackboard.

Essays will be marked by an internal assessor, with an option for second marking for borderline marks. The essays are then available for sampling by the programme’s external examiner at the exam board, which meets in early October every year.

The marks given will reflect their judgment of four distinct categories of competence:

1. Presentation. This refers to the physical presentation of the essay, its spelling and grammatical competence, the clear presentation of references and bibliography and the student’s writing skills.
2. Structure. The essay should have a coherent form in terms of its different sections and a clear thread of argument throughout.

3. Analysis. It should demonstrate the ability to understand theoretical material and to manipulate abstract ideas critically.

4. Use of sources. The judicious use of documentary or empirical data which are relevant and adequate to the overall thesis argued.

5. The pass mark is 50%.

Students will receive a report based on the internal examiners’ assessment of their essays. This report is intended to indicate whatever merits and defects the essay contains and to explain the basis of the mark given. It is particularly important that students consult the essay supervisor on receipt of a report if they wish to discuss further the points made in it. If the essay falls below the minimum required standard and was submitted by the required deadline, the report can help with revision.

Revision of an essay is permitted only where otherwise the student would fall below the required standard for the programme and only where the work was submitted on or before the set deadline. The revised essay must then be received within 14 days of receipt of the report and recommendations.

3.2 Personal Log

The Personal Log aims to encourage students to reflect on the different disciplinary perspectives and practice-based methodologies presented in the programme with the purpose of noting any linkages between these perspectives. The Log is a reflective diary where the student records observations, reflections and cross references to subjects that have arisen and connections made from the lectures and the reading. It is hoped that this will encourage students to look beyond their own stated objectives in doing the course, thereby leading to their widening their areas of interest and research and contributing to an enrichment in their work and careers.

Conventional academic standards in respect of presentation, referencing etc. apply to the Personal Log.

3.3 Skills-based Assessment

Classes in CDRS often involve elements of role play and other forms of practical skills development. This is particularly the case in EM7601 and and EM7603 which focus on students acquiring skills in facilitative and transformative methods of mediation. The skills based assessment for the PG Diploma involves a short simulated facilitative mediation, which is filmed for the purpose of assessment and review. Optional assessment for MII purposes is explained below.

3.4 Assessment Standard
Each essay and the filmed mediation must achieve a mark above 50% for a candidate to pass the Diploma and the performance in the reflective log must be graded as satisfactory.

3.5 Deadlines for written work

It is an essential and equitable part of continuous assessment that work be submitted on time. Students who fall behind, without explanation and permission, may be removed from the register. Extensions are granted only in cases of medical necessity (with certification) or force majeure (e.g. family crises).

3.6 Deadlines for 2018-19 are as follows:

1st essay: December 7th 2018, 5 pm

CDRS filmed mediation assessments - February 2019 - tbc

2nd essay: May 31st 2019, 5 pm

Personal Log: August 2nd 2019, 5 pm

MII mediation assessments (optional) - Weekends in April or May 2019 - TBC

Written assignments submitted after the specified deadline will be subject to a penalty of 10 per cent, unless an extension has been granted prior to the deadline by the programme coordinator.

4. NOTES ON ESSAY STYLE

4.1 Physical Structure: The final typescript should include:

Title page, including essay question, author, date of submission, word count, plagiarism statement

Table of contents

Introduction

Conclusion

References

4.2 Bibliography

There may also be (i) appendices, containing any important extra material you need to include, to be placed after the conclusion but before the bibliography; and (ii) a list of abbreviations used in references (if such abbreviations are extensive) to be placed before the Introduction. These should be noted in the Contents.
Quotations (and references generally) must be made with care for accuracy. Quote the exact words; if you have to add extra words to clarify the sense, put them in square brackets; if you omit any, indicate that you have done so with three dots; for example: It is instructive to note the comment of Henry Kissinger: "[In such cases] ... it is essential to bear in mind the role of personal humility in the exercise of diplomacy."

If a quotation is going to take up more than two lines in your script, or if you wish to give it a special emphasis, make a distinct paragraph of it by indenting the whole paragraph from the left and right hand margin, with single spacing and without quotation marks. Always when you quote or refer, give a precise reference to the work and page or pages referred to.

It is a standard academic requirement to cite the source of ideas taken from other authors and to place direct quotes in quotation marks. Where the idea or quotation is second-hand i.e. drawn from a citation in another source, that fact should be noted in the list of references, e.g.: Kaldor, 1987, p79 cited in Redclift, 1979 p.n

4.3 Citations, References and Bibliography

There are differing conventions concerning the citing of sources in an essay but the following method is recommended:

Quotations longer than two lines should be indented & single-spaced:

   The environment in the international economy is an internationalised one, which often exists to serve economic and political interests far removed from a specific physical location.(1)

The List of References should then show


4.4 References

References or Footnotes serve two chief purposes; (i) to give a reference or several references; (ii) to discuss a point which is incidental to your main argument, but which you wish to cover, or which serves to supplement or clarify your text. Most of your footnotes will be of the first type. They must include exact page number(s).

   1) Keatinge, 1984, pp2-5
   2) Goulet, 1986, p.123

Footnotes should be in single spacing and may be placed at the end of the relevant page or in numerical order before the Bibliography at the end of the dissertation or essay.

The Bibliography should include all works which you quote or mention in your text or footnotes. It may also include other works which you have used but not specifically
mentioned; but do not include too many of these or the examiner's suspicions will be aroused - he or she may conclude that you have simply spent your time compiling an impressive book list without actually reading the books. Full details of the books and articles should be given, and you follow a consistent pattern for doing this. One suitable form for books consulted is:

Keatinge, Patrick 1973(a) *The Formulation of Irish Foreign Policy*, IPA, Dublin

Keatinge, Patrick 1973(b) *A Singular Stance: Irish Neutrality in the 1980s*, IPA, Dublin


In the case of articles, the citation should include the author, the title of the article, the journal or periodical title, the volume number and date and page numbers. For example:


Note that books and articles are listed alphabetically by author in the bibliography, and that the titles of books and journals should be underlined (or italicised), but not the titles of articles in journals. These should be put in inverted commas.

### 4.5 Websites

Should be listed in full in a separate section of the bibliography, under the source organisation or institution. Remember to include the date on which you accessed the site.

The work of compiling accurate bibliography and footnotes is immeasurably lightened if proper care is taken from the beginning of your research to keep such details. When you note down a quotation or other reference, take care to register with it the full and precise details of publication. Or use a bibliographical programme such as ENDNOTE or ZOTERO.

### 4.6 Spelling and grammar

Correct spelling, grammar and clear presentation are essential in essay writing. Spelling errors and sloppy presentation are not tolerated by Trinity College.

Students who fail to meet the final deadlines for Essays and who have not been granted an extension, will be notified that no further work will be accepted and that their assessment will be based on work already submitted.
4.7 Plagiarism

To ensure that you have a clear understanding of what plagiarism is, how Trinity deals with cases of plagiarism, and how to avoid it, you will find a repository of information at [https://www.tcd.ie/library/support/plagiarism/story_html5.html](https://www.tcd.ie/library/support/plagiarism/story_html5.html).

We ask you to take the following steps:

(i) Visit the online resources to inform yourself about how Trinity deals with plagiarism and how you can avoid it at [https://www.tcd.ie/library/support/plagiarism/story_html5.html](https://www.tcd.ie/library/support/plagiarism/story_html5.html). You should also familiarize yourself with the 2018-19 Calendar entry on plagiarism located on this website and the sanctions which are applied;


(iii) Familiarise yourself with the declaration that you will be asked to sign when submitting course work at [https://tcd-ie.libguides.com/plagiarism/declaration](https://tcd-ie.libguides.com/plagiarism/declaration);

(iv) Contact your Course Co-ordinator or your Lecturer if you are unsure about any aspect of plagiarism.

4.8 Postgraduate Appeals Process

*Postgraduate Appeals at School level: Taught PG Students*

Where a graduate student has failed on the coursework component, and feels that there are mitigating circumstances, he/she may make a request, in writing, to the Course Coordinator for permission to repeat the examination(s) and/or assessment(s). The reasons for the request must be clearly stated and supported where necessary by documentary evidence. If the graduate student is granted a supplemental examination, the results of that examination will be considered to be final, i.e. repetition of the year will not be permitted.

If the Course Coordinator refuses to grant a request, the student may make an appeal to the relevant School appeals committee. If the School appeals committee refuses to grant the appeal, or the student is not satisfied with the outcome of the appeal process, he or she may appeal the decision of the School in writing to the Dean of Graduate Studies, clearly stating under what grounds of (i) to (iii) the student is making the appeal and stating what remedy they are seeking.

i. is not adequately covered by the ordinary regulations of the College, or

ii. is based on a claim that the regulations of the College were not properly applied in the applicant’s case, or

iii. represents an ad misericordiam appeal.

The Dean of Graduate Studies has the discretion to grant or deny the appeal. Appeals against the decision of the Dean of Graduate Studies may be brought to the Academic Appeals Committee for Graduate Students (Taught). This committee will consider...
appeals concerning events occurring more than 4 months previously only in the most exceptional circumstances.

The Postgraduate Appeals Process is outlined in the Trinity College Calendar, Part 3, Section 1.10. All appeals should be heard first at School level. The grounds for appeal against the decision of Taught Course Committees are outlined in the Calendar under "General Regulations".

4.9 Links to Key University Policies

Academic policies: https://www.tcd.ie/teaching-learning/academic-policies/
Student complaints: https://www.tcd.ie/about/policies/160722_Student%20Complaints%20Procedure_PUB.pdf
Dignity and Respect Policy: https://www.tcd.ie/equality/policy/dignity-respect-policy/
Data protection: https://www.tcd.ie/info_compliance/data-protection/student-data/

4.10 Mediators’ Institute of Ireland Accreditation

CDRS is an accredited training programme with Mediators’ Institute of Ireland.

Students may opt to undertake the MII’s Mediation Role Play Competency Assessment at the end of the course. Successful completion of this assessment will allow students to apply for Certified Mediator status with the Mediators’ Institute of Ireland (see www.themii.ie and http://www.themii.ie/certified-assessment.jsp for further details).

The Coordinator will convene, organise and film the role play assessment, however students will be responsible for paying the appropriate fee to the MII assessor and submitting their self-assessment to the MII assessor in the time allowed. The MII assessor will meet with the class in January 2019 to outline the MII assessment process.

A student who wishes to appeal the outcome of their MII assessment should first write to the CDRS Programme Coordinator, within two weeks of the publication of results, stating clearly the grounds for appeal and where necessary enclosing documentary evidence. The Programme Coordinator will then discuss the case with the relevant parties and attempt to find a solution. In the event of a failed MII assessment provision can be made for a re-sit on payment of the appropriate fee.

As a participant on an MII approved training programme you are eligible for membership of The MII as a Trainee Member. This is to support trainee Mediators in accessing training and networking opportunities through the MII.

How to Register as an MII Trainee Member

To register as a Trainee Member of the MII, simply complete a Trainee Member registration form (downloadable from the MII Forms page) and return with a letter from the training provider confirming that you are attending the approved training
programme (with certificate of successful completion to follow). For further information in relation to Trainee Members and how to progress from a Trainee Member to a Certified Member, see http://www.themii.ie/trainee-member.jsp

**Trainee Member Benefits**

The journey from Trainee to Associate level, Certified level and then to Practitioner level is both challenging and rewarding and The MII encourages Trainee Members to actively engage with other trainees and also accredited, practising Mediators to develop your skills and practice. Whether developing specific skills and knowledge, engaging in reflective practice or learning how mediation works in a particular environment, there are many opportunities for trainee Mediators, to engage and learn in informative and participative forums.

MII Trainee Members are entitled to:

- Free membership under the Trainee Scheme for the year of the **start date** of their approved training programme and the following calendar year.
- Reduced member fees for symposium, conferences and some CPD trainings
- Join a Sharing and Learning group
- Attend sector meetings, AGM and any EGMs
- Sit on appropriate committee

**Please note:**

1. Trainee Members are not approved to practice.
2. On progression to Associate, Certified or Practitioner Member status, the appropriate membership fee must be paid.
3. The Trainee Member allowance is only applicable to participants of MII accredited training programmes.
4. From 1 September 2007 those attending Practitioner Member status courses are entitled to free membership as a Trainee Member for the calendar year in which their course started.
5. If you have any queries or require further information, please contact the MII at info@themii.ie.

**5. STUDENT SUPPORTS SERVICES**

There are a range of services to turn to for advice and support should you need it at any stage of your studies. The main services are outlined below, and you will receive more information on what the various services provide at orientation. For a general list of all Student Support Services, visit the website: https://www.tcd.ie/students/supports-services/ or download the leaflet here: Student Support Services booklet.

Belfast students can find further information on how to access Student Support Services as well as a Healthcare factsheet at the following link: http://www.tcd.ie/ise/postgraduate/conflict-resolution.php
5.1 Virtual Learning Environment: Blackboard

Materials related to the Modules (powerpoint presentations, recommended readings, programme announcements etc.) will be available to students on the web via TCD’s Blackboard. Log on using your TCD user name and password at http://mymodule.tcd.ie/

A demonstration of blackboard will be given in the first week of the programme.

5.2 College Disability Service

The School welcomes applications from prospective students with disabilities, and endeavours to assist all students to realise their potential by offering a range of supports that include reasonable accommodations.

The Disability Service in Trinity College Dublin provides advice and support to students who disclose their disability prior to entry and whilst studying in College. Students with disabilities are encouraged to attend the College Open Day – usually in early December of the year preceding entry, or to contact the Disability Service to arrange a visit. We also encourage students with disabilities to register with the Disability Service at the beginning of the academic year in order to seek supports and facilitate participation in their course. Students who do not disclose a disability cannot avail of reasonable accommodations and cannot claim that they have been discriminated against (on grounds of disability), if they have not disclosed a disability. For further information, or to discuss the supports that are available please contact the Disability Service at disab@tcd.ie or visit https://www.tcd.ie/disability/

5.3 Postgraduate Advisory Service

The Postgraduate Advisory Service is a unique and confidential service available to all registered postgraduate students in Trinity College. It offers a comprehensive range of academic, pastoral and professional supports dedicated to enhancing your student experience.

Who?
The Postgraduate Advisory Service is led by the Postgraduate Support Officer who provides frontline support for all Postgraduate students in Trinity. The Postgrad Support Officer will act as your first point of contact and a source of support and guidance regardless of what stage of your studies you’re at. In addition each Faculty has three members of Academic staff appointed as Postgraduate Advisors to whom you can be referred by the Postgrad Support Officer for extra assistance if needed. Contact details of the Postgrad Support Officer and the Advisory Panel are available on our website: http://www.tcd.ie/Senior_Tutor/postgraduate/

Where?
The PAS is located on the second floor of House 27. We’re open from 8.30 – 4.30, Monday to Friday. Appointments are available from 9am to 4pm.
Phone: 8961417
Email: pgsupp@tcd.ie
**What?**
The PAS exists to ensure that all Postgrad students have a contact point who they can turn to for support and information about college services and academic issues arising. Representation assistance to Postgrad students is offered in the area of discipline and/or academic appeals arising out of examinations or thesis submissions, supervisory issues. If in doubt, get in touch! All queries will be treated with confidentiality. For more information on what we offer see our website.
If you have any queries regarding your experiences as a Postgraduate Student in Trinity don't hesitate to get in touch with us.

5.4 Graduate Students’ Union

Located on the second floor of House Six, the Graduate Students’ Union is an independent body within College that represents postgraduate students throughout College. Upon registration, all postgraduates are automatically members. It is run by two full-time sabbatical officers. The President, is the head and public face of the Union, and is responsible for strategy and policy formulation, whilst sitting on a wide range of committees. The Vice-President is also the Union’s Education and Welfare Officer and advises students on matters such as academic appeals and supervisor relationships. S/He is also here to help on more personal matters, such as financial concerns, illness and bereavement. Any discussions about such concerns are treated with the strictest confidence.

The GSU website www.tcdgsu.ie provides the latest updates from the Union, information on elections, campaigns and connections to the Union’s social media platforms. Students can arrange meetings with the sabbatical officers via emailing either the GSU President at president@tcdgsu.ie or the GSU Vice-President at vicepresident@tcdgsu.ie or by contacting the office landline at (01) 896 1169. Another useful contact for research students is the GSU Research Student Officer who can be contacted at phd@tcdgsu.ie

The GSU help organise elections for class and School Reps. The class reps report to their School Rep who attends the School Executive Committee meetings and represents the whole school in the GSU. The class rep in Belfast also attends the monthly staff meetings.

5.5 Careers

Link to careers office https://www.tcd.ie/Careers////////
Students can make an appointment with a Careers Advisor through MyCareer. To avail of this service please login to MyCareer with your Trinity student name and password, update your profile and you can then book an appointment. The address of the School’s Careers Advisor, Orlaith Tunney, is tunneyo@tcd.ie.

Students may also wish to avail of the following online resources: overview of careers resources for postgraduate taught students and Plan Your Career for Postgraduate Students and the Trinity Linkedin Alumni Tool

https://ie.linkedin.com/school/trinity-college-dublin/.
5.6 Clubs and Societies

It’s not all about study – we hope you will enjoy your time outside the classroom too and participate in university life as fully as possible.

You can find a list of clubs and societies on the main College website: http://trinitysocieties.ie/ and details of the Trinity Sports Centre: https://www.tcd.ie/Sport/facilities/sports-centre/

Belfast based students can join clubs and societies run by the nearby Queen’s University Student’s Union and are entitled to use Queen’s Sports Centre, PEC, under a joint arrangement set up between the two Students Unions.

5.7 Emergency Procedures

In the event of an emergency, dial Security Services on extension 1999

Security Services provide a 24-hour service to the college community, 365 days a year. They are the liaison to the Fire, Garda and Ambulance services and all staff and students are advised to always telephone extension 1999 (+353 1 896 1999) in case of an emergency.

Should you require any emergency or rescue services on campus, you must contact Security Services. This includes chemical spills, personal injury or first aid assistance.

Belfast students will be provided with separate emergency information at orientation.

It is recommended that all students save at least one emergency contact in their phone under ICE (In Case of Emergency).

5.8 Health and Safety

Please try to ensure you use equipment and facilities in a way that protects your own and others’ health and safety. Report any faults to a member of staff rather than trying to fix equipment yourself. Further details applicable to the Dublin and Belfast sites will be provided at the start of term.

5.9 Key Locations

Facilities information will be provided at orientation. For directions and maps please see links below:

[View our Dublin location and get driving/walking directions here](#)
[View our Belfast location and get driving/walking directions here](#)

5.10 Contacts and Opening Hours

CDRS Programme: Key People:
Programme Co-ordinator: Dr Gillian Wylie (wylieg@tcd.ie)
Programme Administrator: (cdrssec@tcd.ie)
Please feel free to contact the appropriate member of the programme team should you have queries or require assistance.

Head of School – Siobhán Garrigan (garrigs@tcd.ie)
+353 (0)1 8964794
Director of Teaching and Learning Postgraduate – David Shepherd (shepherd@tcd.ie)
+353 (0) 1896 4796
School Administration Manager – Aileen Woods:
aidwoods@tcd.ie
+353 (0)1 896 4778

Please see the following link to Academic and Administrative/Professional staff within the School.

For local course contacts please see the relevant course page on the website:
https://www.tcd.ie/religion/

Opening hours of School offices are normally 9.00 am – 5.30 pm. You will be notified of any changes to this via your student email account.