Should diplomats blog? Can we negotiate effectively online? Are there security risks for diplomats in using online tools? Diplomatic activities are increasingly supported by Internet tools. Diplomats rely on the Internet to find information, communicate with colleagues via e-mail, and negotiate draft texts in electronic format; diplomats are also increasingly using new social networking platforms such as blogs and Facebook. This course focuses on the opportunities and challenges Internet tools offer for diplomatic activities.

Course topics include:

• The Internet and changes in diplomacy: Tools, techniques, approaches
• E-tools and diplomacy: Blogs, wikis, social networks, and other tools
• The Internet and public diplomacy
• Information management in the digital era
• Safe use of the Internet for diplomats
• Online negotiation and e-participation
• Online learning for diplomatic services
• Internet governance

I was able to put to use almost immediately the new skills and knowledge I acquired. Weekly lectures are extremely informative and present a wealth of current knowledge about e-diplomacy. We were strongly encouraged to apply that knowledge as it relates to our own work experiences. What’s great about this programme is that you can do the learning on your own time, but also have a weekly check-in with other students that come from all over the world!

Frederick W. Russell-Rivoallan, Special Assistant to the Chairperson of the Executive Board of UNESCO

How does the course work?
In this highly interactive 10-week long online course, participants from around the world read and discuss course materials, sharing their experience and knowledge under the guidance of an experienced course facilitator. Participants complete a number of online activities and assignments to obtain a postgraduate-level course certificate. Course groups are limited to 25 participants.

Who should apply?
• Practising diplomats, civil servants, and others working in international relations or related fields
• Postgraduate students of diplomacy, international relations, and other relevant fields
• Staff of international and non-governmental organisations, journalists, translators, business people and others who wish to learn about diplomacy-related topics

To find out more about Diplo courses and to apply, please visit http://www.diplomacy.edu/courses or contact admissions@diplomacy.edu