This directed research course reflects on the international community’s political and developmental involvements in Afghanistan over the past 15 years. Specifically, we will be examining the peacebuilding efforts of selected countries (Canada, US, France, Germany), and ask what went wrong, why, and what are the lessons learned?

Re-building Afghanistan poses one of the most significant challenges to the international community in terms of their efforts to secure and rebuild the country. With recent developments in Afghanistan we now know that this intervention failed on many accounts for Western interveners.

What is it exactly that went wrong? And Why? What are the lessons learned for international interveners moving forward in terms of their strategic, organizational, and operational postures?

If you have questions, pls. don’t hesitate to contact me at Benjamin.Zylal@uottawa.ca

This course will allow students to:
- Participate and be a full member of an existing research team
- Expand your research knowledge (methodologies, techniques, analysis, etc.) on peacebuilding operations
- Learn more about the peacebuilding operations, especially in Africa, Asia and South America
- Gain an understanding of the conflicts in those countries and local initiatives how to solve it
- Increase or validate their interests in graduate studies and gain a first practical experience of social science research;
- Learn how to do a literature review for grad school