



MA-DLB

Name of Course: Para-Diplomacy and Foreign Policy

Number of Credits: 4

Course Code: MA DLB 0564

Semester: Fall 2025

Type of Course: Residential

Cross Elective

Course Information

Course Duration: 15 weeks

Credit Hours: 4

Meetings: 15

Location: TBD

Instructor Information

Instructor: Tridivesh Singh Maini

Biography:

Tridivesh Singh Maini is an Assistant Professor with The Jindal School of International Affairs, OP Jindal Global University, Sonapat, Haryana. He is a former South Asian Visiting Fellow (Winter 2016) with the Stimson Center, Washington. He was also an Asia Society India-Pakistan Regional Young Leaders Initiative (IPRYLI) Fellow (2013-2014), and a Public Policy Scholar with The Hindu Centre for Politics and Public Policy, Chennai (November 2013-March 2014). Tridivesh Singh Maini's research interests include South Asia's geopolitical landscape – and China's role in the region, para-diplomacy in India (especially the economic dimension) the changing role of middle powers in the current global order.

Mr. Maini is a regular contributor for a number of publications including; *Daily News Analysis* (DNA), *Modern Diplomacy*, *The Geopolitics* and *The Rise*. He authored 'South Asian Cooperation and the Role of the Punjabs' and is also one of the editors of 'Warriors after War: Indian and Pakistani Retired Military Leaders Reflect on Relations between the Two countries, Past Present and Future', published by Peter Lang (2011).

Personal Details

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1. Course Description

This course will focus on the increasing link between India's domestic Politics, and India's external relations. It will examine the phenomena of Para-Diplomacy, role of state governments in foreign policy (this phenomena is also referred to as Constituent Diplomacy). It will seek to understand the domestic drivers -- specifically the economic policies over the past two decades, the increasing

importance of regional leaders the rise of coalition politics -- for state governments becoming important players in India's outreach vis-vis the rest of the world. During the course the participation of sub-national units in Foreign Policy shall also be examined in the context of important events such as FTA's signed between India and other countries. Specific case studies in India of pro-active leaders as well as states. While the first part of the course is focused on Para-diplomacy in India, we shall also examine para-diplomacy in other countries.

2. Course Intended Learning Outcomes (Aim)

Course Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning	Assessments
<p>(1) After 15 weeks, students will have a reasonable understanding of state intervention in foreign policy, not just in the context of India, but globally as well.</p> <p>(2) Students would have become fairly well acquainted with concepts like 'Para-Diplomacy and Constituent Diplomacy' which are important for an understanding of this phenomena.</p>	<p>(1) Apart from the in class lectures, you tube videos shall be used.</p> <p>(2) Students shall be taken to Delhi for a visit to a think tank/research institute.</p> <p>(3) An external speaker (a practitioner) shall be invited students will</p>	<p>Essay -- Mid Term)</p> <p>Presentation</p> <p>End term examination (in class)</p>

	be made to attend events related to the course	
JSIA lays a lot of emphasis on inter disciplinary approach, and an international outlook. This course by examining key political and economic policies will have an interdisciplinary thrust. On the other hand, comparisons with sub-national intervention in foreign policy in other countries, will help in giving it the international focus which is required.		
In the current global landscape, the aspect of state participation in foreign policy is important given the increasing debates with regard to the impact of the pandemic and important economic		

developments on federalism globally.		
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3) Scheme of Evaluation and Grading Evaluation breakup

Internal Component

Class Participation – 10 Percent.

Active Class Participation and regular attendance is essential, not just in the context of internal assessment, but also for performing well in the final exam.

Mid Term (Week 8) – 30 Percent. There will be an in-class examination.

Presentations – 30 Percent. Students are expected to make a presentation in Week 14.

External breakup Final Examination (in class) – 30%

The final exam will be a 3 hour in-class examination. Students will need to answer one question in 1000-1500 words. Students should be able to cite from books, journal articles and materials beyond the prescribed readings. Apart from this, a familiarity and strong understanding of important primary sources will be useful.

Course Materials

Primary Texts:

Criekemans, D (2010), 'Regional Sub-State Diplomacy today', (Martinus Nijhoff Publishers)

Hocking, B (1993), 'Localizing Foreign Policy: Non Central Governments and Multilayered Diplomacy'

Slowikowski et al (2018) 'Paradiplomacy in Asia: Case Studies of China, India and Russia',

Secondary Texts:

Antholis, W (2014) , ‘Inside out, India and China: Local Politics Go Global’,
Contemporary Asian Studies series (Lodz University Press)

Mattoo, A and Jacob, H (2010), ‘Shaping India’s Foreign Policy: People, Politics
and Places’, (New Delhi: Har Anand Publications)

Shankar, K, “Regional satraps and the battle for India foreign policy” (Vij Books)

Journals / Business Magazines:

Economic and Political Weekly,

Strategic Analysis (IDSA)

Grading:**Grade Definition**

Grade	Grade Points	Marks	Grade Definition
O	8.0	80% and above	Outstanding Sound knowledge of the subject matter, excellent organizational capacity, ability to synthesize ideas, rules and principles, critically analyze existing materials and originality in thinking and presentation.
A+	7.5	75%-79%	Excellent Sound knowledge of the

			subject matter, thorough understanding of issues; ability to synthesize ideas, rules and principles and critical and analytical ability.
A	7	70-74	Very Good Good understanding of the subject matter, ability to identify issues and provide balanced solutions to problems and good critical and analytical skills
A-	6	65-69	Good Good understanding of the subject matter, ability to identify issues but needs additional guidance to improve writing style or structure of arguments presented.
B+	5	60-64	Adequate

			Adequate knowledge of the subject matter to go to the next level of study and reasonable critical and analytical skills
B	4	55-59	Marginal Limited knowledge of the subject matter and irrelevant use of materials and, poor critical and analytical skills
B-	3	50-54	
P1	2	45-49	Failure Poor comprehension of the subject matter; poor critical and analytical skills and marginal use of the relevant materials. Will require repeating the course
P2	1	40-44	
F		Less than 40	

Academic Integrity

All students should go through the University Handbook regarding the University policies pertaining to plagiarism. If any student resorts to plagiarism in an essay/assignment he or she shall receive an F. Use of mobiles is strictly prohibited in class rooms, while use of lap tops is only permissible for taking notes, and academic purposes.

Session Plan

Session	General Topic	Readings	Approach/Pedagogy
1	Introduction to Paradiplomacy	<p>Requejo et al 2010, 'Foreign Policy of Constituent Units at the Beginning of the 21st Century', © Generalitat de Catalunya. Institut d'Estudis Autonòmics</p> <p>Cornago, N, 'On the Normalization of Sub-State Diplomacy', p.11-37 in Crikeman, D (2010)</p>	We shall discuss some of the key concepts which have been used to understand the participation of state governments, provinces in Foreign Policy globally.
2, 3 and 4	India related	<p>Bora, A, "Paradiplomacy in India: Expanding State's Influence in International Relations", <i>Indian Journal of Social Studies and Humanities</i>, Vo. 1 (18)/ April–June 2024, pp. 60–68</p> <p>Jenkins, R, 'India's States and the Making of Indian Foreign Policy: The Limits of the Constituent Diplomacy Paradigm', <i>Publius</i>, The Journal of Federalism, Volume 33, No.4, Fall 2003. P.63-83</p>	We shall examine the impact of economic liberalization and its impact on the participation of state governments in Indian foreign policy

		Rudolph, L and Rudolph, S, 'The Iconization of Chandrababu: Sharing Sovereignty in India's Federal Market Economy' <i>Economic and Political Weekly</i> , May 5, 2001. Pp. 1541-1551	
Week 3	Regional Satraps	<p>Blarel, N and Willigen, N 'How do regional parties influence foreign policy? Insights from multilevel coalitional bargaining in India', <i>European Journal of International Relations</i>, Volume: 27 issue: 2, page(s): 478-500</p> <p>Wyatt, A, 2017, 'Paradiplomacy of India's chief ministers'. <i>India Review</i>, vol 16., pp. 106-124</p>	In Week 3, we shall look at the role of regional satraps in foreign policy and examine how coalition politics has enhanced their role. We shall also examine the role of state governments as stakeholders in India's FTA's.

Week 4	Diaspora and Para-diplomacy	<p>Agarwala, R, “Tapping the Indian Diaspora for Development”, February 28, 2012 Challagalla,</p> <p>Joseph, B and Sabu, C, “New York dreams: Kerala’s sub-national diplomacy” <i>The Diplomat</i>, June 27, 2023</p> <p>S , Suryanarayan, V, “Outreach to diaspora and statesmanship”, <i>The Hindu</i>, June 26, 2023</p>	In week 4 we shall discuss recent instances where there have been differences between centre and states
Week 5	US States and Foreign Policy	<p>Ayres, A, ‘Creating a State Department Office for American State and Local Diplomacy’, Policy Innovation Memorandum, Council for Foreign Relations, June 7, 2017.</p> <p>Fenton, H 3, ‘The Fallacy of Federalism in Foreign Affairs: State and Local Foreign Policy Trade Restrictions’,</p> <p><i>Northwestern Journal of International Business</i>, Volume 13, Issue 3 Spring 1993.</p>	In Week 5 the role of US states in foreign policy shall be examined
Week 6	Chinese Provinces and Para-diplomacy	Jacob, Jabin T, ‘China’s Provinces and Foreign	In Week 6 we shall examine the role of

		<p>Policy: Lessons and Implications for India and its States', Institute of Chinese Studies, Working Paper, October 2014.</p> <p>Khanna,T, China+ India: The power of two', <i>Harvard Business Review</i>, December 2007.</p> <p>Zhimin, C, Junbo, J and Diyu, C, 'The Provinces and China's Multi-Layered Diplomacy: The Cases of GMS and Africa', <i>The Hague Journal of Diplomacy</i> 5 (2010) 331-356 Zhimin, C, 'Coastal Provinces and China's Foreign Policy Making'.</p>	Chinese Provinces in Foreign Policy
Week 7	German Landers in Foreign Policy	<p>Fard, R, 'Federal Vs Central Policy: German Foreign Policy Structure: An Analysis of Decision-Making Process' Kincaid, J, 'Domestication of German Foreign Policy in the European Union', <i>SMU Law Review</i>, Volume 53, 2000.</p>	In Week 7, the role of German provinces or <i>Landers</i> in the country's foreign policy – ties vis-à-vis EU as well as the outside world shall be discussed.

Week 8	Mid Term In Class exam	An in class mid-term exam accounting for 30% of the final mark will be held in Week 8	
Week 9	Canadian Provinces and Foreign Policy	<p>Anderson, J, ‘Canadian Federalism and Foreign Policy’, Volume 27 <i>Canada-US . Law Journal</i> 45 (January 2001) School of Law, Case Western Reserve University.</p> <p>Lecours, A, ‘Canadian Federalism and Foreign Relations: Quebec and Alberta’, in <i>Foreign Policy of Constituent Units at the Beginning of the 21st Century</i>, p. 29-43</p> <p>Harris, S and Yiwei, Jin, ‘A case for provincial offices in Asia and how to make them better’, October 6, 2020. <i>Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada</i></p>	In Week 9, the role of Canadian Provinces in it’s external outreach will be discussed.

Week 10	Australian Provinces in Foreign Policy	Carr, A, “Singing from the same song sheet: paradiplomacy and federalism in an era of weaponised interdependence” <i>Australian Journal of Political Science</i> , 58(2), 141–156.	In Week 10, para-diplomacy in Australia shall be discussed
Week 11	Russian regions and foreign policy	<p>Arteev, S and Kentros Klyszcz, I. U. (2021). “From Decentralization to Coordination: The Evolution of Russian Paradiplomacy (1991 – 2021). <i>Problems of Post-Communism</i>, 70(4), 364–375.</p> <p>Perovic, J, ‘Internationalization of Russian Regions and the Consequences for Russian Foreign and Security Policy’, Working Paper no.1, 2000</p> <p>Sergounin, A, ‘External determinants of Russia’s regionalization’ Working Paper No. 23, February 2001.</p>	In Week 11, para-diplomacy in Russia shall be discussed.
Week 12	Para-diplomacy in Brazil	Fronzalia, M, “Paradiplomacy as an Instrument of Policy Change: A Case of	In Week 12 para-diplomacy in Brazil shall be discussed.

		<p>Brazilian States during the COVID-19 Pandemic”, <i>Open Journal of Political Science</i>, Volume 13, No.4, October 2023.</p> <p>Milani, C and Ribeiro, M, “International relations and the paradiplomacy of Brazilian cities: crafting the concept of local international management”, <i>Brazilian Administration Review</i> 8 (1) Mar 2011</p>	
Week 13	Para-diplomacy in Japan	"International Policies of Local Governments," Japan's Road to Pluralism: Transforming Local Communities in the Global Era; (ed. Shun'ichi Furukawa and Toshihiro Menju), Tokyo: Japan Center for International Exchange, 2003, pp. 89-109.	In Week 13, the role of prefectures in Japan's foreign policy shall be discussed.
Week 14			In week 14, students shall make an in class presentation accounting for 30% of the final grade.