Online Course 'Transforming Civil Conflict'

In co-operation with the Center for Conflict Resolution at Bradford University and Modus Operandi, The Network University is organizing its award-winning four-week online certificate course in Conflict Transformation for the 20th time. The course is designed for professionals working in conflict areas and students with a special interest in the topic. For more information contact Claske Dijkema at claske@modop.org, visit our website: www.netuni.nl/demos/tcc/, or read on below.

Dates

Programme	Dates	Payment Date
Transforming Civil Conflicts (TCC)	7 March – 2 April, 2011	20 February 2011
Post Conflict Politics (PCP)	October 2011	
Gender and Conflict Transformation	Autumn 2011	

Aim
The aim of the program is to help prepare participants for work in conflict areas, or to make their work more effective by giving them more insight into the processes in conflicts and the roles that different organizations play. This program focuses on developing critical analytical skills in order to ask relevant questions, rather than finding the right solutions and answers to conflicts straight away.

Content
During the course the participants are familiarized with contemporary theories of conflict and conflict resolution. Furthermore, they are acquainted with a wide range of relevant information on conflict on the Internet and introduced to practical issues and debates within the field. Together with people with a professional interest, they will form a 'learning community'. The subjects for the course weeks are: Introduction to Conflict Resolution, Conflict Analysis and Conflict Prevention. The students are coached online, and they will participate through online debates, assignments and exercises.

Target Group
The target groups for this course are professionals that work in conflict areas and students with a special interest in the topic. Some examples are: (inter)national relief agency workers, development professionals, conflict resolution trainers, military personnel, business people, journalists, students in international relations or other conflict-related topics, academics and others working for governmental or (local) non-governmental organizations (NGO's) in countries and territories that are the scene violent conflict and civil strife.

Intensive Tailored Supervision
Although the course is designed for a minimum of 10 hours of total study time a week, the supervision is daily. You can ask questions and request the coaches for information. The coaches are present at the online 'call center' 8 hours a day. The course is tailor-made: participants receive personal feedback. They can choose the conflict(s) they would like to study. In addition they can suggest and initiate online debate topics. These are often linked to current affairs and student's special interests. The website is accessible 24 hours a day, updated and added to where needed. The site is permanently accessible in some way to the students after the course is finished.

Collaborative learning
The participant will participate in a collaborative learning experience in an online 'learning community' of professionals. Every week the participant is required to undertake different assignments. These assignments are NOT the so-called 'conventional assignments': 'read some articles, write a paper and send it in before Friday'; but aim to stimulate discussion and cooperation between the participants. In addition to individual and group assignments there will be online discussions and exercises.

Overview
An overview of the course content:

1: Introduction to Conflict Resolution
During the first week we will discuss some of the most used concepts in Conflict Resolution. Different phases of a conflict and the peace building efforts associated with it will be discussed, also the difference between Conflict Management, Resolution and Transformation and conflict structures. The assignments include exercises to search for specific information on Peace and Conflict related websites and discussion between participants.

2: Conflict Prevention
During this week you will be familiarized with the debate on Conflict Prevention, Early Warning and Early Action. Many organizations and governments are interested in the questions of: How can conflicts be prevented? What are the tools available? To what parties and organizations? This week aims to help participants identify conflict prevention opportunities in conflicts.

3: Conflict Mapping (conflict analysis)
The last two weeks the participants will be provided with the knowledge to create a 'conflict map'. Theory and exercises are aimed to gather relevant information in a structured way, on a particular 'target conflict' of your choice. This will help you gain an overview of the particular conflict and the role your organization is playing in it. You are taught where to find and keep track of essential information on your conflict. Theory on 'multi-track diplomacy' will also be discussed in this part of the course.
This week makes strongly utilizes the Internet as an information resource. You will be pointed towards many websites for different types of information.

A demo-site with some information is available online at www.netuni.nl/demos/tcc (regularly updated).

Do you lack Internet skills?
An additional 'do it yourself' free course in Internet Skills is provided for those who are not familiar with the many uses of Internet. It can be taken at any time, but we recommend you to do it before starting the course. It is accessible through the Network University Website (http://www.netuni.nl/learning).

Timeframe:
How much time, 'A-synchrone'-teaching.
The course will take place from the **7th of March to the 2nd of April 2011**. The course is designed for people who want to study and work at the same time. The amount of time needed to complete the assignments and participate will depend on your experience with Internet, level of participation (in discussion groups) and familiarity with the subject. As most

of our participants are working, we strive to make it possible for every participant to complete every week's assignments with 10 hours of reading, debating and studying. The course is taught 'asynchronous': participants do not have to be present at certain hours; work can be spread over the week, even in weekends. We will be present at the 'call centre' approximately 8 hours a day, but submissions of assignments and contributions to discussions can be made 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Also, you can ask your coach questions at any time. The website will be open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week as well. Sometimes we allow participants (by exception) to spread their course participation over the period of two separate courses. In this way, they can still participate, even if they have to leave for work, to a place where they do not have Internet-access, or when unexpected emergencies occur.

Certificate
Participants will be provided with a certificate of completion/attendance from both the European Network University and the Centre for Conflict Resolution, Department of Peace Studies, Bradford University, after the course is finished. Tailor made courses for groups and on specific topics available on request.

Network
For the further development of the program we are currently co-operating with the following institutions: Charles Léopold mayer Foundation [www.fph.ch], The International Relations and Security Network [www.isn.ethz.ch], Switzerland, The Centre for Conflict Resolution Department of Peace Studies, University of Bradford, UK [www.brad.ac.uk/acad/confres], The European Platform on Conflict Prevention [www.conflict-prevention.net], the Netherlands and the Mediterranean Women's Study Centre KEGME,[www.kegme.org.gr/] Greece. New partnerships beyond Europe for new courses are being set up.

Registration and Information
Requests for information can be sent by email to Claske Dijkema at claske@modop.org
Please feel free to forward any of this information to people who might be interested.
Registration is possible through www.netuni.nl/courses/ or the homepage of the Network University www.netuni.nl. Registration implies an intent to participate and transfer the fee. If you are not sure about participation please contact us first.

Course fees

The regular fee for the course is € 300,- *. If you participate in more than one course, a discount is available.A limited amount of reduced fees is available for shoestring-budget NGO's, groups and individuals in special circumstances. In that case a CV and/or short letter of intent should be sent to claske@modop.org. The fees are due no later than two weeks before the start of the courses. Later transfer of fees implies automatic transfer to the next available course.

*Prices in Euro are the real prices; prices in other currency can be provided on request, depending on exchange rate and date of transfer.

Please use the information below to transfer the fee. Early payment guarantees participation. There is only a highly limited amount of partial scholarships available for individuals who cannot pay the full fees. If you would like to apply for one, please send an email with your motivation letter in which you state the following:
- **Your specific interest in the course(s)**

- **The reasons you cannot pay the full fee(s)**
- **The amount you are able to pay**

Please note that TNU **does not** provide full scholarships. The deadline for scholarship applications is: **15 February, 2011** (for TCC).

Bank information:
Bank:
Credit Coopératif, 29, Avenue Félix Viallet, 38016 Grenoble
Account Name:
Modus Operandi, La Reina, Saint Pancrasse, France

International Transfer	*Transfer in France*
IBAN : FR7642559000162102939680202 Swift/Bic Code: CCOPFRPPXXX	RIB: 42559 00016 21029396802 02

Please, specify your name and which course you are taking (GCT, TCC and/or PCP)

WHAT IS NEXT?
As soon as we have received your payment, you will receive an 'Info Package' by email, to help you prepare for the course. It contains the idea and didactics of the TNU courses and a description of the layout of the course(s) you have registered for to help you find your way around.