

# FYS 102: Give Peace a Chance? Student Protests and Global Conflict

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## Fall 2016

Course No.: FYS 102, Section 2  
Semester: Fall 2016  
Schedule: 9:35-10:50 MW  
Location: CCC 231

Instructor: Taylor M. Easum  
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Office Hours: 11:00a-12:00p MW  
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## Course Description

What would make you march in the streets? In the 1960s, campuses around America erupted in protest over America's war in Vietnam. Regardless of your political leanings, it was a time when people were engaged with the history and culture of a distant region, Southeast Asia. This seminar has two goals: First, this course will introduce students to the vibrant and transformative history of student protest, both in Southeast Asia and here in Stevens Point. Second, we'll explore the impact of protests and demonstrations, both during the 1960s-70s and today, and both in America and abroad, particularly in Southeast Asia.

The course is organized into three units. To begin, we'll learn about the Vietnam War itself, and how America became so deeply involved in a war of decolonization halfway around the world. Second, we'll examine the protests against the war, particularly as they developed on college campuses across America. Finally, we'll turn to the present, and see what the relationship between students and protests looks like, both here in the U.S., where a host of issues have energized students, and in Southeast Asia, where students have often been at the forefront of pro-democracy movements.

## Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of all FYS courses at UWSP, students shall be able to:

1. Describe the key components and purpose of a liberal education and explain how a liberal education will shape your college studies, career, and life.
2. Identify key components of critical thinking and information literacy and apply the associated skills within course assignments.
3. Identify and apply appropriate skills for college success, as well as appropriate UW-Stevens Point programs, resources, and services designed to support your academic studies.
4. Develop an educational plan that demonstrates the responsibility you will take for your own education, including curricular and co-curricular experiences.
5. Identify and explain various components of Southeast Asian cultures that are distinct from those found within the United States.
6. Analyze political protest as a means of negotiating cultural differences that has helped to shape the modern world.

## Evaluation

Since the overall goal of this course is to help students develop the skills needed to succeed in their college career (and beyond), the assignments are designed to reflect and further that goal.

1. Attendance and Participation – 10% (You cannot succeed if you don't show up)
2. Quizzes – 20% (You have to keep up with the readings, and pay attention)
3. Short Writing Assignments – 20% (You have to express your thoughts clearly)
4. Group Project – 30% (You have to work with others to achieve a common goal)
5. Final Examination – 20% (You have to put your learning together at the end)

## Course Materials

Many readings will be posted on D2L as PDF files, or will be accessible elsewhere online. Several readings, however, will come from the following required textbook, which may be rented from the UWSP Bookstore or purchased online:

1. Marilyn Young, John J. Fitzgerald, and A. Tom Grunfeld, eds. *The Vietnam War: A History in Documents*. Oxford; New York: Oxford University Press, 2003.

## Schedule

Date	Topic	Assignment / Activity	Reading / Film / Video
9/7	What am I doing here?	Introductory surveys & discussion  <b>Reflection Essay #1:</b> Write a one-page essay answering the following question: What are the responsibilities of a college student? (Due 9/9 on d2l)	Young, Fitzgerald, and Grunfeld, eds., pp. 6-9
9/12	Get involved!  Vietnam, from Colonialism to the First Indochina War	SIEO Presentation w/ Ethan Cates (30 min)  <b>Class Discussion:</b> How did America become involved in Vietnam?	Young, Fitzgerald, and Grunfeld, eds., pp. 41-65
9/14	American Soldiers in Vietnam	<b>Class discussion:</b> America's Vietnam  <b>Written Report:</b> Visit the <a href="#">Student Involvement Fair</a> (9/15, 6-8pm, DUC) and write a two-page report on one or two opportunities for involvement that interest you. Explain how these opportunities might enrich your college experience. (Due 9/16 on d2l)	Young, Fitzgerald, and Grunfeld, eds., pp. 67-87  Young, Fitzgerald, and Grunfeld, eds., pp. 97-115
9/19	A People Divided	<b>Class discussion:</b> What do we know about Vietnam and protests?  (Also, start thinking about group projects!)	Young, Fitzgerald, and Grunfeld, eds., pp. 117-127  <b>Articles:</b> <a href="#">Vietnam and Opposition at Home</a> <a href="#">'My God! They're Killing Us'</a>  <a href="#">Five Thai students held for 'Hunger Games' salute at PM</a>  <a href="#">New Democracy Movement: achievements and future</a>
9/21	LRC Visit w/Tom Reich	<b>Workshop:</b> Navigating the library, and finding resources for your project	

9/26	QUIZ	<p><b>Quiz 1: Getting into Vietnam</b></p> <p><b>Class Discussion: Group Research projects</b></p>	<p>Study Young, Fitzgerald, and Grunfeld, eds., pp. 41-87; 97-127</p>
9/28	TLC visit w/Amanda	<p><b>Workshop:</b> Accessing the Learning Center, and finding educational support when you need it</p>	
10/3	Global Reverberations of War	<p><b>Class Discussion:</b> Diversity in College and the World</p> <p><b>Written Report:</b> Attend the <a href="#">Coffee and Culture</a> presentation titled "Shamanism: Portal to the Other Side" at the Laird Room, DUC, on 10/4 from 6-7:30pm. Write a short report on the talk, explaining how diversity on campus can enrich out college experience.</p> <p>- Or -</p> <p>If you are interested in Study Abroad, attend the Study Abroad in the DUC on 10/4, from 3-7pm. Write a report detailing the program(s) you are interested in, and explain how such a program would enrich your college experience.</p>	<p><b>Film:</b> <a href="#">Finding the Middle Way</a></p> <p><b>Article/Video:</b> <a href="#">Obama Acknowledges Scars of America's Shadow War in Laos</a></p>
10/5	Archives w/Ruth Wachter-Nelson	<p><b>Workshop:</b> Finding primary sources – hands on at the archives</p>	<p><a href="#">UWSP Archives website</a></p>
10/10	Avoiding a Quagmire – Planning Ahead	<p><b>Class Discussion:</b> Revisit Schedule / Time Management</p>	
10/12	Academic Advising / Career Locker + Library Follow-up w/Tom Reich	<p><b>Workshop:</b> Making your academic career work for you – Advising and Career Locker</p> <p><b>Workshop:</b> Library research follow-up</p>	
10/17	Two Days in October	<p><b>Film (in class):</b> Two Days in October</p>	<p><b>Website:</b> <a href="#">Two Days in October</a></p>
10/19	(cont'd)	(cont'd)	
10/24	Global Conflict; Local Protests	<p><b>Class Discussion:</b> Protests in Point?</p> <p><b>Film (in class):</b> A Trip with LSD, followed by discussion</p>	<p>Jim Missey, <i>The Eve of Revolution: An Antiwar Memoir</i> (avail. on d2l)</p>
10/26	Nixon's War	<p><b>Class Discussion:</b> Nixon's war and protest at home</p>	<p>Young, Fitzgerald, and Grunfeld, eds., pp. 129-145</p>
10/31	Crisis and Confrontation	<p><b>Film (in class):</b> Four Dead in Ohio</p> <p><b>Song (in class):</b> Neil Young's "Ohio"</p>	<p>Heineman, "Tin Soldiers and Nixon Coming," pp. 237-256.</p>

11/2	Popular Culture and the War – Music	<b>Class Discussion:</b> Can music change minds?	<b>Article:</b> <a href="#">Protest and Rock n' Roll During the Vietnam War</a>  <b>Radio Program:</b> <a href="#">Vietnam's Rock 'n' Roll War</a>
11/7	<b>QUIZ</b>	<b>Quiz 2:</b> Nixon's war, and protest culture	Study Young, Fitzgerald, and Grunfeld, eds., pp. 129-145 and Heineman, "Tin Soldiers and Nixon Coming," pp. 237-256
	Selling Patriotism	<b>Activity:</b> Design protest signs – for something real or imagined (in class). Continue working on these at home; bring back to class on 11/9.	(in-class) Young, Fitzgerald, and Grunfeld, eds., pp. 89-95
11/9	(cont'd)	<b>Class Discussion:</b> How effective is propaganda?  <b>Activity:</b> Presentation of protest designs from 11/7.	
11/14	Remembering Vietnam	<b>Discussion:</b> Remembering Vietnam through Film and Television	Young, Fitzgerald, and Grunfeld, eds., pp. 147-161
11/16	(cont'd)	<b>Class Discussion:</b> Personal memories of the Vietnam Era	
11/21	Student Movements in Asia – Thailand in the 70s	<b>Class Discussion:</b> How do student movements in Thailand compare to those in the US?	<b>Articles:</b> <a href="#">Thai students overthrow military Thanom regime, 1973</a>  <a href="#">1973: Thai army shoots protesters</a>  <b>Radio Program:</b> <a href="#">Thai student killings 1976</a>
11/23	Democracy and Protest in Contemporary Thailand	<b>Class Discussion:</b> What would you risk for what you believe in?	<b>Article:</b> <a href="#">Thai students the 'last group standing' in protesting army coup</a>  Prajak Kongkirati, "Thailand: The Cultural Politics of Student Resistance" (avail. on d2l)
11/28	Presentation / Writing Workshop	Work on group projects in class!	
11/30	(cont'd)	(cont'd)	

<b>12/5</b>	<b>Presentations</b>	<b>Group Project Presentations (two)</b>
<b>12/7</b>	Presentations	Group Project Presentations (two)
<b>12/12</b>	Presentations	Group Project Presentations (two)
<b>12/14</b>		<b>Reflection Essay #2:</b> Return to the reflection essay you wrote at the beginning of this course. Now, after taking this course, write a second reflection answering the same question: what does it mean to be a student?
<b>12/21</b>		<b>Final Exam</b> (Group 14): Wednesday, December 21 from 10:15am to 12:15pm

***Good luck!***