COURSE SYLLABUS

Diplomacy 4.0 – Beyond the Digital Frontier

e-Learning | 11 April - 22 May 2022

UNITAR

The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) was established in 1963 as an autonomous body within the United Nations with the purpose of enhancing the effectiveness of the work of the UN and its Member States.

UNITAR designs and conducts close to 500 different training and knowledge sharing events per year for some 50,000 beneficiaries worldwide. Activities include diplomats, other government officials, nongovernmental representatives, and other stakeholders.

At the heart of UNITAR, the Division for Multilateral Diplomacy (DMD) delivers training and support workshops to address the needs of these international actors. DMD's activities cover a wide range of policy domains, including training on the UN system and skills development.

PURPOSE

The world is currently undergoing a period with limited opportunities to engage in face-to-face training activities. UNITAR therefore specifically designed the Online Training Programme on Diplomacy 4.0 – Beyond the Digital Frontier

In line with UNITAR's mandate, this programme aspires to enhance participants` knowledge and skills in the areas of international affairs and diplomacy. This will enable them to work more effectively and efficiently in any multilateral environment in the future.

In particular, the Online Training Programme on Diplomacy 4.0 aims to equip participants with knowledge and skills at the intersection of diplomacy and technology and sensitize them for the challenges and opportunities in tomorrow´s diplomatic realm.

OUTLINE

The last decades have seen an unprecedented expansion and absorption of information technology not only in virtually all industries but also - and arguably most importantly - in our everyday lives.

Regardless of this ever-increasing pace of development and role of digital communication, diplomats and Ministries of Foreign Affairs have been rather reluctant to adapt new tools and techniques into diplomatic practice. As a result, the diplomatic practices and procedures have not kept up with the growth of not only contemporary digital communication methods but also with the emergence of social media platforms, thereby creating a knowledge and skills vacuum.

Likewise, the rapidly increasing capability of using Information Technology for offensive purposes forms an uncharted territory for present and future diplomats and international civil servants. Though still in its infancy the impact of the Artificial Intelligence on our world is already being discussed. While current discussions focus mainly on the economic and social aspects of this phenomenon it is also important to initiate debate on the influence AI may have on international relations and multilateralism.

Technology has always been one of the main driving forces behind the development of humankind, shaping of the world that we live in. Never before however were the changes introduced by technological progress so rapid and so wide-spread as today – new technologies are available almost simultaneously across the globe and virtually everyone can access them. The same can be said about the access to information – humankind has never had such a wide and easy access to data.

In such circumstances, diplomats and other international actors can no longer afford to stay behind. The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) has therefore developed an e-Learning Course on Diplomacy 4.0 to enhance participants' understanding of the main fields comprising the concept and thereby providing them with competitive edge and necessary foundations to effectively navigate in the diplomatic realm of tomorrow.

CONTENT

UNITAR is delighted to offer the Online Training Programme on *Diplomacy 4.0 – Beyond the Digital Frontier*. The course is six weeks in length, will run from 11 April – 22 May 2022 and comprises the following two main components:

1) E-Learning Modules

The backbone of the Online Training Programme will be the six e-Learning modules, which will be enabled on UNITAR´s virtual platform each week. Every module contains reading material, a discussion forum and a multiple-choice assessment quiz on the content.

- 11 – 17 April 2022:   Module 1: The Neoteric Diplomat

- 18 – 24 April 2022:   Module 2: Digital and Cyber-diplomacy

- 25 April – 01 May 2022:   Module 3: Cybersecurity

- 02 – 08 May 2022:   Module 4: Artificial Intelligence

- 09 – 15 May 2022:   Module 5: Internet Governance

- 16 – 22 May 2022:   Module 6: Science Diplomacy

2) Live Components

The e-Learning modules will be complemented by one 1.5 hour live-webinar per week with the expert on the module`s content. These live components will be delivered through the software Zoom.

- Mon, April 11, 2022, 4.00 PM: The Neoteric Diplomat

- Thur, April 21, 2022, 4:00 PM: Digital Diplomacy

- Wed, April 27, 2022, 4:00 PM: Cybersecurity

- Thur, May 05, 2022, 4:00 PM: Artificial Intelligence

- Tue, May 10, 2022, 4:00 PM: Internet Governance

- Wed, May 18, 2022, 4:00 PM: Science Diplomacy

(All times are indicated in ***Geneva Local Time***. Zoom links will be published on the platform)

LEARNING GOALS

The Diplomacy 4.0 Online Training Programme aims to provide participants with the knowledge and skills to be able to navigate effectively through the challenging new technological environment. After completion of the course, participants should be able to:

- Distinguish key issues at the intersection between diplomacy and technology
- Explain the relationship between cyberspace and geopolitics and its effects on diplomacy
- Recognize the main use of artificial intelligence in various sectors and industries
- Illustrate critical elements in the creation, functioning and governing of the internet
- Develop skills and techniques in science diplomacy and informed decision-making

WORKLOAD

The overall workload during the six week-long course is between 45 – 50 hours. Distributed across the two main elements of the training programme, the estimated workload is shown below. Please note that this is an estimate serving only as rough guideline to participants.

1) E-Learning Modules → 6 hours per week → 36 hours in total
2) Live Components → 2 hours per week → 12 hours in total

Please see below one suggested schedule to distribute the workload through the week:

	Monday	**Tuesday**	**Wednesday**	**Thursday**	**Friday**
10.30 – 12.00	Studying of Online Material	-	-	-	-
Lunch Break					
13.00 – 14.30	-	Studying of Online Material	Studying of Online Material	-	Discussion Board and Assessment
Coffee Break					
16.00 – 17.30	-	-	Live Component	-	-

METHODOLOGY

The course will be delivered via the e-Learning platform Moodle (please see the course *User's Guide* for instructions on using this platform). This pedagogical tool will help the student meet the course's learning objectives through a self-paced study routine supported by multimedia, optional and required readings, discussion forums, assessment quizzes, and a wealth of other information. Adapted specifically to full-time professionals, students will learn by: absorbing (reading), doing (activities), interacting (socializing), and reflecting (relating to personal experience).

Materials will be posted online on a weekly basis, with previous modules still staying accessible as the course processes. All six modules contain the same structural elements:

- Introduction Video
- Lesson Material
- Discussion Board
- Assessment
- Live Components

COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS

Students are eligible for a course certificate upon successful course completion. Successful completion requires:

- **an 80% passing grade** on EACH of the six assessments quizzes (at least 80% of all questions answered correctly); you may take each assessment up to 3 times and your best attempt counts

- participation in the weekly **Discussion Board Forums**; your posts will be evaluated according to both quantity and quality (e.g., content relevance and contribution to overall discussion).

Before moving to the next module, you should: (a) read all the core module texts, (b) take the module-based assessments, and (c) participate in the weekly Discussion Board forums. You are encouraged to consult the optional external links to enhance your knowledge of the given lesson's topic (e.g., links to websites and additional documents).

All assessments, once made available, will remain accessible until the end of the course and you can be taken anytime during the duration of the course, however assessments should be taken before moving to the next module.

UNITAR's e-Learning Committee will make the final decision on certificates in consultation with the expert. Attending the live components is recommended but not mandatory.

EXPERTS

Prof. Corneliu Bjola
Module 1: Neoteric Diplomat

Corneliu Bjola is Associate Professor in Diplomatic Studies at the *University of Oxford* and Head of the Oxford Digital Diplomacy Research Group. He also serves as a Faculty Fellow at the *Center on Public Diplomacy* at the *University of Southern California* and as a Professorial Lecturer at the *Diplomatic Academy of Vienna*. His research focuses on the impact of digital technology on the conduct of diplomacy with a focus on strategic communication, digital influence, data analytics and methods for countering digital propaganda.

He has authored or edited six books, including the twin volumes on *Countering Online Propaganda and Violent Extremism: The Dark Side of Digital Diplomacy* (2018) and *Digital Diplomacy: Theory and Practice (2015)*. His work has been published in the *European Journal of International Relations*, *Review of International Studies*, *Ethics and International Affairs, International Negotiation*, *Cambridge Review of International Affairs, Global Policy*, *Journal of Global Ethics* and the *Hague Journal of Diplomacy.* @cbjola www.cbjola.com

Mr. Shaun Riordan
Module 2: Digital and Cyber Diplomacy

Mr. Shaun Riordan is a Senior Visiting Fellow of the Netherlands Institute for International Relations "Clingendael", a member of the Social Media Team of The Hague Journal of Diplomacy, and a member of the Public Diplomacy Advisory Board of the Sustainable Development Goals Fund. He served 16 years as a British Diplomat, including postings to New York, Beijing and Madrid, and spells in the Counter-Terrorism and Eastern Adriatic Units of the Foreign Office.

Since leaving the Diplomatic Service, he has worked as a consultant to both governments and companies on geopolitical risk and innovation in diplomacy. He lectures in Diplomatic Academies in Armenia, Spain, the Dominican Republic and Bulgaria.

Kudelski Security
Module 3: Cybersecurity

Kudelski Security is an independent provider of tailored cybersecurity solutions to enterprises and public sector institutions, delivering workable solutions to the toughest security challenges they face.

As part of the Kudelski Group, Kudelski Security embodies the same innovative spirit that has inspired the company since its creation in 1951. Our innovation is purposeful; we strive to create and deliver cybersecurity solutions that answer real problems. We help our clients in their journey to design, deploy, and manage effective cybersecurity through a combination of advisory services, technology deployments, managed security services, and custom research and development.

We build on the concrete expertise of the Kudelski Group and their creation of ground-breaking technology that has shaped the evolution of the digital content ecosystem. Together with the Group, we hold thousands of patents and apply the rich engineering expertise of 3,900+ employees worldwide to the solutions we create and deliver in the cybersecurity marketplace.

Our global reach and comprehensive cyber solutions focus are reinforced by key international partnerships. These include alliances with the world's leading security technology firms as well as with experts in specialized services, so clients have access to all the tools and talent they need in order to plan, deploy, and run effective cybersecurity programs.

Ms. Gosia Loj
Module 4: Artificial Intelligence

Currently an AI Policy Advisor to The Future Society, Gosia helped deliver the Global Governance of AI Round Table (GGAR) at the World Government Summit 2020 in Dubai as part of the executing team on behalf of the Minister of AI, UAE where she chaired a sub-committee on decentralized approaches to AI global governance.

As the AI Global Governance Lead, Gosia established an AI Global Governance Commission in 2018 for the Secretariat of the UK All Party Parliamentary Group on AI to help shape future AI policy and regulations internationally and delivered the vision and strategy for implementation.

Between 2011 and 2017, Gosia worked with several international organisations and the United Nations' agencies, including the WTO, WIPO, NATO, and the European Commission both in Brussels, Belgium and Geneva, Switzerland in the field of international standards, strategies and regulations as well as results-based management. In 2016 she took up a role of a CEO for a greeNet Solutions start-up. She began her career in 2008 working for NGOs in Argentina and Brazil as well as PwC Chile.

She holds a BSc (Hons) in Politics with Economics from the University of Bath, UK, a MSc in International Development from the University of Amsterdam, Netherlands, and an Executive Program Certificate in Innovation and Technology from MIT, USA. Gosia speaks English, Polish and Spanish fluently, and has a working knowledge of Portuguese and French.

Mr. John Walubengo
Module 5: Internet Governance

Mr. Walubengo holds an MSc in Strategic Business IT (University of Portsmouth) and a BSc in Mathematics (Kenyatta University). He holds several industry certifications including the CCNA (Certified Cisco Network Associate) and the CISA (Certified Information Systems Auditor) certification. His area of specialisation is in ICT Governance, Security, Policy & Strategy.

He has over 20 years of experience in the ICT Training and Consulting. His work experience included working for the Strathmore University as the IT Course Director and as the founding Dean, Faculty of Computing at the Multimedia University. He is currently a PhD candidate at the University of Nairobi and continues to provide Consultancy services to Government and other organisations.

Most recently, he was appointed a member of two critical Taskforces looking into emerging technologies and policies. These are the National TaskForce on Blockchain & Artificial Intelligence as well as the Data Protection Taskforce respectively. He also writes a weekly column on topical ICT issues in one of the largest dailies in East and Central Africa.

Prof. Paul Arthur Berkman
Module 6: Science Diplomacy

Professor Paul Arthur Berkman is a science diplomat, applying, training and refining informed decision-making to balance national interests and common interests for the benefit of all on Earth across generations.

He became a Visiting Professor at the University of California Los Angeles at the age of 23, after wintering the previous year in Antarctica on a SCUBA research expedition with Scripps Institution of Oceanography, leading him to all seven continents before the age of thirty.

During the intervening years, Paul received his masters and doctorate as a National Science Foundation graduate fellow at the Graduate School of Oceanography, University of Rhode Island. A decade later, he wrote the textbook on Science into Policy.

As a Fulbright Distinguished Scholar at the University of Cambridge, he chaired the Antarctic Treaty Summit at the Smithsonian Institution in 2009, resulting in the first book on Science Diplomacy.

Applying lessons of science diplomacy, the following year, as Head of the Arctic Ocean Geopolitics Programme at the University of Cambridge, he co-directed the first formal NATO-Russia dialogue regarding Environmental Security in the Arctic Ocean, which became the title of an edited book with over 60,000 downloads. He also co-convened the 1st and 2nd International Dialogue on Science and Technology Advice in Foreign Ministries in Austria (2016) and France (2017).

He currently coordinates the Arctic Options and Pan-Arctic Options projects (involving national science agencies in the United States, Russian Federation, Norway, France, China and Canada from 2013-2020).

Prof. Berkman joined the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy in 2015 as Professor of Practice in Science Diplomacy and is Founding Director of the Science Diplomacy Center at Tufts University, training science diplomacy among university networks as well as national diplomatic academies with common-interest building among nations, as reflected most recently with the Baseline of Russian Arctic Laws (2020).

For his international, interdisciplinary and inclusive (holistic) contributions at global-local levels, Prof. Berkman has received awards in the United States, United Kingdom, Russian Federation, Norway, New Zealand and Japan. Paul is happily married with two daughters.

STUDY PLANNING

Online training, by its very nature, entails the delivery of educational content over the internet. As you will proceed in this course, training materials will be made available to you through UNITAR's e-Learning portal. This course will also provide links to other web resources.

The UNITAR team is available to provide guidance and user information to help you participate and contribute actively to the discussion forums, which are an important requirement for completing this course. You will also have access to course moderators.

The advantages of online training are many. You are able to :

- schedule and pace your learning according to your specific needs
- work from office or home as long as you have a computer with an internet connection
- connect with your fellow participants and instructors through the learning portal

The lack of face-to-face interaction will require more discipline and pro-active planning on your end in order to successfully meet the course's learning objectives. In this regard, it is thus different and distinct from a traditional face-to-face training course.

The course PDF files indicate how long modules last. Note that attending the live components of the course is of course highly recommended, however not mandatory, as it is the participants' responsibility and choice to attend as many as possible.

Although this online course is mostly asynchronous – most of the interaction between participants and the trainers will take place with a time delay – it will be important for them to establish a course routine that best adapts to their personal schedules.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

For any technical issue or coordination matter, you may contact the Multilateral Diplomacy Programme e-Learning Team (MDP e-Learning Team) by sending a message through the UNITAR platform or the Microsoft Teams software.

You may also contact us by email. Email support is available 24/7, and emails will be answered within 24 hours.

DMD e-Learning Team
Email: samim.hamidy@unitar.org
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Phone: +41 22 917 8716
Office location: Geneva, Switzerland   Phone support hours: 9am to 5pm CET