

PAX 200, Fall 2018

Dilemmas of War & Peace: An Introduction to Peace Studies

Mon. & Weds. 11:00-11:50 am, CCC 303

Third Hour Online

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Office Hours: Tues. 10-11 am & Weds. noon-1pm
and by appointment

Course Description

This course explores the reasons for the continuing prevalence of war and violence and seeks to understand how we might build a more peaceful world. It aims to introduce students to the interdisciplinary field of Peace Studies and serves as the core introductory course for students desiring to pursue a minor in Peace Studies. Also, beginning this semester, this course serves as part of the offerings for the Women's and Gender Studies minor.

Scholars in the field of Peace Studies agree that fundamental questions related to war and peace require a holistic and integrative approach that draws on insights from a wide variety of fields. As such, this course will explore these questions using resources from multiple disciplines (religion, psychology, biology, gender studies, anthropology, political science, and international relations, among others), and our exploration will move across multiple levels of human action from the individual to societal and international levels. The contributions of ordinary citizens, social movements, and activists in resisting militarism and promoting peace, justice, and nonviolence will be a central part of our exploration. By the end of the semester students will have developed their own definitions of peace and nonviolence and a deeper understanding of the obstacles, as well as, the possible roads to peace.

Course Learning Outcomes

- Demonstrate knowledge about key concepts in peace and conflict studies, including:
 1. Multiple meanings of peace, anchored in definitions of negative and positive peace;
 2. Multidisciplinary explanations for the causes of war and conflict, including perspectives and theories from religion, philosophy, the behavioral sciences, gender studies, and the social sciences;
 3. Strategies for promoting peace and social justice ranging from individual and societal transformation, through diplomacy and actions at the international level;
 4. Nonviolence, exploring both its religious/moral/philosophical foundations, as well as the sources of its strategic power as a tool for social and political change.
- Understand the role of the U.S. in today's world, as the preeminent military power.
- Demonstrate knowledge about ways in which individuals, organizations, and governments from around the world have made significant contributions to peace-building.
- Develop a sense of personal agency and responsibility towards building a more just and peaceful world.

Required Texts

- David P. Barash and Charles P. Webel. 2014. *Peace and Conflict Studies, Third Edition*. Sage Publications. (Available through Text Rental) **Note: From here forward referred to as "B&W"**.
- Thich Nhat Hanh. 1987. *Being Peace*. Berkeley: Parallax Press. (Available for purchase at the bookstore and for free on D2L e-Reserves for this course.)
- In addition, there are other assigned readings on D2L e-Reserves, all of which are marked on the syllabus with an asterisk.

Course Requirements and Grading

Your grade will be based on your performance in the following areas:

Week 1 Assignments	2%
Lecture Attendance	10%
Online Assignments (8 worth 4 points each)	32%
Midterm Exam	18%
Group Project & Presentation	20%
Final Exam	<u>18%</u>
	100%

The Hybrid Nature of this Course

This class is a hybrid. The first two hours will be conducted through regular face-to-face class meetings on Mondays and Wednesdays. The third hour will be completed online and will involve a variety of activities and assignments. This third hour online offers greater flexibility— you don't have to be sitting in class at a specified time. Given that a third of the course will be conducted online, *it is essential that you have reliable, high-speed access to the internet.*

Resources for Online Students

UWSP provides helpful information and tips for taking online courses, including how to set up notifications in D2L, study tips, academic support resources, etc. Please make yourself familiar with the information and resources on these two webpages:

- [UWSP Online Student Orientation](#)
- [UWSP Online-Student Support](#)

Lecture Attendance

Students are expected to attend lectures on Mondays and Wednesdays. Generally I will lecture, however, I will often ask for input and students should always feel free to pose questions or pitch in with relevant comments on the topic being addressed. Regular attendance and active, informed participation is vital to your learning. Lectures will focus on the assigned readings, so you should complete the readings for that day prior to coming to class; this will assist you in following and making sense of the lecture.

Attendance at Monday and Wednesday lectures will count for 10% of your grade. More than 2 unexcused absences will result in a lowering of your attendance grade; ***if you miss more than 6 lectures during the semester (a total of 3 weeks) you will forfeit any points for attendance, in other words a full 10% of your grade.*** If you must miss class due to a personal difficulty, such as illness or a family emergency, please let me know as soon as possible, and, when you are able, document the reason for your absence. In cases where there are legitimate reasons for an absence, I will count it as excused. In addition to attendance, active participation in class discussions is encouraged. I will keep careful attendance and participation records and will use these when I calculate this portion of your grade.

Third Hour Online

Each week there will be a different assignment or activity for the third hour. These assignments or activities will be due on Friday. There will be a total of 5 online discussions in small groups, 2 media journals, and 1 personal reflection. Each of these assignments will count for 4% of your final grade for a total of 30%. Detailed instructions and deadlines will be provided in class and on D2L.

Midterm and Final Exams

The dates for the midterm and final exams are listed on the Class Schedule and Assignments. The midterm will be an online exam that will need to be taken on **Friday, October 19**. The final will be a take-home, open-book essay exam and will be due in the D2L drop box by **Tuesday, December 18th at 5pm**.

Group Projects

During the second half of the semester students will work in small groups on a topic of their choosing related to peace and conflict studies. I will provide topic suggestions and resources. Groups may either engage in some sort of activism and reflect on that, or investigate a topic and prepare either a debate or a round table presentation on said topic. Each group will present its work in a 20-minute presentation at the end of the semester. In addition to the group presentations, students will turn in a written summary of their activism work or notes on their research and a list of sources consulted. This group project counts for 20% of each student's grade and will be based on both the oral performance and written work.

Academic Integrity

All students are expected to abide by the guidelines for academic integrity contained in the UW System Administrative Code. Students should be well acquainted with these guidelines, especially with what constitutes plagiarism, as violations can result in severe consequences. I use Turnitin.com to check for plagiarism. The D2L drop box is connected to Turnitin. You will upload your written work to the D2L drop box and it will automatically be scanned by the Turnitin.com program. **Please note, if you fail to upload an assignment to the D2L drop box, you will not receive credit for the assignment.**

Policy on Deadlines

The deadlines for online assignments are strict. Failure to submit assignments on time or to participate in the discussion boards according to the timelines will result either in a zero or a lower grade for that assignment or discussion board. If you are facing an extenuating circumstance that will prevent you from meeting the deadline, please contact me ahead of time to make alternative arrangements. I will only accept late submissions when there are extenuating circumstances and the student has notified me in a timely manner.

Communication

In addition to making announcements and distributing handouts during lecture periods, I will communicate with the class through the D2L homepage and occasionally via e-mail; ***make sure to check D2L and your UWSP e-mail account regularly.*** I welcome your questions, thoughts, concerns, and suggestions. There are several ways you can communicate with me: in person right before or after lecture or during my office hours, via e-mail, or telephone, and through the "Hey Prof. Collins!" discussion board. For questions about the syllabus, course organization, specific assignments, or course content, I encourage you to use the "Hey Prof. Collins!" discussion board, which will be open for the duration of the course. This discussion board is meant to serve as a venue for you to ask me questions that might be of interest to the whole class, such as those pertaining to content or the mechanics of how the course is working. The board is NOT graded and will not have any impact on your final grade. It is simply a vehicle for you to communicate with me about course logistics and content. Feel free to post questions or simply look in to see what questions other students have posted. For private matters or questions that are only of concern to you, the most efficient way to contact me outside of class is via e-mail (my address is listed on the first page of the syllabus).

Grading Scale

Course grades will be calculated on a straight percentage scale. An A equals 93 or above, A- 90-92.99, B+ 87-89.99, B 83-86.99, B- 80-82.99, C+ 77-79.99, C 73-76.99, C- 70-72.99, D+ 67-69.99, D 60-66.99, F 59.99 and below.

Class Schedule and Assignments

Week 1 – Introduction

9/5 – Welcome and orientation to the course

No assigned readings

9/7 OL – Introductions and Peace Studies

Readings:

- B&W, Ch. 2 “Peace and Conflict Studies, Education, and Research”.
- Begin reading *Being Peace*

Assignments:

- Online introductions
- Syllabus and reading quiz

Week 2 – What is Peace?

9/10 – Meanings of Peace

Reading: B&W, Introduction to Part I (pp. 1-2), and Ch. 1 “The Meanings of Peace” (pp. 3-10).

9/12 – The Global Peace Index & Introduction to Thich Nhat Hahn

Readings:

- B&W, Ch. 1 “The Meanings of Peace” (pp. 10-17).
- *Ken Beller and Heather Chase. *Great Peacemakers: True Stories from Around the World*, Ch. 6 “Thich Nhat Hahn. Sedona, AR: LTS Press, 2008, pp. 45-51. (D2L e-Reserves)

Explore: **Global Peace Index** current rankings: <http://visionofhumanity.org/>

9/14 OL – Being Peace

Reading: Thich Nhat Hanh, *Being Peace*, Chs. 1-5, Suffering is Not Enough; The Three Gems; Feelings and Perceptions; The Heart of Practice; and Working for Peace.

Assignment: Online discussion of assigned chapters in *Being Peace*

Week 3 – What is War?

9/17 – Defining War

Reading: B&W, Ch. 3 “The Meanings of Wars”, pp. 35-43 & 50-54.

9/19 – Can War Be Justified? Is War Necessary?

Reading: B&W, Ch. 3 “The Meanings of Wars”, pp. 56-69.

9/21 OL – Consequences of War

Reading: *Dave Phillips. “In Unit Stalked by Suicide, Veterans Try to Save One Another.” *New York Times*, September 19, 2015. (D2L e-Reserves)

Watch/Listen to Music Video: “Green Fields of France”, performed by Dropkick Murphys (D2L e-Reserves)

Assignment: Personal reflection.

Week 4 – Exploring the Roots of War and Violence

9/24 – Human Nature

Readings:

- B&W, Introduction to Part II, pp. 127-130, and Ch. 6 “The Individual Level, pp. 131-143; 149-153.
- *Konrad Z. Lorenz. “On Aggression.” In *Approaches to Peace: A Reader in Peace Studies*, David P. Barash, ed. Oxford University Press, 2000: 13-19. (D2L e-Reserves)

9/26 –The Group Level

Readings:

- B&W, Ch. 7 “The Group Level”, pp. 157-165.
- *Margaret Mead. “Warfare is Only an Invention—Not a Biological Necessity.” In *Approaches to Peace*, David P. Barash, editor. Oxford University Press, 2000: 19-22. (D2L e-Reserves)
- *Kelly Clancy, “Survival of the Friendliest: It’s time to give violent metaphors of evolution a break” (D2L e-Reserves)

9/28 *OL – Assignment:* Online discussion of this week’s readings.

Week 5 – U.S. Militarism

10/1 – Nationalism and the Military-Industrial Complex

Readings: B&W, Ch. 7 “The Group Level”, pp. 165-171, and 175-178; and Ch. 10 “The Ideological, Social, and Economic Levels,” pp. 235-241.

10/3 – Terrorism and Counterterrorism

Readings: B&W, Ch. 4 “Terrorism and Counterterrorism”, pp. 89-96.

10/5 *OL – Why We Fight*

Watch Online Video: “Why We Fight” (99 mins.) (D2L e-Reserves)

Assignment: Online discussion of “Why We Fight”

Week 6 – Migration; Women and War

10/8 – Regular class meeting cancelled. Students will attend guest lecture, “*The Impact of Migration on Germany and the EU*” by German Consulate General Herbert Quelle. 6-8pm, NFAC. **Attendance is mandatory.**

10/10 – Women, War & Militarism

Readings:

- *France Winddance Twine. *Girls with Guns*. Sections TBA. (D2L e-Reserves)
- *Jennifer Steinhauer. “Women in Senate Confront Military on Sex Assaults.” *NYT*, June 2, 2013 (D2L e-Reserves)

10/12 *OL – Assignment:* Media Journal

Week 7 – Group Project Organization & Midterm

10/15 - Group Project Organization Session

10/17 – Midterm Exam Review

10/19 *OL – Online Midterm Exam*

Week 8 – The United Nations

10/22 – The UN and the Promise of International Institutions

Reading: B&W, Ch. 14 “International Cooperation”, pp. 317-330.

Watch: The United Nations: Working for Us All (15 mins.) (D2L e-Reserves)

10/24 – Peacekeeping Operations

Reading: *Linda Fasulo, *An Insider’s Guide to the UN*, Ch. 9, “Peace Operations” (D2L e-Reserves)

10/26 OL - Assignment: Media Journal

Week 9 –International Law

10/29 - Readings:

- B&W, Ch. 16 “International Law”
- *Philippe Sands. “Seventy years after Nuremberg, global justice is still a work in progress.” *The Guardian*, November 20, 2015. (D2L e-Reserves)

10/31 – *Reading:* *Steven Ratner. “Geneva Conventions.” *Foreign Policy*, No. 165 (March/April 2008): 26-32. (D2L e-Reserves)

11/2 – Group Work in Computer Labs

Week 10 – Gender, Genocide, and Peacemaking

11/5 – Gender & Genocide

Reading: *Adam Jones. *Genocide: A Comprehensive Introduction*. Routledge, 2017. Section, “Genocidal Men, Genocidal Women.” (pp. 640-646) (D2L e-Reserves)

11/6 – Election Day! Be a VOTER!!! It is a right and a duty!!!

11/7 – Women as Peacemakers in Liberia

Reading: **“How the Women of Liberia Fought for Peace and Won.”* Tavaana.org webpage. (D2L e-R)

11/9 OL – *Watch:* “Pray the Devil Back to Hell”, documentary about the Liberian Women’s Peace Movement

Assignment: Online discussion of the movie and readings

Week 11 – Nonviolence

11/12 – Gandhian Nonviolence

Readings:

- B&W, Intro. to Part IV, pp. 401-402; & Ch. 23, “Nonviolence,” pp. 507-519.
- *Liane Ellison Norman. “Molly Rush and the Plowshares Eight.” In *Nonviolence in Theory and Practice, 2nd Edition*, Robert L. Holmes & Barry L. Gan, eds. Waveland Press, 2005: 150-160. (D2L e-Reserves)

11/14 – Nonviolence in the U.S. Civil Rights Movement and Beyond

Readings:

- B&W, Ch. 23, “Nonviolence,” pp. 519- 530 (Skip section on “Civilian-Based Defense”, pp. 525-527)
- *Martin Luther King Jr. “Letter from Birmingham City Jail.” In *A Testament of Hope: The Essential Writings & Speeches of Martin Luther King, Jr.*, J. Washington, ed. HarperCollins, 1991: 289-302. (D2L e-Reserves)

11/16 OL – *Watch Online Video:* “A Force More Powerful, Episode 1, Nashville: We Were Warriors” (32 mins.)

Assignment: Online Discussion on week’s readings and the video.

Week 12 – Finalizing Group Projects

11/19 – Work on Group Projects

11/21 – Work on Group Projects

11/22-25 – Thanksgiving Break! Enjoy!!!

Week 13 – Thinking Outside the Box: Creative Alternatives to War & Violence

11/26 – World Government & Civilian-Based Defense

Readings: B&W, Ch. 14, “International Cooperation,” pp. 334-345; and Ch. 23 “Nonviolence” Section on “Civilian-Based Defense”, pp. 525-527.

11/28 – Alternatives to Military Service and the War on Terror

Readings:

- *David Cortright. *Peace: A History of Movements and Ideas, Ch. 14.* Cambridge University Press, 2008, pp. 302-310. (D2L e-Reserves)
- *Mark Juergensmeyer. “Gandhi vs. Terrorism.” *Daedalus* (Winter 2007): 30-39. (D2L e-Reserves)

11/30 – Group Presentations

Week 14 – Group Project Presentations

12/3 – Group Presentations

12/5 – Group Presentations

12/7 - Group Presentations

Week 15 – Conclusions

12/10 – Being Peace

Reading: Thich Nhat Hanh, *Being Peace*, Chs. 6-7, “Interbeing”, and “Meditation in Daily Life.”

12/12 – What can I do to build peace?

Readings:

- B&W Ch. 24 “Toward a More Peaceful Future”
- *Mairead Corrigan Maguire. “Gandhi and the Ancient Wisdom of Nonviolence.” In *Peace is the Way*, Walter Wink, ed. Orbis Books, 2000: 159-162. (D2L e-Reserves)

12/14 – Begin work on final exam

TAKE-HOME FINAL EXAM DUE TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18th BY 5PM