



TRINITY COLLEGE DUBLIN
COLÁISTE NA TRÍONÓIDE, BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH

THE
UNIVERSITY
OF DUBLIN



IRISH SCHOOL OF ECUMENICS
DIALOGUE · PEACE · RECONCILIATION



BEYOND WALLS
LIVING WITH NOW, CREATING OUR FUTURE

CONFLICT TRANSFORMATION

EM7443 Module syllabus



Transforming Relations After Violent Political Conflict

Wilhelm Verwoerd & Alistair Little
Beyond Walls Ltd
Belfast
www.beyondwalls.co.uk

October–November 2012

This outline gives an overview of the course but some of the details may be subject to revision and change.

Introduction

At the heart of conflict transformation lies the challenge of transforming relations after violent political conflict – in particular between people who have been directly involved in and/or affected by the violence, but also including members of wider society. The course will include inputs by former combatants and survivors of the conflict in and about Northern Ireland, some of whom have also become experienced reconciliation practitioners on the islands of Ireland and Great Britain and beyond. We will draw on local case studies and the Journey through Conflict process in particular, to highlight key themes and challenges underlying this key area within conflict transformation. We will explore reflectively some of the practices and skills involved in transforming relationships between former enemies such as the sharing of life experiences ('storytelling'), exploring difference, dialogue, nature-based activities and strategic networking.

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of the module students should be able to:

- Critically analyse key features and challenges of conflict transformation at the interpersonal level;
- Critically analyse the roles of 'storytelling' within conflict transformation;
- Critically analyse the roles of dialogue and strategic networking within conflict transformation.

Key Readings

Lederach, John Paul, *The Moral Imagination: The Art and Soul of Building Peace*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2005.

Bloomfield, David et al, *Reconciliation After Violent Conflict: A Handbook*. Stockholm, Sweden: IDEA, 2003.

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Brewer, John, *Peace Processes: A Sociological Approach*, Cambridge: Polity Press, 2010.

Gawerc, Michelle, "Peace-building: Theoretical and Concrete Perspectives", *Peace & Change*, 31 (4), 2006, pp. 435-478.

Little, Alistair & Verwoerd, Wilhelm, *Journey through Conflict Trail Guide: Introduction*, Beyond Walls Ltd & Glencree Centre for Peace and Reconciliation, 2012.

Sessions

Preparation (ISE, Belfast)

Tues, 13 Nov. Overview of module; preparation for residential at Corrymeela

Key texts: Gawerc, M, "Peace-building: Theoretical and Concrete Perspectives", *Peace & Change*, 31 (4), 2006, pp. 435-478.
Little, A & Verwoerd, W, *Journey through Conflict Trail Guide: Introduction*, pp. 1-170.

Residential (Corrymeela, Ballycastle)

Mon, 19 Nov. Introduction to transforming relations after violent political conflict - humanization of enemies
Experiential learning: Sharing of Personal Histories within Conflict Transformation ("Storytelling") - deepening understanding

Key texts: Halperin, J & Weinstein, H.M., "Rehumanizing the Other: Empathy and Reconciliation", *Human Rights Quarterly*, 26, (3), 2004, pp. 561-583
Senehi, J, "Constructive Storytelling: A Peace Process", *Peace and Conflict Studies*, 9, (2), 2002, pp.41-63.

Tues, 20 Nov. Sharing of Personal Histories ("Storytelling") (continued)
Promise & Pitfalls of Storytelling

Wed, 21 Nov. Storytelling (reflections)
Deep Dialogue - exploring common ground and difference

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Key text: Pruitt, B & Thomas, P, 2007, Democratic Dialogue – A Handbook for Practitioners, IDEA

Thurs, 22 Nov. Deep Dialogue (continued)
Strategic Networking – cultivation of enduring co-operative relations

Key text: Lederach, J.P., The Moral Imagination, “On Space: Life in the Web” (ch 8, pp. 75–86), “On Web Watching: Finding the Soul of Place” (ch 10, pp.101–112)

Fri, 23 Nov. What have we learnt? Critical reflections on the transformation of interpersonal relations after violent political conflict.

Follow-up meeting (ISE, Belfast)

Tues, 4 Dec. Facilitated reflection on residential experiential learning

Oral evaluation (ISE, Belfast)

Mon, 10 Dec.



Assessment Options

1. Essay (3500–4000 words)

Suggested Questions:

Other questions may be added subject to agreement with the programme co-ordinator.

- a) Describe and critically evaluate the role of “storytelling” in conflict situations.

OR

- b) Describe and critically evaluate the role of dialogue & strategic networking in transforming relations after violent political conflict.

2. Critical assessment: Journey through Conflict residential experience

An assessment of your reflections on the Conflict Transformation residential experience, including

- An 10 min oral presentation providing a critical assessment of the Journey through Conflict case study of Interpersonal Conflict Transformation, with 5–10 minutes for a response to questions from the panel of assessors (2 facilitators plus Dr Gladys Daniel) (30%)
- A 2000– 2500 word reflective essay on the Journey through Conflict residential experience and presented material, with a critical assessment of the storytelling, dialogue and networking aspects of this journey as an illustration of key aspects of interpersonal conflict transformation. The essay needs to combine reflective journal writing on the residential experience with analysis of prescribed key texts (70%).

Please note: A provisional mark (out of 30%) will be provided for the oral evaluation. On this basis students could decide to continue with the second part (70%) of Assessment option 2 or to choose the longer essay of Assessment option 1.



Useful Websites

Northern Ireland

www.incore.ulst.ac.uk Conflict data service of INCORE, United Nations University and Ulster University

www.cain.ulst.ac.uk Conflict Archives, University of Ulster

Europe

www.brad.ac.uk/acad/peace/pubs/pubs.htm The publications page of Bradford Peace Studies

department. Contains a number of useful papers in their Peace and Conflict series
www.europa.eu.int/comm/dgs/external_relations/index_en.htm External relations directorate of the

European Commission which administers TACIS programme aimed at sustaining reform and conflict prevention in member countries.

www.consilium.eu.int Office of the High representative for Common Foreign and Security Policy is one of

EU's main instruments for implementing its conflict prevention policies.

Global

www.unesco.org/cpp Unesco's Culture of Peace programme

www.oneworld.net Internet Community of 478 organisations working for human rights and sustainable development

www.forusa.org Fellowship of Reconciliation

www.witnessforpeace.org Challenging injustice and violence in Latin America and Caribbean

www.usip.org United States Institute of Peace

www.iwpr.net Institute of War and Peace Reporting

www.nowar.no/peaceacademy/peacecourses.html Peace Academy listing peace and conflict courses

around the world. Gives access to many university publications pages

www.emu.edu/ctp/pub.html Publications page of Conflict Transformation Programme Eastern Mennonite

University, Virginia – has full text articles.

www.arts.usyd.edu.au/centres/cpacs/publications.htm University of Sydney Centre for Peace and

Conflict Studies publications list

www.crnhq.org Home page of the Conflict Resolution Network of Australia, lots of material (including

videos) about Conflict Resolution in the workplace. Printed material has right to reproduce free.

www.crnhq.org/twelveskills.html The skills summary page of the network.

www.worldpolicy.org Project for Global Democracy

www.wcfia.harvard.edu/rsrchabout.asp The research section of the Weatherhead Center for

International Affairs at Harvard University – working papers

<http://bcsia.ksg.harvard.edu/> Belfer Center for Science and International affairs, John F Kennedy School

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of Government, Harvard University – working papers
www.ksg.harvard.edu/justiceproject Project on Justice in Times of Transition, John F Kennedy School of
Government, Harvard University – project write ups and working papers
www.nd.edu/~krocinst/publications/index.html Joan B Kroc Institute for International
Peace Studies,
University of Notre Dame. – policy briefings and occasional papers

Reading

Storytelling

Chaitin, J. "Narratives and Storytelling in Conflicts and Conflict Resolution", Beyond Intractability, Eds Guy & Heidi Burgess, University of Colorado, Boulder. Posted: July 2003 <http://www.beyondintractability.org/essay/narratives/15>

Ethical Principles for Storytelling and Narrative Work; Storytelling Audit (available at <http://www.healingthroughremembering.org/resources/reports>)

Evaluation of Storytelling as a Peace-building Methodology, IPC Experiential Learning paper, no. 5 (available at: http://www.irishpeacecentres.org/sites/default/files/StorytellingPB_Meth.pdf)

Herman, J., 1997, Trauma and Recovery: The Aftermath of Violence – from domestic abuse to political terror, Basic Books.

Kelly, G. "Storytelling" Audit, Healing through Remembering, 2005

Little, A. & Scott R. Give a Boy a Gun: From Killing to Peace-Making, London, Darton, Longman and Todd, 2009

Senehi, Jessica. "Constructive Storytelling: A Peace Process", Peace and Conflict Studies, 9 (2), 2002, pp. 41–63

Verwoerd, W., 1997, My Winds of Change, Johannesburg: Ravan Press.

Communication & Dialogue

Augsburger, David. Caring Enough to Confront, 1973.

Pruitt, B. & Thomas, P., 2007, Democratic Dialogue – A Handbook for Practitioners, IDEA (http://www.undp.org/cpr/documents/we_do/democratic%20dialogue.pdf)

Rosenberg, Marshall. Non Violent Communication: A Language of Life: Create Your Life, Your Relationships and Your World in Harmony with Your Values. Independent Publishers Group. Sep 2003.

Saunders, Harold H. A Public Peace Process, Sustained Dialogue to Transform Racial and Ethnic Conflicts. New York: St Martin's Press, 1999.

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Conflict Resolution

Bar-Siman-Tov, Yaacov. ed. From Conflict Resolution to Reconciliation. Oxford University Press, USA, 2004

Burton, John. Conflict: Resolution and Provention. London: Mcmillan, 1990.

Curle, Adam. Another way: Positive Response to Contemporary Violence. : Jon Carpenter, 1997.

Farset Community. Conflict Resolution: The Missing Element in the Northern Ireland Peace Process, 1999.

Fisher, Ronald J., Interactive Conflict Resolution. New York: Syracuse University Press 1997.

Fitzduff, Mari. Beyond Violence: Conflict Resolution Processes in Northern Ireland. Tokyo: United Nations University, 1996.

Maill, Hugh, Oliver Ramsbotham, Tom Woodhouse. Eds. Contemporary Conflict Resolution, 1999.

Conflict Skills

Caritas Internationalis. Peacebuilding: a Caritas Training Manual, 2002.

Kraybill, Ron. Alice Frazer Evans and Robert A. Evans Peace Skills: A Manual for Community Mediators. Jossey Bass, 2001

Mennonite Conciliation Service. Mediation and Facilitation Training Manual: Foundations and Skills for Constructive Conflict Transformation. Fourth Edition. Akron, Pennsylvania: Mennonite Conciliation Service, 2000.

Conflict Transformation

Galtung, Johan. Conflict Transformation By Peaceful Means. Geneva: United Nations Development Programme, 2000.

Helmick, Raymond G, S.J. and Rodney L. Peterson. Eds. Forgiveness and Reconciliation: Religion, Public Policy and Conflict Transformation, 2001.

Lederach, John Paul. The Little Book of Conflict Transformation. Intercourse, PA: Good Books, 2003.

Lederach, John Paul. Preparing for Peace, Conflict Transformation Across Cultures. New York: Syracuse University Press, 1995.

Ramsbotham, Oliver et al. Contemporary Conflict Resolution: The prevention, management and transformation of deadly conflicts. Cambridge: Polity Press, 2005.

Ruppasinghe, Kumar. Conflict Transformation. London: Mcmillan, 1994.

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Shrock–Shenk, Carolyn. and Lawrence Ressler, eds. Making Peace with Conflict: Practical Skills for Conflict Transformation. Herald Press, 1999.

General

Abu–Nimer, Mohammed. ed. Reconciliation, Coexistence, and Justice in Interethnic Conflicts: Theory and Practice. Lexington Books, 2001.

Biggar, Nigel. Ed. Burying the Past: Making Peace and Doing Justice After Civil War, 2003.

Brewer, John, Peace Processes: A Sociological Approach, Cambridge: Polity Press, 2010.

Cejka, Mary Ann, Thomas Bamat. Eds. Artisans of Peace: Grassroots Peacemaking Among Christian Communities. New York: Orbis Books, 2003.

Chirot, Daniel, Martin E.P. Seligman. Ethno political Warfare: Causes, Consequences and Possible Solutions, 2001.

Coward, Harold. Religion and Peacebuilding. New York: State University of New York Press, 2004.

Crocker, Chester. Fen Olster Hampson and Pamela Aull, Eds. Turbulent Peace. Washington D.C.: USIP, 2001.

European Centre for Conflict Resolution. People Building Peace; 35 Inspiring Stories from Around the World. Utrecht: ECCP, 1999.

Galtung, Johan. Peace by Peaceful Means: Peace and Conflict, Development and Civilisation. London: Sage Publications, 1996.

Galtung, Johan. Transcend & Transform – An introduction to Conflict Work, London, Pluto Press, 2004.

Gawerc, Michelle, “Peace–building: Theoretical and Concrete Perspectives”, Peace & Change, 31 (4), 2006, pp. 435–478.

Midlarsky, Manus I. Ed. The Internalisation of Communal Strife. New York: Routledge, 1992.

Newman, Edward, Albrecht Schnable. Recovering from Civil Conflict: Reconciliation, Peace and Development, 2002.

Randle, Michael ed. Challenges to Nonviolence. Bradford University Press Sep 2002.

Turpin, Jennifer and Lester Kurtz. The Web of Violence: From Interpersonal to global. Illinois: University of Illinois Press, 1997.

Interpersonal Conflict

Wilmot, William W. and Joyce L Hocker. Interpersonal Conflict. Sixth Edition. New York: McGraw–Hill, 2001.

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Negotiation

Augsburger, David W. Conflict Mediation Across Cultures: Pathways and Patterns, 1992.

Fisher, Roger and Scott Brown. Getting Together, Building Relationships as we Negotiate. New York: Penguin, 1989. Originally published Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1988.

Fisher, Roger and William Ury. Getting to Yes, Negotiating Agreement without Giving In. London: Arrow Books, 1987. Originally published London: Hutchinson, 1982.

Ury, William. Getting Past No, Negotiating with Difficult People. London: Century Business, 1992. Originally published London: Business Books, 1991.

Zartman, William I. Elusive Peace: Negotiating an End to Civil War, 1995.

Mediation

Beer, Jennifer E. and Eileen Stief, The Mediator's Handbook. New Society 1997.

Bush, Robert A. Baruch and Joseph P Folger. The Promise of Mediation, Responding to Conflict through Empowerment and Recognition. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 1994.

Crocker, Chester. Fen Olster Hampson and Pamela Aull, Eds. Herding Cats: Multiparty Mediation in a Complex World.

Kolb, Deborah M. and Associates. When Talk Works: Profiles of Mediators. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass Publishers, 1994.



Notes on Module Facilitators

Alistair Little

Alistair Little is a former loyalist political prisoner, from an Ulster Volunteer Force (UVF) (Protestant) background. He became involved in the conflict in and about Northern Ireland at the age of 14, was imprisoned at the age of 17 and served almost 13 years in prison. Upon his release Alistair qualified as a counsellor and for more than 20 years have been doing peace/reconciliation/conflict transformation work in Northern Ireland, Ireland, the Balkans, the Middle East, and South Africa.

A key focus of his work remains the exploration of the human cost of violent conflict, working with former combatants, survivors and members of wider society. This exploration includes the facilitation of in-depth sharing of personal histories/storytelling between diverse participants, in combination with deep dialogue and nature-based activities—a process entitled as Journey through Conflict.

He has given presentations at numerous international conferences on conflict and reconciliation themes and has participated in many local and international TV programs, most recently “Moving Beyond Hatred” for NHK, Japan. Part of this journey from political violence to becoming a conflict transformation practitioner is the subject of an award-winning BBC film “Five Minutes of Heaven,” starring Liam Neeson and Jimmy Nesbitt, screened internationally since January 2009. Alistair’s autobiography “Give a Boy a Gun: From Killing to Peacebuilding” (London: Darton, Longman & Todd) was published in early 2009.

He is a Director of Beyond Walls Ltd.

Wilhelm Verwoerd

Wilhelm Verwoerd was born in South Africa and from mid 2002 to mid 2008 worked as a Programme Co-ordinator of the Survivors and Former Combatants Programme at the Glenree Centre for Peace and Reconciliation in Ireland. Before moving to Ireland he was a lecturer in the Department of Philosophy, University of Stellenbosch (1990–2001) and was a researcher within the Cape Town office of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) (1996–1998). He has worked extensively with ex-combatants and survivors from all sides of the conflict in and about Northern Ireland, with the main focus of his work the Journey through Conflict process, developed with Alistair Little.

His professional work of cultivating creative and enduring connections between people divided by violent political conflict is deeply rooted in an ongoing personal journey: from being a grandson of the Architect of Apartheid and supporter-beneficiary of that system to eventually joining the African National Congress and working within the TRC. He is the author of *My Winds of Change* published by Ravan Press and co-edited with Charles Villa-Vicencio, *Looking Back, Reaching Forward: Reflections on the South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission* published by Juta Publishing Co./ London: Zed Books. In 2008 his PhD, *Equity, Mercy, Forgiveness: Interpreting Amnesty within the South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission*, was published by Peeters, Leuven. He is a Director of Beyond Walls Ltd.

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