TRANSITIONS FROM WAR TO PEACE
Advanced Undergraduate/Graduate Course
MANS 495/CRN 74849 or PSCI 491/CRN 74796

Along with the Political Science Department, the Mansfield Center will again offer “Transitions from War to Peace” during the Fall Semester, taught by Dr. Kimberly Maynard, Mansfield Fellow in International Affairs. The course carries three credits.

Important: Registration requires the consent of the instructor. Students may drop off consent of instructor forms at the Mansfield Center to be signed.

Transitions from War to Peace looks through the eyes of practitioners, academics, and policy makers at the conditions and causes of violent conflicts, various forms of international intervention to mitigate and improve them, and the subsequent effectiveness of these efforts. This intensive introductory course is designed to provide graduate and advanced undergraduate students with a practical overview of modern civil wars and their evolution to peace, focusing primarily on the role of international actors and their influence in these environments. It explores theories in why people fight, how to support conflict recovery, what works and what doesn’t, establishing aid priorities, conflict analysis, and community-level programming for war-affected countries such as Afghanistan, Somalia, and Burma. Topics include: What happens at the local level when the fighting stops? What are the roles of the Department of Defense, the State Department, and U.S. Agency for International Development in stabilization and reconstruction? How do international militaries, international NGOs, and UN agencies coordinate? Students will acquire both analytical and practical skills that will help them pursue careers in the fields of humanitarian assistance, development, human rights, foreign policy, research in international affairs, military operations, peacebuilding, and conflict resolution.

The course is rooted in the instructor’s own professional experience rebuilding war-torn societies as a practitioner, policy maker, and academic. Dr. Maynard has 25 years of experience working in conflict-ridden areas of Africa, the Balkans, Central America, Central Asia, the Middle East, and East Asia with the World Bank, the U.S. Agency for International Development, U.N. agencies, the Red Cross, and numerous international non-governmental organizations. She currently works with the U.S. Agency for International Development’s Office of Transition Initiatives and as an independent consultant. She holds a Ph.D. in international affairs, researched and authored many publications, and taught graduate courses at Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies and American University School of International Service.