The University of Houston-Clear Lake Diplomacy Institute (DI) was established in July 2020 with the goal of providing a range of educational services and training, including certificates and degrees, that are specifically designed to meet the needs of diplomats, consular officials, and their staff. The Diplomacy Institute also provides new educational programs for students, research and teaching opportunities for faculty, and partners with other institutions of higher education, governmental entities, NGO’s and businesses. Finally, the Diplomacy Institute will facilitate conversations, seminars, panels, and conferences across a wide range of topics related to diplomacy. To that end, the Diplomacy Institute seeks to change the discourse and methods of how those with differing beliefs and backgrounds can respectfully engage with each other to resolve their differences and create solutions to complex world challenges.

ABOUT THE DIPLOMACY INSTITUTE

COURSES AND MODULES OVERVIEW

The following courses/modules provide ongoing professional development and training for diplomats and their staff and for others interested in learning diplomatic skills. They are designed for learners at all levels, and while previous background in diplomacy is helpful, it is not required. Teaching and learning for the modules is comprised of practical applications of tools and techniques using active learning approaches and a combination of collaborative discussions, simulations, problem solving, videos, practitioner sharing, and subject matter expert colloquia. These modules vary in length of contact hour/class time depending on subject matter and length or complexity requirements. Modules are bundled into course equivalent hours (for accreditation, a typical 3-hour U.S. university or college level course is 45 contact hours). Modules and courses, either singularly or in combination, are bundled into certificates and may be further aggregated into an Executive/Professional master’s degree pending approval from accrediting organizations.

CERTIFICATES

The Diplomacy Institute’s certificate program of study is designed to provide diplomats and their staff with essential knowledge and skills to enhance their success in current and future positions and in the conduct of their official responsibilities. Certificates are earned and awarded once the required hours of completion are met, which vary by course/module and area of focus. All courses offered through the Diplomacy Institute will result in a certificate, either from successfully completing a specific course/module or completing combinations of courses/modules appropriate for the certificate.

EXECUTIVE/PROFESSIONAL MASTER’S DEGREE IN DIPLOMACY

The UHCL Diplomacy Institute is pursuing the official recognition of an Executive/Professional Master’s Degree through our internal processes and with state and national authorities which approve our degrees and govern our accreditation. If approved, course certificates and previously completed work will apply towards degree completion requirements.

APPROACH AND METHODOLOGY

With the recognition that diplomats and their staff lead busy lives both professionally and personally, the Diplomacy Institute is providing courses/modules in a manner that accommodates busy professionals. To accomplish this, the approach involves a combination of in-person meetings, online coursework, remote and in-person seminars, panels, conferences, and instructor-student personal sessions or group sessions. This is a unique and highly personalized approach that will facilitate the completion of coursework, certificates, and future degrees. The courses will employ a range of dynamic instructional methodologies including scenario training intended to deliver actionable benefits to those involved in diplomatic work.

THE IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCE

Also planned for diplomats is an immersive experience that provides a week or two-week sessions in Qatar, Houston, or in other venues where the Diplomacy Institute has access to suitable learning environments, or where such venues can be arranged by the requesting authority. Currently, UHCL has access to a facility in Madrid, Spain which is especially suited for diplomats on temporary hiatus from foreign assignments.

EXPERTISE

Courses/modules will be delivered by skilled practitioners, academic scholars, and other nationally and internationally recognized experts in diplomacy or other fields relevant to the subject matter. In all cases, the goal is to provide the most impactful learning experience for participants that is directly applicable to their own personal and professional development.
COURSES AND MODULES LISTING

Contact us for more information including prices. Costs vary depending on numbers of attendees, venue, and instructors.

- Modern Diplomacy and Diplomatic Challenges
- Culture and Diplomacy: Primer for Diplomatic Applications
- Diplomatic Protocols Basic and Advanced
- Public Diplomacy: Challenges and Opportunities for Diplomats
- Ethical Issues in Diplomacy Colloquia/Panel
- Networks and Diplomatic Network Development: A Model of Change
- Modern Media/Communications Primer
- Advanced Media/Communications
- Digital Diplomacy and Cyber Diplomacy
- Social Media Primer
- Powerful Public Speaking for Diplomats One
- Powerful Public Speaking for Diplomats Two
- Serving Citizens: Skills, Techniques, and the Role of Empathy
- Negotiations Primer: Getting to Yes
- Negotiations Advanced: Never Split the Difference
- Leadership Techniques for Diplomats Primer
- Leading and Managing in Crisis (Crisis Diplomacy)
- Management Techniques/Managing the Diplomatic Enterprise
- Innovation Primer: Tips and Techniques for Diplomats
- Case Studies in Diplomacy
- Diplomacy and the Arts
- Defense and Security Diplomacy

**Customized Courses and Training—see note below

ELECTIVES/SPECIAL SEMINAR

- Elective/Special Seminar: Sports Diplomacy
- Elective/Special Seminar: Medical Diplomacy
- Elective/Special Seminar: Science and Technology Diplomacy
- Elective/Special Seminar: Humanitarian Diplomacy
- Elective/Special Seminar: Economic and Trade Diplomacy
- Elective/Special Seminar: Issues in Energy and Climate/Environmental Diplomacy
- Elective/Special Seminar: Refugees and Migrants: Policy and Diplomacy
- Elective/Special Seminar: Educational Diplomacy

*In addition to the preceding, the Diplomacy Institute is developing short courses/modules on a customized/as requested basis to provide specific training for diplomats and their staff. These will be provided upon request, pending completion.

Contact us for more information including prices. Costs vary depending on numbers of attendees, venue, and instructors.
“If we seek a more just and peaceful world, we must begin with a dialogue predicated on mutual respect and dignity; for only then can we build the sustainable relations so essential to establishing enduring peace.”

**Dr. Gigi Do** currently is serving as Associate Vice President of Global Learning and Strategy/Senior International Officer. She provides university-wide leadership in areas of international partnerships, study abroad, student recruitment, admission, language acquisition, and promoting comprehensive internationalization across the University of Houston-Clear Lake community.

Dr. Do earned a B.A. in Sociology at the University of Washington, Masters of Arts in Sociology at the University of Houston, and a Ph.D. in Higher Education and Leadership at the University of Texas at Austin.

With over 25 years of experience in developing Academic and Workforce programs for global community colleges and universities, Dr. Do increased and maintained the highest international student enrollment at a U.S. community college; created a $45 million global initiative fund to nurture new international ventures; managed over 80 American expats overseas in the capacity of faculty, administration, and human resources; and created the first American-style colleges in Vietnam and Qatar.

Dr. Do currently is founding member of the University of Houston-Clear Lake Diplomacy Institute in partnership with the State of Qatar Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Diplomacy Institute was established in July 2020.

**Our Leaders**

**Dr. Edmund “Butch” Herod** joined the University of Houston-Clear Lake in January 2021 as the Assistant Vice-President of the Diplomacy Institute. Dr. Herod has over three decades of work and leadership experience in higher education serving in many different capacities at different institutions, including co-creator and founding director of the nationally recognized innovation center, the West Houston Institute, Vice-Chancellor of Innovation, Planning, and Strategic Analytics, Interim President, Executive Dean for Instruction and Student Services, faculty member, and President of the Faculty Senate.

Dr. Herod was selected as an American Council of Education (ACE) Fellow in 2009. He has won numerous awards for teaching excellence, written and managed several grants, published several articles and edited three books. He led the establishment of the first American community college in the nation of Qatar, serving as Dean and President of Houston Community College Operations. He has worked as a higher education consultant and also provided consultancy and training to diplomats for almost a decade.

Dr. Herod earned a B.A. in political science from Baylor University and an M.A. and Ph.D. in political science from the University of Houston.

**Dr. Daniel Katz** serves as Coordinator, Programs and Curriculum of the Diplomacy Institute. In this role, he advances the planning, organization, content production, and facilitation of diplomatic programs and activities. Dr. Katz coordinates with external commercial and governmental organizations to design, execute, monitor, and support diplomatic programs, course options, and non-traditional learning opportunities.

Since 2019, he has held an appointment as a nonresident scholar for the China Studies Program at the James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy, Rice University. Current research focuses on defense diplomacy and is the subject of his book *Defence Diplomacy: Strategic Engagement and Interstate Conflict* (Routledge, 2020). Dr. Katz has previous affiliations with the U.S. Department of State, the Center for a New American Security, and the International Institute for Strategic Studies–Asia. He has written extensively on diplomacy, global security issues, as well as U.S.-China relations.

Dr. Katz holds a Ph.D. in Strategic Studies from the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies at Nanyang Technological University, a double Master of Science degree in International Affairs from Peking University and the London School of Economics, and a B.A. in International Studies and Classics from Yale University.