

F299
Pm

Religion 485 20

The Challenge of Peace

Chaminade University of Honolulu

Fall Term 1999, Kaneohe MCBH, Mondays, 17:30-21:40

Instructor: James A. Stroble, Ph.D. 988-5764 e-mail: stroble@hawaii.edu

Catalog Description: This course integrates the insights of history and theology. It focuses on the great imperative of our time, building peace based on justice in the nuclear age.

Course Goals:

Our aim here is to come to an understanding of the religious objections to war, as well as religious accommodations to war. We will trace strains of Catholic thought, following basically a chronological order starting with the writings of Trappist monk Thomas Merton, and moving on to the Catholic Bishops Pastoral letter of 1983, and then to the reactions and re-evaluations of the following decade. The challenges of peace in the modern world will be considered both theoretically and practically. As we will be dealing with controversial topics and opinions, we will have to let peace begin with us, and respect the opinions of everyone. At the same time, we must be concerned enough to sincerely try to understand everyone's position and to both present our own views and be open to criticism, all the better to respond to the challenge of peace.

Grading and Evaluation: Students are expected to attend all class meetings, and to participate in class discussions. This will count for 25% of the grade. Careful reading of our texts will be very helpful in preparing for participation. Students will write three (3) essays of approximately five (5) pages each, on topics pertinent to each section of the course, with the approval of the instructor. (75% of grade).

Calendar: A whole list of Mondays. Specific Reading Assignments to be given in class.

Christian Peace

October 4: Beginning of term. First Class. Reading for Jan. 25: Merton, pp. 1-91.

October 9: End of Registration

October 11: Second Class:

October 12: Add/drop/change deadline.

October 18: Third Class: First Essay due.

The Challenge of Peace

October 25: Fourth Class. Reading: *The Challenge of Peace*, Part I.

November 1: Fifth Class Reading, *The Challenge of Peace*, Part II

November 8: Sixth Class, Second Essay due. Reading *The Challenge of Peace*, Parts III & IV

The New Challenge of Peace

November 15: Seventh Class. Reading: *The Harvest of Justice is Sown in Peace*, in *Peacemaking*, pp. 310-346, and "The New Challenge of Peace", pp. 17-26 .

November 22: Eighth Class. Last day to withdraw.

November 29: Ninth Class

December 6: Tenth Class

December 13: Last Class Third Essay due.