The course will include Introduction to the United Nations (institutional structure, goals and mechanism), such as the Charter of the United Nations, General Assembly, Security Council, Economic and Social Council, Trusteeship Council and Secretariat. It will shed a light on International Peace and Security, peacekeeping, sanctions, authorizing military action, disarmament, Human rights, global war against terrorism…etc. The course will also include classes about the United Nations mechanisms, rules of procedures, making decisions and adopting resolutions at the General Assembly, the Security Council and the six General Committees. The First Committee deals with disarmament, the Second Committee handles the economic issues, the Third Committee tackle human rights, the Fifth Committee undertake financial issues and the Sixth Committee handles legal affairs.

This course about United Nations and Political Leadership will provide students with the skills needed to better comprehend the rapid changes currently taking place in the global arena, politically, economically, socially and culturally. One the best cases to study about United Nations and Political Leadership is Saddam Hussein’s invasion of Kuwait in August 2, 1990 and the crimes committed against the Iraqi and Kuwaiti people which are war crimes, genocide and crimes against humanity such as imprisonment and torture, killing civilians and all Kuwaiti POWs, using chemical weapons…etc. Therefore the Security Council considered Iraq as a threat to peace and security and adopted more than 80 resolutions against Saddam’s regime, 73 of them were under chapter VII of the United Nations Charter. Chapter VII is the only chapter which authorizes the Security Council to impose sanctions and to uses military force.

Some of the resolutions adopted by the Security Council against Saddam’s regime requested and immediate withdrawal of Saddam’s regime forces from Kuwait, other resolutions impose sanctions against all exports and imports, some were about new demarcation of borders between Iraq & Kuwait, some dealt with dismantling weapons of mass destructions…etc. When I became the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations, I had the difficult task of lifting sanctions against Iraq and to take Iraq out of chapter VII. I worked hard from my arrival date of April 2006 to December 2010 when the Security Council adopted a resolution to lift sanctions against Iraq. By the time I finished my tenure in April 2013 all resolutions under chapter VII against Iraq ended except one regarding the compensation for Kuwait’s invasion which will be terminated automatically when Iraq complete the payment of around $53.5 billion to the United Nations Compensation Commission.

After Saddam’s regime refusal to withdraw from Kuwait peacefully, the Security Council authorized United Nations member states to use force to liberate Kuwait. U.S. built a coalition of thirty countries which liberated Kuwait in 1991. When U.S. forces landed in Saudi Arabia to liberate Kuwait, Osama Bin Laden opposed this and considered it as an American invasion of Holy land of Mecca and Madina, the holiest cities for Muslims. Prophet Mohammed (PBUH) was born in Mecca in 570 AD and immigrated to Madina in 623 AD, when people who were worshiping idols objected his message to worship God and started to kill Muslims.
Osama Bin declared war against the United States and al-Qaeda terrorist group started attacks against US targets such as the attack against the World Trade Center in February 1993, the attack against US troops in Somalia in October 1993, the attack against US troops in Riyadh in Saudi Arabia in November 1995, the attack against US troops in Al-Khubar in Saudi Arabia in June 1996, the attacks against US embassies in Kenya & Tanzania in August 1998, and the attack against USS Cole in Yemen in October 2000. Hundreds of Americans and non-Americans were killed and injured in these attacks. Osama Bin Laden had the wrong impression that the US is weak and started to threaten Americans that he will attack inside the United States but nobody believed that he was capable of planning and executing an attack inside the US. Bin Laden planned the second terrorist attacks of 9/11 against the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and the Capitol in which around 3000 people were killed and many more were injured.

After 9/11 attacks the issue of extremism, fundamentalism and terrorism became a major source of concern in the world and a real threat to peace and security. The United Nations adopted many resolutions to counterterrorism and set up counter-terrorism committees. These resolutions authorized imposing sanctions, freezing terrorist assets and using force against terrorism. United State declared a global war against Terrorism and President George W. Bush decided to attack Afghanistan on October 7, 2001 and to remove Taliban’s regime which harbored Bin Laden and al-Qaeda. US forces are still in Afghanistan and the issues of success and failure in Afghanistan are still controversial.

U.S. and UK tried to get a resolution to authorized using force against Saddam’s regime but the Security Council could not reach consensus about such a war. However, President Bush decided to attack Iraq and remove Saddam’s regime on March 20, 2003 unilaterally. The war in Iraq was and still is more controversial than the one in Afghanistan. I will explain how the Security Council adopted resolution to support war against Taliban in Afghanistan and not against Saddam’s regime in Iraq. I was part of an Iraqi opposition delegation which was invited to Washington D.C. in August 2002 to discuss the issue of the war against Saddam’s regime. We met Vice-President Dick Cheney, Secretary of State Colin Powell, Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld and many other officials.

I worked with President Bush special envoy to “Free Iraqis” Zalmay Khalilzad from November 2002 until May 2003 when President Bush appointed Ambassador Paul Bremer as the civil Administrator of Iraq. I also worked with Paul Bremer from May 2003 to June 2004 and with his Deputy Sir John Sawers the British Diplomat who came as the UK Ambassador to the UN from August 2002 until November 2009. Later Sir Sawers became the head of British Intelligence MI6. I worked also with the US military commanders such as General David D. McKiernan, General Ricardo Sanches, General George Casey and General David Petraeus. General Petraeus became later as the Commander of US Central Command, Commander of US forces in Afghanistan and Director of the CIA.

In 2011 the Arab nations started uprisings against the dictatorial regimes in Tunisia, Egypt, Libya and Yemen and they managed to remove leaders who ruled their countries for decades by an iron fist policy. During the Libyan uprising against Qaddafi, the US, UK and France managed to convince the Russian and the Chinese to adopt a Security Council resolution which requested the Security Council’s members to protect the Libyan civilizations by all necessary means. The US, UK and France(P3) interpreted the resolution as an authority to use force against Qaddfi forces but the Russian and the French believed that they were misled and the resolution was misinterpreted by the P3.

Therefore the Russian and Chinese decided to use veto against any resolution against Syria under chapter VII. They used the veto four times to prevent the Security Council from adopting any resolution.
about imposing sanctions against Syria or could be interpreted as an authority to use force against Syria. We will discuss all those resolutions in the class.

In spite of killing al-Qaeda leader Osama Bin Laden almost ten years after 9/11 on May 2, 2011 the whole world and especially the US are still facing the danger of International Terrorism. On June 10, 2014 the so called Islamic State terrorist group also known as ISIL/ISIS managed to take control of Mosul the second largest city in Iraq, then Salah Al-Din and Anbar. They announced their own Islamic State called Caliphates and appointed their leader Abo Bakir Al-Baghdadi as a Caliph which means a political and religious successor of Prophet Mohammed.

The terrorists groups committed heinous crimes and gruesome atrocities such as killing Christians, Yezidis and Shiites, confiscated their money, and selling their women as slaves. They slaughtered American and British hostages who went to Syria to provide humanitarian aid to Syrian refugees, they burnt alive a Jordanian pilot…etc. They managed to do all that with the help and support of the remnant of Saddam’s regime, the officers of Saddam’s army and members of Saddam’s Baath Party in addition to insurgency groups which fought the US occupation to Iraq.

As Iraqi opposition we advised the Americans to set up an Iraqi government immediately after Saddam’s regime fall. They said they will do that as soon as possible. We warned them that if they don’t announce an Iraqi government, Iraq will be under occupation and this will bring military resistance. To our surprise the Security Council adopted resolution 1483 in May 2003 to announce that the occupying forces is the authority in Iraq. What surprised us more is that although France, Russia and China were against US and UK plan to launch a war against Saddam’s regime, they agreed to vote for this resolution. We will discuss that and explain why?

After ISIS took over Mosul, Salah al-Din and Anbar in Iraq, the United Nations adopted a new strategy for counter-terrorism and the Security Council adopted resolutions against ISIS including imposing sanctions against individuals who finance such terrorist groups. President Obama slogan during his election campaign was to end the war in Afghanistan and Iraq and when ISIS occupied large swathes of Syrian and Iraqi territories, he was hesitant to get US forces involved in fighting ISIS, because he wanted to be remembered as the President who ended the wars of President Bush. President Obama announced that the US has no strategy to fight ISIS.

However in August 2014 President Obama ordered US forces to start a campaign of aerial bombardment against ISIS forces in Iraq and build a coalition of around 60 countries. Later in September 2014 President Obama announced his strategy to fight ISIS and announced an aerial bombardment against ISIS forces in Syria when he realized that he will be remembered as the President who lost the wars of President Bush.

On November 13, 2015 shootings and bomb blasts left 130 people dead and hundreds wounded, with more than 100 in a critical condition in Paris. The attacks were described by President Francois Hollande as an "act of war" organized by so called the Islamic State (ISIL/ISIS). "Three co-ordinated teams" were believed to have been behind the attacks, according to Paris chief prosecutor Francois Molins.

On December 2, 2015 terrorist killed 14 people in San Bernardino, Calif. After the deadly terrorist attacks in Paris and the day before Thanksgiving 2015, President Obama reassured Americans there was “no specific and credible intelligence indicating a plot on the homeland.” Seven days later came an explosion of gunfire and the deadliest terrorist attack in America since Sept. 11,
2001. What may be most disturbing is not that Mr. Obama was wrong, but that apparently he was right. By all accounts so far, the government had no concrete intelligence warning of the assault.

On the morning of March 22, 2016, three coordinated nail bombings occurred in Belgium: two at Brussels Airport in Zaventem, and one at Maalbeek metro station in Brussels. In these attacks, 32 victims and three suicide bombers were killed, and over 300 people were injured. Another bomb was found during a search of the airport. Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) claimed responsibility for the attacks. The bombings were the deadliest act of terrorism in Belgium's history. The Belgian government declared three days of national mourning.

The course will examine these terrorist attacks and the mistakes behind the intelligence failure to deter terrorist. It will shed a light on the positions of United State Presidential Elections Candidates and other leaders regarding these crimes and how to stop them.

**Course Requirements**

I expect the students to be punctual and to come prepared to class meetings. That means obviously to do the required readings, and assignments. However, they are also expected to follow the current events in the Middle East, and the current debate taking place in the U.S. in relation to these events. They are expected to read newspapers, and watch TV. I also expect them to actively participate in class activities and class discussions.

I also expect the students to take full responsibility for the research planning, and the submission of their essays on time. I will be available for guidance, instructions and to answer eventual questions concerning the assignments but it is their responsibility to carry it out properly.

**Grading**

15% Attendance  
15% Class participation  
40% Research paper about political leadership due on July 14, 2016  
40% Final Research paper about counter-terrorism due on July 29, 2016

**Recommended Course Reading for the United Nations**


**Recommended Course Reading for Political Leadership**


**Recommended Course Reading for International Terrorism**

**Recommended Course Reading for War in Afghanistan**

**Recommended Course Reading for War in Iraq**
- Donald Rumsfeld, Known and Unknown, a memoir, Sentinel, 2011, ISBN: 9781595230676

**Recommended Course Reading for War in Libya**

- UN envoy opposes foreign intervention in Libya, Tuesday, August 26, 2014, San Francisco Gate, By MAGGIE MICHAEL and ADAM SCHRECK, Associated Press

- Howard LaFranchi, US adds two Libya groups to ‘terrorist’ list, citing roles in Benghazi attacks, Christian Science Monitor, JANUARY 10, 2014

- Patrick Cockburn, Three years after Gaddafi, Libya is imploding into chaos and violence, The Independent, Sunday 16 March 2014
  http://www.independent.co.uk/voices/commentators/three-years-after-gaddafi-libya-is-imploding-into-chaos-and-violence-9194697.html
**Recommended Course Reading for the War in Syria**

**Recommended Course Reading for ISIL/ISIS**
- Michael Weiss, ISIS: inside the army of terror, Regan Arts, 2015, ISBN: 9781941393574

**Course Outline**

**Class One July 5: Introduction to the Course**
- Syllabus, Course Requirements, Course Reading, Grading…etc
- Introduction to United Nations and Political Leadership
- UN Charter, Structure and System

**Class Two July 6: UN, International Peace and Security**
- Security Council and Chapter VII
- General Assembly and the Six General Committees

**Required Reading**
United Nations Charter

United Nations Chart
https://www.google.com/search?q=un+system+chart&espv=2&biw=1440&bih=799&site=webhp&tbm=isch&tbo=u&source=univ&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjkjbmTyK3MAhVINj4KHSdMCQAYQBiw44I

**Class Three July 7: Economic and Social Developments**
- Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)
  - Human Rights
  - Humanitarian Action

**Required Reading**
Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)
The Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Human Rights Council

Deliver Humanitarian Aid

Day Four July 11: UN, US & International Terrorism before 9/11,
- United Nations Action to Counter Terrorism
- US War Against Terrorism

Required Reading
-United Nations Action to Counter Terrorism

-US The Global War on Terrorism: The First 100 Days

Class Six July 12: US mistakes about International Terrorism and about 9/11

Required Reading

Recommended Reading

Mistakes made before 9/11--and after

Class Five July 13: UN, US and War in Afghanistan/ US mistakes about War in Afghanistan

Required Reading

-The Top 10 Mistakes Made in the Afghan War, Foreign Policy, March 2, 2014
http://foreignpolicy.com/2014/02/03/the-top-10-mistakes-made-in-the-afghan-war/

Class Seven July 14: : UN, US and War in Iraq/ US mistakes about War in Iraq

Required Reading

Recommended Reading
-L. Paul Bremer, My Year in Iraq, The Struggle to Build a Future of Hope, Simon and Schuster, New York, 2006 p3- p78

**Class Eight July 18: UN, US and War in Libya/ Benghazi Gate**

**Required Reading**

**Recommended Readings**
- Howard LaFranchi, US adds two Libya groups to 'terrorist' list, citing roles in Benghazi attacks, Christian Science Monitor, JANUARY 10, 2014

**Class Nine July 19: UN, US and War in Syria/ Mistakes**

**Required Reading**
http://www.lrb.co.uk/v36/n08/seymour-m-hersh/the-red-line-and-the-rat-line

**Class Ten July 20: Rise of ISIS/ UN and US Strategy to fight ISIL/ISIS**

**Required Reading**

**Class Eleven July 21: US mistakes about ISIL/ISIS**

**Required Reading**

**Class Twelve July 25: ISIL/ISIS International Terrorist Attacks**

**Required Reading**
- Rukmini Callimachi, *ISIS Claims Responsibility, Calling Paris Attacks ‘First of the Storm’, NYT*, Nov. 14, 2015,


Class Thirteen July 26: Counter-Terrorism Strategies

Required Reading

Week Fourteen July 27: ISIL/ISIS War of ideology

Required Reading
-Milo Comerford, Analyst for Religion & Geopolitics, part of the Tony Blair Faith Foundation, explains the motivations behind the Jihadist group, The Independent, Monday 29 June 2015


Class Fifteen July 28: ISIL/ISIS Fund and Resources

Required Reading
Janine Di Giovanni, Leah Mcgrath Goodman, and Damien Sharkov, Newsweek, November 6, 2014

-Scott Bronstein and Drew Griffin, Self-funded and deep-rooted: How ISIS makes its millions, CNN Investigations, Tue October 7, 2014
http://www.cnn.com/2014/10/06/world/meast/isis-funding/

Class Sixteenth August 1: Visit to the United Nations
A Guided tour to the United Nations

Class Seventeenth August 2: ISIL/ISIS Recruiting Fighters

Required Reading
-ISIS Recruitment: Social Media, Isolation, and Manipulation
http://globalsolutions.org/blog/2015/12/ISIS-Recruitment-Social-Media-Isolation-and-Manipulation#.Vx-wTNQrIdU

-Jamie Yuccas, Minneapolis community struggles with ISIS recruiting tactics, CBS NEWS November 19, 2015

-Laurie Segall, ISIS recruiting tactics: Apple pie and video games, CNN, September 30, 2014
http://money.cnn.com/2014/09/30/technology/isis-recruiting/

Class Eighteenth August 3: ISIL/ISIS Using Media and Internet

Required Reading
-Ray Sanchez, ISIS exploits social media to make inroads in U.S., Fri June 5, 2015

-ISIS is Using Social Media to Reach YOU, Its New Audience, the daily beast, August 31, 2014

-Faisal Irshaid, How Isis is spreading its message online, BBC Monitoring, 19 June 2014

Class Nineteenth August 4: Positions of US Presidential Candidates regarding ISIL/ISIS

Required Reading
-Reena Flores, 2016 Presidential Candidate; How they would fight ISIS, CBS NEWS November 18, 2015.

-Linda Qiu, Comparing the GOP candidates' ISIS strategies with Obama's, Politifact, Saturday, December 26th, 2015

-Philip Elliott, How Republican Candidates Want to Fight ISIS, Time, Nov. 14, 2015
http://time.com/4113042/paris-attacks-islamic-state-republican-positions/