

# Introduction to Peace Studies

J. William Frost  
Swarthmore College  
Spring 1994

## Course Description

The course begins with an examination of perspectives on the causes of war found in ethnology, psychology, anthropology, economics, history, and political science. Then we will consider various governmental and private organizations and methods supposed to alleviate the causes of war. Topics to be discussed include religion and ethics, the United Nations, the World Court, international law, conflict resolution, peace research, and private groups such as Amnesty International, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, and American Friends Service Committee. Students will be expected to write term papers using the archives and manuscripts in the Swarthmore College Peace Collection.

There is no one textbook for the course, but we will be reading most of:

W. Scott Thompson, et al, *Approaches to Peace* (1991)

and using sections of:

Richard Falk and Samuel Kim, eds., *The War System: An Interdisciplinary Approach* (1980)

Francesca Cancian and J. W. Gibson, eds., *Making War, Making Peace*

Paul Smoker, *A Reader in Peace Studies*

Seyom Brown, *The Causes and Prevention of War* is a general description of many of the themes we will be covering in this course. I did not assign it because it was too easy.

All these books are on reserve. I recommend that you purchase Thompson 's *Approaches to Peace*.

## Course Schedule

**I. Aggression:** Is it innate? Does it make war inevitable?

**A. Ethnology:**

Required: Franz de Waal, *Peacemaking Among Primates*.

"Ethological and Psychological Inquiries," in Falk and Kim, *The War System: An Interdisciplinary Approach*, 77-158.

**B. Psychology and Psychobiology**

Required: Sigmund Freud, "Why War," and essays by Rowe, Hinde, Kemp, and Midgley in *A Reader in Peace Studies*, 159-196. (In binder of readings, volume 2.)

Recommended:

Stephen Jay Gould, *An Urchin in the Storm*.

John Klama, *Aggression: The Myth of the Beast Within*

Read one of three:

1. Irenaus Eibl-Eibesfeldt, *The Biology of War and Peace*, Chapters 1 and 5,
2. Robert Ardrey, *Territorial Imperative*, Chapter 7, "Look Homeward Angel,"
3. Desmond Morris, "Naked Ape," Chapter 6 "Fighting."

## **II. Anthropology**

Marvin Harris, *Cows, Pigs, Wars and Witches*, 61-107.

Signe Howell and Roy Willis, *Societies at Peace: Anthropological Perspectives*, 31 -44 (Semai Senoi), 45-59 (Chewong of Malaysia), 60-78 (Buid of Philippines).

Jonathan Haas, ed., *The Anthropology of War*, Chapters 2 and 3. (For possible anthropology majors, Paul Turner, David Pitt et al, *Anthropology of War and Peace*.)

Recommended: Section on "Cultural and Anthropological Inquiries" in Falk and Kim, *The War System*, 159-226.

John Keegan, *A History of Warfare*, Part 1.

## **III. Gender Analysis**

Adrienne Harris and Y. King, eds., *Rocking the Ship of State*:

Nancy Hartsock, "Masculinity, Heroism, and the Making of War," 133 - 152;

Sara Ruddick, "Mothers and Men's Wars," 75-92.

Essays by Reardon and Brock-Utne in Smoker, *A Reader in Peace Studies*, 136-150.

William Broyles, "Why Men Love War," in Cancian and Gibson, *Making War, Making Peace*, 29-37, and Unit on "Socialization," 49 -69.

Recommended: Jean Elshtain, *Women and War*

Amy Swerdlow, "Pure Milk, Not Poison: Women Strike for Peace"

## **IV. Economics**

"Political Economy of the Armaments Industry" in Cancian and Gibson, *Making War, Making Peace*, 165-194.

David Landes, "Some Thoughts on the Nature of Economic Imperialism," and Johan Galtung, "A Structural Theory of Imperialism," Falk and Kim, *The War System*, 371-376, 385 -458.

Recommended: Joshua Goldstein, *Long Cycles: Prosperity and War in the Modern Age* (1988)

## **IV. History/Political Science**

Required:

Michael Howard, *The Causes of War*, 1-35.

Geoffrey Blainey, *The Causes of War*, 245-249.

James Dunnigan and William Martel, *How to Stop a War*, 1-7, 23 -26, 38 -41.

Thompson, *Approaches to Peace*, 13-44.

Recommended:

John Stroessinger, *Why Nations Go to War*.

Johan Galtung, *There Are Alternatives*, 81 - 123.

Kenneth Waltz, *Man, The State, and War*.

## **Part II Reducing the Risk of War**

### **V. Peace Research Theory**

Mark Sommer, "Constructing Peace as a Whole System: Making the World Safe for Conflict," Cancian

and Gibson, *Making War, Making Peace*. 11-22.

"Theoretical Approaches to Peace and Conflict" - Boulding, Galtung, Beer, Axelrod, and Mitchell in Smoker, *A Reader in Peace Studies*, 1 - 3 2.

Elise Boulding, *Building a Global Civic Culture*, 1-34. Robert Pickus in *Approaches to Peace*, 227-253.

#### **VI. Ethics and War (Philosophy, Theology)**

Sheldon Cohen, *Arms and Judgment: Law, Morality, and the of War in the Twentieth Century*.

#### **VII. The United Nations**

*Charter of the United Nations and Statute of the International Court of Justice*.

*International Bill of Human Rights*.

Luck & Bilder essays in *Approaches to Peace*. 171-2271

We will discuss in class selected issues such as peacekeeping operations in Yugoslavia and Somalia. Readings will reflect what is of most immediate interest.

Recommended:

Adam Roberts and Benedict Kingsbury, eds., *United Nations: Divided World*.

Boutros Boutros-Ghali, "An Agenda for Peace," *New York Times Sunday Magazine*, January 2, 1994.

#### **VIII. World Federalism and International Law**

Schachter and McDougal articles in *Approaches to Peace*, 65 - 170.

Richard Falk, *Reviving the World Court*, 1-25, 173-195.

Hollins, *Conquest of War*. 38-53, 141-150.

Richard Falk, *The Promise of World Order*, 1-33, 279-298.

#### **IX. Disarmament and Arms Control**

Steven Miller, "Is Arms Control a Path to Peace?" in *Approaches to Peace*, 45-63.

Current issues of Arms Control Reporter: we will be examining the relation of arms control to security, focusing on U. S. – Soviet arms control treaties and the continuing debate over nuclear proliferation and verification.

#### **X. Alternative Security/Conflict Resolution**

Jay Rothman, *A Pre-Negotiation Model Theory and Training*.

John Burton, "Conflict Resolution as a Political Philosophy."

Gene Sharp, *Civilian Based Defense* - selected readings.

Laue, Thompson, Rummel essays in *Approaches to Peace*, 299-392.

### **Part III**

#### **XI. Non-Governmental Organizations:**

Class reports. Each student will be responsible for making an assignment and teaching a class for 30-40 minutes. The topic will be the same as your term paper. The news letters and papers in the Peace Collection of the various organizations make a logical source, but you are not confined to them. Just make sure you clear with me the topics and the kinds of sources you will be using.

Elise Boulding, *Building a Global Civic Culture*, 35-55.

Amnesty Internationale, American Friends Service Committee, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, Fellowship of Reconciliation, Sane, Human Rights' Watch, Oxfam.