A NOTE FOR FALL 2021
This course will run as a full-credit course over 6 weeks rather than 12 weeks, meeting twice a week for 3.25 hours rather than the typical once a week. This adds flexibility to take the course for students who have openings in their calendar during the first half of the fall term (the A term). However, this also means that in order to get learning value out of the experience, the course will demand considerable attention and effort during this time—and timely attendance is essential. Students are encouraged to weigh their commitments carefully and enroll in the course only if they can fully commit to it during this period. Other 12-week sections of the course will be available during the Fall and Spring terms.

COURSE OVERVIEW
For most of us, our days are filled with negotiation and conflict. They range from low stakes disputes about meeting schedules to high stakes clashes about strategic direction, and from casual debates to formal boardroom contractual agreements. Effective negotiators get the most out of disputes, not just in terms of the instrumental value they carry away, but also in terms of the relationships and reputations they leave behind. Virtually everyone could stand to improve their negotiation skills and, fortunately, virtually everyone can develop in this area.

This course aims to help students improve their skills in two fundamental ways. One is knowledge-oriented: students learn frameworks and concepts for analyzing conflict. Students acquire terms and models for identifying the type of conflict that exists in a situation and the potential costs and benefits of different strategies and tactics. Based on this, students should be able to interpret situations, plan tactics, and recognize and react to their counterpart’s behavior. A second and complementary route to improving as a negotiator is practice-oriented: students complement their analytical tools with behavioral skills. Negotiation and conflict ultimately come down to behaviors—how a manager opens a potentially volatile conversation, how a mediator uncovers information, how a negotiator frames an offer or a concession. Practicing these behaviors, and understanding how other parties perceive and react to them, is essential to improving as a negotiator. The course provides continuing opportunities for hands-on practice and also provides feedback, discussion, and occasions for reflection.

Through role-play exercises, lecture, reading, and discussion, the course begins with basic dynamics in negotiation and adds complexity in stages, including multiple issues, multiple parties, mediation, agents, and coalitions. Some exercises involve numerical analyses, others revolve around qualitative conflicts. By the end of the course, students should be able to comfortably and confidently approach most any conflict or negotiation: analyzing its nature, understanding their own objectives, and plotting an approach that will give them the best shot at achieving their goals.
CONNECTION TO THE CORE

This course is related to a wide range of topics that are important for developing professionals. In Columbia Business School’s core course sequence, it is perhaps most directly linked to the core leadership course, *Lead: People, Teams, Organizations*, where students will have received an overview of the topic and enacted a roleplay negotiation. This course dives deeper, focusing in steps on different negotiation dynamics and ultimately addressing even more complex issues. Managerial Negotiations also deals with behavior in competitive contexts and markets, touching on topics dealt with in the *Strategy Formulation* and *Managerial Economics* core courses, and with behavior related to persuasive communication and selling, touching on topics dealt with in the Marketing core course.

This course is also connected to the core by embracing the norms of the *Columbia Core Culture*. Students are expected to be:

- **Present**: Be on time and present for every session (attendance will tracked)
- **Prepared**: Complete pre-work as needed and be prepared for cold calling
- **Participating**: Constructive participation is expected and part of grade (no electronic devices unless explicitly called for by the instructor)

COURSE FORMAT

This is a highly interactive course. It is premised on a basic assumption that understanding and appreciation of negotiations are best achieved via hands-on experiences in combination with lecture, discussion, reading, and reflection on the underlying concepts of negotiation. There will be one or more role-play exercises in nearly every class period. These exercises have been selected to help illustrate points in readings and lectures and to motivate further reflection and reading. These exercises will put you in new, and potentially uncomfortable, situations, but within the relatively safe environment of the classroom. In these exercises, you are urged to try out new and creative behaviors and tactics that have suggested themselves to you from your own reading and reflection.

ATTENDANCE

Because this course is so experiential, attendance is essential to getting learning value from the course. Further, because most class sessions involve pairs or groups of students working together, absences have the potential to undermine classmates’ experience. Thus, **timely attendance is required for all class sessions**. Those missing a single session (except for extraordinary circumstances, such as a medical or family emergency) will not be eligible for the highest grade in the course (an ‘H’). Those missing multiple sessions may not earn a passing grade. Unexcused late arrivals without advance notification will also factor into grading. Students should provide advance notice regarding any absences or late arrivals through the online attendance report (see link on the top of the course’s Canvas homepage or go to tinyurl.com/B8510attendFall21). Any absences not reported through this website will receive a severe grade penalty.
READINGS
Readings will be drawn from several books. Students should purchase the three books noted below and read them as noted in the syllabus to get further insight into the topics the course covers:


Some additional readings will be provided on the course website.

ASSIGNMENTS AND COURSE REQUIREMENTS
Four components make up student grades: 1) required participation, 2) menu assignments, 3) a real-world negotiation analysis, and 4) a final paper. The second-to-last page of this syllabus provides a summary table of assignments.

» **Required participation**: 40% of grade

Participation includes several components:

- On-time attendance at all class sessions (see notes above on Attendance)
- Active, substantive involvement in simulations (see Roleplay Ground Rules below)
- Engagement, discussion, and comments in class (quality is more important than quantity)
- Timely completion of the online assessments (one of which is due in advance of Session 1, the other of which is due in advance of Session 2)
- Timely completion of the email negotiation (conducted with a fellow student outside of class; due by Session 4), the email negotiation analysis (due by Session 6), comments on classmate negotiation video (due by Session 7), advance case preparation for Sessions 5 and 11, and the final course assessment (due by Session 12)
- Constructive engagement with your Peer Team, with selected meetings throughout the course; members will evaluate one another’s efforts to create a constructive learning environment

» **Menu assignments**: 20% of grade

To give students some flexibility in managing their workloads and tailoring their learning experience to their interests, seven short assignments are offered as a menu of options. To pass the course, students must earn full credit for at least two of these. To earn an HP, students must get full credit for at least three. To earn an H, students must get full credit on at least five. In some cases, due to the forced grading curve, the cut-off for an H may be higher. These assignments will be described in greater detail as the course goes along.

- Self video analysis
- Reading reflection
- Guest speaker reflection
- Peer team reflection
- Create-your-own menu assignment
- Negotiation coaching exercise
- Dream situations analysis
Real-world negotiation analysis: 25%

This analysis can be either an individual or two-person project reviewing some kind of real-world negotiation or conflict. The topic could be a transaction or deal, but could also be a qualitative dispute or conflict. One approach would be a “real time” analysis of an event that happens during the course itself, such as negotiating with an employer, bargaining with a contractor, or a personal dispute. The paper could cover planning for the conflict in advance (including assumptions or expectations), a description of the conflict itself as it unfolded, and a reflection and analysis of the conflict (e.g., Were any assumptions wrong? What were the economic and relational consequences of the conflict? How might the conflict have gone differently?). Another approach would be a thoughtful analysis of a past conflict or deal, including discussion of the background and context, the dynamics of the conflict or deal itself, and the consequences of the exchange. An effective analysis would also likely feature some observations about what went well/poorly and how things might have gone differently.

Creative approaches are encouraged. The overarching objective is to think carefully about a real-world conflict or negotiation and apply some of the concepts and tools featured in the course. While the details of any given case are important to note and consider, another goal is to coax some larger and more enduring lessons (e.g., good practices) that may be applied elsewhere.

A paragraph or two describing your planned real-world negotiation analysis is due in Session 8. Individual papers typically range from 5 to 8 double-spaced pages. The expectations in terms of depth and coverage are expanded with two people on the project (although a two-person paper is not necessarily expected to be twice the length of an individual paper). The choice to work independently or in pairs is up to students. The paper is due in Session 12.

Final paper: 15%

The form this paper takes is flexible, but several models have proven to be meaningful and substantive for students. One is a self-assessment paper in which you analyze yourself, including your style and its strengths and weaknesses, based on your experience in the course, the feedback you received, as well as other experiences. This analysis could culminate in an action plan for developing as a negotiator. Another effective model is to construct a summary personal “theory of negotiation” that reflects what you believe are the fundamental dynamics and best practices of negotiation as they relate to you. This should not be a simple recapitulation of recommendations offered in the class or readings but rather some personalized version of your own negotiation manual that reflects a meaningful amount of reflection, synthesis, and application. A third possible model is to write a negotiation case or exercise, producing materials that could possibly be used in negotiations teaching or training; if you are considering this model, you’re encouraged to discuss your ideas with me early on. Final papers are typically 7 to 10 double-spaced pages long (length could vary for a negotiation exercise) and are due Tuesday, October 19, 6 pm, a few days after our final class session. This paper is optional. A student could still earn an HP by performing very strongly in all other parts of the course without submitting a final paper. Students cannot earn an H without submitting a strong final paper. However, submitting a final paper is not a guarantee of an H; strong performance in all parts of the course is required for an H.
ROLEPLAY GROUND RULES
Having a constructive learning environment is essential to this course’s effectiveness. Everyone plays a part in this. Here are some ground rules for our roleplay exercises:

1. You are expected to be on time for class meetings and, when applicable, to arrive prepared for in-class negotiation exercises.

2. You should not show your confidential role instructions to other parties during a negotiation, nor should you directly read them aloud. At your discretion, you can choose to speak about your interests to the other side. Once the negotiation is complete, you should still keep your instructions private, unless instructed otherwise. We will debrief most of our cases collectively in class.

3. Feel free to “ad lib” in these exercises to provide rationales and explanations for your character’s preferences—say things you think the character would say. That said, you should adopt the given payoff tables as reflecting your preferences. You should not make up facts that materially change the power distribution of the exercise.

4. The exercises are an opportunity to experiment. Unusual tactics (or at least ones that are different for you) add variety and can benefit the group discussion. However, steer clear of anything that verges on physical intimidation, sexual harassment, or personal abuse.

EXERCISES, RECORDS, AND RESEARCH
Because I want to encourage experimentation, I do not grade based on your negotiation outcomes. Yet I do carefully record the outcomes and, for some exercises, your answers to questions in the exercise materials. Sometimes I will show the overall patterns in this data to demonstrate points about negotiation principles. The data are also used in a continual process of refining exercises and developing new ones. Just as prior students have contributed to your learning experience by contributing this data, you will be contributing to future classes by answering questions about your outcome and tactics in the course of the exercises. Identifying information is removed from the datasets after the term ends, so the records become anonymous at this point. At times in the past, faculty have drawn on these “anonymized” datasets reflecting years of classes for statistical analyses related to research hypotheses concerning negotiation dynamics. If you prefer that any records from your participation in class be deleted from datasets if they are used for any research purpose, please tell the instructor or teaching assistant and your record will be deleted after the class is complete.
PART 1: TWO-PERSON NEGOTIATIONS

SESSION 1 (Sept 7): Introduction

Follow-up readings
(read after session)

Essentials of Negotiation Ch 1 “The nature of negotiation”
Getting to Yes Ch 6

Assignments given
Discussion of all course assignments, including papers, menu
assignments, and required participation activities

Negotiation assessment survey (required; due Sept 9, 1 p.m.)

Assignments due
Initial online assessment (required; takes ~ 10 minutes,
due Sept 6, 6 p.m. – complete BEFORE Session 1)

SESSION 2 (Sept 9): Distributive bargaining

Follow-up readings
(read after session)

Essentials of Negotiation Ch 2 “Strategy/tactics of distrib. Bargaining”
Getting to Yes Ch 8

Assignments given
Video analysis comments to classmate (required; due by Session 7)

Assignments due
Negotiation assessment survey (required; due Sept 9, 1 p.m.)

SESSION 3 (Sept 14): Positional bargaining

Follow-up readings
(read after session)

Getting to Yes Ch 1-3; “Constructive conflict” (Follett)

Assignments given
Email negotiation (required; negotiation and post-negotiation survey
completed by Session 4)

Assignments due

SESSION 4 (Sept 16): Multi-issue bargaining, Part 1

Follow-up readings
(read after session)

Essentials of Negotiation Ch 3 “Strategy/tactics of integrat. Negotiation”;
Getting to Yes Ch 4-5; “Know your objectives” (Benoliel & Cashdan)

Assignments given
Prepare for Session 5 case (required; due by Session 5)
Email negotiation analysis (required; due by Session 6)

Assignments due
Email negotiation (required; negotiation and post-negotiation survey
completed by Session 4)
SESSION 5 (Sept 21): Multi-issue bargaining, Part 2

Follow-up readings (read after session)

*Essentials of Negotiation* Ch 4 “Negotiation: Strategy and planning”
“Scoring a Deal” (Ames, Larrick, & Morris)

Assignments due

Prepare for Session 5 case (required; due by Session 5)

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PART 2: BARGAINING CONTEXTS AND OTHER DYNAMICS

SESSION 6 (Sept 23): Yourself and Others at the Table

Follow-up readings (read after session)

*Essentials of Negotiation* Ch 11 “International/cross-cultural negotiation”
“Your bargaining style” (Shell Ch 1)
“Why you need to ask” (Babcock & Laschever)

Assignments given

Review and discussion of upcoming assignments, including menu assignments and papers

Assignments due

Email negotiation analysis (required; due by Session 6)

SESSION 7 (Sept 28): Negotiation Channels, Trust and Treatment

Follow-up readings (read after session)

Recommended book on trust: Axelrod’s *The Evolution of Cooperation*

Assignments due

Video analysis comments to classmate (required; due by Session 7)

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PART 3: BEYOND DYADS

SESSION 8 (Sept 30): Conflict and Mediation

Follow-up readings (read after session)

*Difficult Conversations* Ch 1-12
“Managing Conflict” (Watkins Ch 7)

Assignments due

Draft plan for real-world negotiation analysis (required; due Session 8)
SESSION 9 (Oct 5): Agents and third parties

*Follow-up readings* (read after session) *Essentials of Negotiation* Ch 5 “Ethics in negotiation” “Confronting lies and deception” (Malhotra & Bazerman, Ch 9)

SESSION 10 (Oct 7): Coalitions

*Follow-up readings* (read after session) “Multiple parties, coalitions, and teams” (Thompson Ch 9); “Get all the parties right” (Lax & Sebenius); “Map the players, change the game” (Ames)

*Assignments given* Prepare for Session 11 case

*Assignments due* Self video analysis (menu assignment; due by Session 10) Reading reflection (menu assignment; due by Session 10)

SESSION 11 (Oct 12): Team negotiation

*Follow-up readings* (read after session) *Essentials of Negotiation* Ch 12 “Best practices in negotiations” *Getting to Yes* “In conclusion”; “A primer on personal development” (Ames, Mason, & Carney)

*Assignments due* Prepare for Session 11 case Guest speaker reflection (menu assignment; due by Session 11) Peer team reflection (menu assignment; due by Session 11) Create-your-own menu assignment (due by Session 11)

SESSION 12 (Oct 14) Conclusion

*Assignments due* Final survey (required; due by Session 12) Negotiation coaching exercise (menu assignment; due by Session 12) Dream/worst case situations analysis (menu assignment; due by Session 12) Real-world negotiation analysis (required; due by Session 12) Final paper (due Tuesday, October 19, 5 p.m., after Session 12)
## SUMMARY OF ASSIGNMENTS

More details on assignments will be offered during course meetings. A summary is offered below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Format</th>
<th>Grading</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial online assessment</td>
<td>Complete online survey (Canvas site: see “Pages” on left panel)</td>
<td>Required for everyone</td>
<td>September 6, 6 p.m. – BEFORE Session 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negotiation assessment</td>
<td>Complete online survey (Canvas site: see “Pages” on left panel)</td>
<td>Required for everyone</td>
<td>September 9, 1 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email negotiation</td>
<td>Complete email negotiation with counterpart and complete post-negotiation survey</td>
<td>Required for everyone</td>
<td>Session 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepare Session 5 case</td>
<td>Upload spreadsheet to course website (Canvas)</td>
<td>Required for everyone</td>
<td>Session 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email negotiation analysis</td>
<td>Upload analysis of negotiation to course website (Canvas)</td>
<td>Required for everyone</td>
<td>Session 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Video analysis comments to classmate</td>
<td>Email directly to classmate AND upload to course website (Canvas)</td>
<td>Required for everyone</td>
<td>Session 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Draft plan for real-world analysis</td>
<td>Upload to course website (Canvas)</td>
<td>Required for everyone</td>
<td>Session 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self video analysis</td>
<td>Upload to course website (Canvas)</td>
<td>Menu assignment</td>
<td>Session 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading reflection</td>
<td>Upload to course website (Canvas)</td>
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<td>Guest speaker reflection</td>
<td>Upload to course website (Canvas)</td>
<td>Menu assignment</td>
<td>Session 11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Peer team reflection</td>
<td>Upload to course website (Canvas)</td>
<td>Menu assignment</td>
<td>Session 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepare Session 11 case</td>
<td>Coordinate with teammate to prepare for the Session 11 case; upload model or other material to Canvas</td>
<td>Required for everyone</td>
<td>Session 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final assessment</td>
<td>Complete online survey (Canvas site: see “Pages” on left panel)</td>
<td>Required for everyone</td>
<td>Wednesday, October 13, 9 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Negotiation coaching exercise</td>
<td>Upload to course website (Canvas)</td>
<td>Menu assignment</td>
<td>Session 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dream situations analysis</td>
<td>Upload to course website (Canvas)</td>
<td>Menu assignment</td>
<td>Session 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real-world negotiation analysis</td>
<td>Upload to course website (Canvas)</td>
<td>Required for everyone</td>
<td>Session 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Create-your-own menu assignment</td>
<td>Upload to course website (Canvas)</td>
<td>Menu assignment</td>
<td>Friday, October 15, 6 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final paper</td>
<td>Upload to course website (Canvas)</td>
<td>Discussed in class</td>
<td>Tuesday, October 19, 6 p.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## ADDITIONAL READINGS

These readings will be made available on the course website (Canvas).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author(s)</th>
<th>Reading</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Benoliel, Michael and Cashdan, Linda</td>
<td>“Know your objectives” (Ch II from <em>The Upper Hand</em>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ames, Daniel, Larrick, Richard, &amp; Morris, Michael</td>
<td>“Scoring a deal: Valuing outcomes in multi-issue negotiations” (<em>Columbia CaseWorks</em> article)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Follett, Mary Parker</td>
<td>“Constructive conflict”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shell, G. Richard</td>
<td>“The first foundation: Your bargaining style” (Ch 1 from <em>Bargaining for Advantage</em>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Babcock, Linda and Laschever, Sara</td>
<td>“Why you need to ask” (Ch I from <em>Ask for It</em>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watkins, Michael</td>
<td>“Managing conflict” (Ch 7 from <em>Breakthrough Business Negotiation</em>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malhotra, Deepak and Bazerman, Max</td>
<td>“Confronting lies and deception” (Ch 9 in <em>Negotiation Genius</em>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thompson, Leigh</td>
<td>“Multiple parties, coalitions, and teams” (Ch 9 in <em>The Mind and Heart of the Negotiator</em>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lax, David and Sebenius, James</td>
<td>“Get all the parties right” (Ch 4 from <em>3D Negotiation</em>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ames, Daniel</td>
<td>“Map the players, change the game: Evaluating who is—and should be—involves in deals and decisions” (<em>Columbia CaseWorks</em> article)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ames, Daniel, Mason, Malia and Carney, Dana</td>
<td>“A primer on personal development” (<em>Columbia CaseWorks</em> article)</td>
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</table>