

WE '01  
Pms

CHAMINADE UNIVERSITY OF HONOLULU  
RE 485<sup>60</sup> Challenge of Peace  
Instructor: Larry Jones  
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Office hours by appointment and/or phone and/or e-mail

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

**GOAL:** For students individually and in dialogue with each other and the instructor to critically evaluate various approaches to the furtherance of world peace within the context of real historical situations of violent conflict and to consider differing religious and theological ways of understanding war and peace. Each session will deal with a particular historical event, a particular religious approach and a particular peacemaking methodology, which to some extent will be related to each other. However, the relevance of each of the three aspects may relate to the other sessions as well.

**OBJECTIVES:**

1. To deepen our understanding of the complexities of several historical war crises.
2. To develop an appreciation of the contributions of differing schools of religious thought in regards to both avoiding war and creating a lasting peace.
3. To become intellectually and morally awakened to the urgency of the issue of world peace such that we might each make a larger personal contribution toward that end.
4. To be able to be challenged by ideas which differ from our own and yet to respect and care about those who hold them.
5. To have a learning experience which is both challenging and fun.

**REQUIREMENTS**

1. An inquisitive yet open mind and a sense of humor.
2. Attendance at and active participation in all class sessions, including taking notes.
3. Completion of all reading assignments.
4. A written listing of what you consider the major questions raised by each week's readings.
5. Completion of a 6 - 8 page term paper. At Session #5 you will be asked to turn in a one paragraph statement and to report briefly to the class on your plan for your paper, which is due on last day.
6. Mid-term essay exam (session #6) and final oral report based on term paper subject (session #10).

**READINGS:** Text: *A Peace Reader*, edited by Joseph J. Fahery and Richard Armstrong  
Various handouts

**GRADING:** 20% class attendance (*unavoidable absences may be made up after consultation with instructor initiated by student*) and participation (*defined by quality, not quantity*)  
20% weekly reading responses (2.5% X 8 weeks)  
20% term paper (see next page for particulars)  
20% mid-term exam, Session #6  
20% final oral report, Session #10

A = 90 - 100%      D = 60 - 70%      I=Incomplete  
B = 80 - 90%      F = anything below 60%  
C = 70 - 80%

*The instructor reserves the right to make changes in the content of the course depending on the needs of the class.*

## Session 1

Introductions and syllabus review

History presentation and discussion, *The causes of war, the weapons of war and the cry for peace*

Video: "Cry at the End of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century"

The search for a Biblical paradigm for the nuclear age:

"They shall beat their swords into plowshares" (Isaiah 2:4 & Micah 4:3) or

"He trains my hands for war" (2Samuel 22:35) or

"Put your sword back into its place; for all who take the sword will perish by the sword."  
(Matthew 26:52)

"Do not think that I have come to bring peace on earth; I have not come to bring peace,  
but a sword." (Matthew 10:34)

"Put on the whole armor of God...As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to  
proclaim the gospel of peace." (Ephesians 6:10, 15)

A look at the *Russell-Einstein Manifesto*

## Session 2

History presentation and discussion: *World War I: did it differ from previous wars and could it have been avoided?*

Christian theological approach No. 1: The Just War Theory

Peace methodology: "Peace through strength"

Readings: Handout, National Conference of Catholic Bishops, portions of *A Harvest of Justice is Sown in Peace, non violence and just war*

Text p. 5, Ashley Montagu, *The New Litany of "Innate Depravity," or Original Sin Revisited*

Text p. 76, The Defense Monitor, *A Declining Empire Goes to War*

Text p. 91, Peter Passel, *War Is No Way to Start a Career*

Text p. 95, Kurt Vonnegut, *War Preparers' Anonymous*

Text, p. 107, Pope John XXIII, portions of *Pacem in Terris*

Handout, Raymond Lotta, a reading from *America in Decline*

Video: "Military Leaders for the Abolition of Nuclear Weapons"

### Session 3

History presentation and discussion: *Pearl Harbor and Hiroshima: what kind of war, what kind of peace?*

Theological approach: Buddhism

Peace methodology: Creating public opinion

Readings: Text p. 218, National Conference of Catholic Bishops, *The New Moment*

Handout, David Krieger, *A Victory for All Humanity*

Handout, Robert Stinnett, *Dec. 7, 1941: a setup from the beginning*

Handout, John Ferguson, *Buddhism*, a reading from *War and Peace in the World's Religions*

Handout, Yoichi Shikano, *Disarmament Efforts from the Standpoint of Mahayana Buddhism*

Handout, Kenneth Kraft, *Prospects of a Socially Engaged Buddhism*,

Handout, Sulak Sivaraksa, *Buddhism and Contemporary International Trends*

Video: "The Legacy of Hiroshima"

### Session 4

History presentation and discussion: *Vietnam and the sixties - appearance and essence*

Christian theological approach No. 2: conscientious objection

Peace methodology: In the streets

Readings: Text, p. 33, Christine Sylvester, *Patriarch, Peace and Women Warriors*

Text, p. 187, Victor Hugo, *Address to the Congress de la Paix*

Text: p. 213, Central Committee for Conscientious Objection, *Are You a Conscientious Objector?*

Handout, Howard Zinn, *Accept Your Punishment*

Handout, Bob Chiarito, *Chicago 1968*

Handout, *The Story of Faslane Peace Camp, Scotland*

Handout: Robert Roman, *Love Your Country, Hate the War*

Video: "Blood Makes the Grass Grow: Conscientious Objectors and the Gulf War"

## Session 5

History presentation and discussion: *The Israeli-Palestinian Crisis: is there a real road to peace?*

Theological approaches: Judaism and Islam

Peace methodology: Diplomacy and mediation

Readings: Text p. 255, Robert Jay Lifton, *A Nuclear Age Ethos*

Text p. 315, Roger Fisher, *Getting to "Yes" in a Nuclear Age*

Text p. 356, Robert Coulson, *Arbitration: An International Wallflower*

Handout, John Ferguson, *Islam*, reading from *War and Peace in the World's Religions*

Handout, Associated Press, *Hanukkah like prayer for peace*

Handout, *The Muslim Peace Fellowship*

Handout, Bat Shalom (Israeli Women's Peace Group), *Jerusalem – Two Capitals for Two States*

Handout, Yehezkel Landou, *Blessing Both Jew and Palestinian: A Religious Zionist View*

Video: "Stopping the War Before it Starts"

## Session 6

History presentation and discussion, *Central America in the '80s: dictators, rebels, superpowers and peace activists*

Christian theological approach #3: liberation theology

Peace methodology: Nonviolent direct action

Readings: Text p. 113, Martin Luther King, Jr., *Letter From a Birmingham Jail*

Text p. 249, David Kitterman, *Those Who Said 'No' to the Holocaust*

Handout, South African Kairos Document, *Selection on violence*

Handout, Daniel H. Levine, *A Movement That Won't Die*

Handout, Leonardo Boff, *Liberation Theology and Globalisation*

\* Handout, Geoffrey B. Kelly and F. Burton Nelson, *Solidarity With the Oppressed: Bonhoeffer the man*

\* Half the class will read this, the other half the the other readings.

Video: "School of the Americas"

## Session 7

History presentation and discussion: *Somalia, Rwanda and Uncle Sam: Emergency response and long term peace*

Christian theological approach #4: Progressive Catholicism (Pope John XXIII)

Peace methodology: Intervention: military and non-military

Readings: Text p. 159, Amnesty International, *Amnesty International, a pamphlet*

Text p. 362, Jeane Kirkpatrick, *The Lesser Evil over the Greater Evil*

Handout, Jack Nelson-Pallmeyer, *Wise as Serpents, Gentle as Doves?*

Handout: Pope John XXIII, *Pacem in Terris* (especially par. 1-84)

Handout, Strategic Pastoral Action Network (SPAN), *Christmas Journey to Base Communities in Mexico*

Handout, Alison L. Des Forges, *Shame: Rationalizing Western Apathy on Rwanda*

Handout, Alexander Nikitin, *Political Democracies, International Community and War*

Video: "Forsaken Cries: the Story of Rwanda"

## Session 8

History presentation and discussion: *Armed struggle in the search for peace with justice - Columbia, Peru and Mexico (Chiapas)*

Theological approach: Unity of believers and non believers

Peace methodology: International control vs. revolution

Readings: Text p. 333, United Nations, *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*

Text p. 339, Lester R. Brown, *Redefining National Security*

Handout, Michel Andraos, *A Call for Jubilee*

Handout, Peter Rosset with Shea Cunningham, *Understanding Chiapas*

Handout, Washington Post, *CIA Protected Peruvian*

Handout, CP of Peru, *The People's War Will Inevitably Win*

Handout, National Liberation Army (Colombia), *Camilo Torres: Priest and Guerilla Fighter*

Video: Columbia in Crisis

## Session 9

**Historical view:** The struggle a nuclear free Pacific: all those islands, from Bikini atoll to Hawaii

**Theological approach:** traditional Hawaiian religion

**Peace methodology:** education for peace

**Readings:** Text p. 267, Christopher Kruegler and Patricia Parkman, *Identifying Alternatives to Political Violence: An Educational Imperative*

Text p. 391, Betty A. Reardon, *Toward a Paradigm of Peace*

Handout, Mary Kawena Pukui, *Nana I Ke Kumu, Ch. 5: The Many Qualities of Aggression*

Handout, Richard N. Salvador, *The Nuclear History of Micronesia and the Pacific*

**Video:** "Free Zone"

## Session 10

**Final oral reports**

**Course evaluation**