



## **The Psychology of Intergroup Relations: Conflict and Reconciliation**

**Dr. Haggai Kupermintz**

### **Course Description**

The course will examine the psychological dynamics associated with the processes and consequences of conflict and reconciliation. We will examine the interplay of personal and collective cognitions, emotions, and motivations in shaping intergroup relations, introducing theories and empirical research in social psychology, psychodynamics, and social neuroscience. We will explore issues such as social cognitions, stereotyping, prejudice, intergroup emotions, and empathy, with emphasis on their role in intractable conflicts, such as the Jewish-Arab, Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

### **Course Requirements:**

- Weekly Reading Assignments
- Class Participation
- Term Paper

Grades will be based on the quality of the term papers.

### **Bibliography**

#### ***Collective identity***

Ashmore, R. D., Deaux, K., & McLaughlin-Volpe, T. (2004). An organizing framework for collective identity: Articulation and significance of multidimensionality. *Psychological Bulletin*, 130(1), 80-114.

Smyth, L. F. (2002). Identity-based conflicts: A systemic approach, *Negotiation Journal*, 18, 147-161.

Volkan, V. D. (1999). Psychoanalysis and diplomacy: Part I. individual and large group identity, *Journal of Applied Psychoanalytic Studies*, 1(1), 29-55.



### ***Intergroup relations***

Hewstone, M., Rubin, M., & Willis, H. (2002). Intergroup bias. *Annual Reviews in Psychology*, 53(1), 575-604.

Amodio, D. M. (2008). The social neuroscience of intergroup relations. *European Review of Social Psychology*, 19(1), 1-54.

Mackie, D. M., Devos, T., & Smith, E. R. (2000). Intergroup emotions: Explaining offensive action tendencies in an intergroup context. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 79(4), 602-616.

Haslam, N. (2006). Dehumanization: An integrative review. *Personality and Social Psychology Review*, 10(3), 252

### ***Intractable conflicts***

Kreisberg, L. (1998). Intractable Conflicts. In E. Weiner (Ed.), *The handbook of interethnic coexistence* (pp 331-342). New York: Continuum.

Coleman, P. T., Vallacher, R. R., Nowak, A., & Bui-Wrzosinska, L. (2007). Intractable conflict as an attractor: A dynamical systems approach to conflict escalation and intractability. *American Behavioral Scientist*, 50(11), 1454-1475.

### ***Development bases of social relations***

Mikulincer, M., & Shaver, P. R. (2007). Boosting attachment security to promote mental health, prosocial values, and inter-group tolerance. *Psychological Inquiry*, 18(3), 139-156

Hicks, D. (2002). The role of identity reconstruction in promoting reconciliation. In Helmick and Petersen (Eds.). *Forgiveness and reconciliation: Religion, public policy, and conflict transformation*. Philadelphia: Templeton Press.

### ***Trauma and empathy***

Chapter 1: Alexander, J., Eyerman, R., Giesen, B., Semelser, N., & Sztompka, P. (2004). *Cultural trauma and collective identity*. Los Angeles: University of California Press.

Singer, T. (2006). The neuronal basis and ontogeny of empathy and mind reading: Review of literature and implications for future research. *Neuroscience and Biobehavioral Reviews*, 30(6), 855-863.

Stephan, W. G., & Finlay, K. (1999). The role of empathy in improving intergroup relations. *Reducing Racial Prejudice, Discrimination, and Stereotyping: Translating Research into Programs*, 55(4), 729-743.



***From conflict to reconciliation***

Berlin, I. (1998). The pursuit of an ideal. In I. Berlin: *The proper study of mankind* (pp. 1-17). New York: Farrar, Giroux, & Strauss.

Kupermintz, H., & Salomon, G. (2005). Lessons to be learned from research on peace education in the context of intractable conflict. *Theory into Practice*, 44(4), 293-302.

Pettigrew, T. F. (2008). Future directions for intergroup contact theory and research. *International Journal of Intercultural Relations*, 32(3), 187-199.

Ross, M. H. (2000). " Good-enough" isn't so bad: Thinking about success and failure in ethnic conflict management. *Peace and Conflict: The Journal of Peace Psychology*, 6(1), 27-47.