

Peace Studies

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Course Description

In this course we will study examples of peaceful, non-violent societies and observe the processes and conditions that shape relations of peace and non-violence. From these examples, we can see that our human potential for peaceful relationships is strong and is a longstanding part of our human behavior. This suggests our ability to find new approaches to the attainment of peace in our own violent and warlike time. We will also discuss and study examples of violence and warfare.

The assignment will be to keep a typewritten journal which summarizes the discussion, the readings, and your reactions. Also choose some peace action to take - anything from 5 minutes to 5 hours/ week. If you are looking for ideas, check pages 65-77 of *Gandhi's Seven Steps to Global Change* and/or the journals *Cultural Survival* and *Cooperative America*. You may of course have some other ideas already! Hand in your Peace Action topic by October 16th at the latest. Your brief reports will be due October 30th and December 9th. (15% of your grade). Typewritten Journal Summaries will be due September 30, October 30 and December 4th, approximately at the end of the 4th, 8th and 1 2th weeks. *Each will be 20% of your grade. In each one describe special characteristics of peaceful groups or societies that you are learning from the readings and discussions.* In a final paper (25% of your grade), due the last day of class, discuss several policies and actions (some people might call them conditions and processes) that could lead to peaceful social relations on local/global levels. This can be a general commentary on ideas gleaned throughout the semester or perhaps a case study. Be thinking about it while you read as you may find something of special interest to you! In this course we will be emphasizing the social and cultural more than the individual.

Course Reading

Required Readings:

Gregor, Thomas. ed. *A Natural History of Peace*. Vanderbilt University Press. 1996

Guy de Mallac. *Gandhi's Seven Steps to Global Change*. An Ocean Tree Peacewatch Edition. 1989.

Silverberg, James and J. Patrick Gray. eds. *Aggression and Peacefulness in Humans and Other Primates*. Oxford University Press. 1992.

Optional Readings:

Course Packet - peace studies: we are not requiring this because most of the ideas in these materials are covered in our texts above.

Fabro, David. Peaceful Societies: An Introduction in *Journal of Peace Research*. xv(1): 67-83 1978

Galtung, Johan. Peace. *International Encyclopedia of Social Sciences II*: 487- 496, 1978.

Galtung, Johan. Twenty-five years of Peace Research: Ten Challenges & Some Responses. *Journal of Peace Research*. 22 (2): 141-158, 1985.

Robarchek, Clayton A., and C.J. Robarchek. Cultures of War and Peace: A comparative study of the Waorani and Semai in *Aggression and Peacefulness in Humans and Other Primates*, James Silverberg and J. Patrick Gray, eds.: 189-213 New York: Oxford U. Press 1992.

Lewis, Oscar. The Culture of Poverty. *Scientific American* 215 (4): 19-25, 1966.

Homer-Dixon, Thomas F., H.H. Boutwell, and George W. Rathjens. Environmental Change and Violent Conflict. *Scientific American* 268 (2): 38-45, 1993.

Library Reserve:

Stevenson, Leslie. *Seven Theories of Human Nature*. New York: Oxford U press 1987.

Montagu, Ashley, ed. *Learning Non-Aggression: The Experience of Non-Literate Societies*. New York: Oxford University Press. 1978. Chapters 3, 5 and 7.

Annual Review of Anthropology Volume 22, 1993. *Anthropology and Human Rights*. Ellen Messer. pp 221-286.

A sample Issue of *Cultural Survival*

A sample Issue of *Cooperative America*

Films: Jane Goodall and her wild chimpanzees, The Forest People, The Feast, The Axe Fight, Ghandi, and Dead Birds.

Course Schedule

Tuesday, September 2:

Introduction to the course and to each other. In general we will read approximately 30 pages per meeting to discuss with each other. Handout: Seven Theories of Human Nature.

Thursday, September 4:

Gregor Chapter 1 What is Peace?

Tuesday, September 9:

Gregor Chapter 2 The Biological Basis of Peaceful Coexistence research on Monkeys and Apes

Film: Jane Goodall and Her Wild Chimps

Thursday, September 11:

Silverberg & Gray Chapter 1 Violence and Peacefulness as Behavioral Potentialities of Primates

Tuesday, September 16:

Silverberg & Gray Chapter 2 Aggression as a Well-integrated part of Primate Social Relationships

Thursday, September 18:

Silverberg & Gray Chapter 5 Causes and Consequences of Nonaggression in the Woolly Spider Monkey, or Muriqui

Tuesday, September 23:

Gregor Chapter 3 The Human Evolution of Cooperative Interest

Thursday, September 25:

Gregor Chapter 4 The Natural History of Peace: A Positive View and the Film: The Feast

Tuesday, September 30:

Film: The Forest People
Hand In your journal for the 1st 4 weeks - we will discuss them in class

Thursday, October 2:

Compare the Feast and The Forest People to your reading:
Gregor Chapter 5 Roots of Group Violence and Creation of Peaceful relations

Tuesday, October 7:

Chapters 1-4 of Ghandi's Seven Steps to Global Change

Thursday, October 9:

Complete the readings in Ghandi's Seven Steps
Choose a peace action by today- by October 16 hand in your topic and be prepared to discuss the action you plan to take in class.

Tuesday, October 14: No Class

Thursday, October 16:

Gregor Chapter 6 Two Paths to Peace: Semai and Mehinaku Nonviolence

Tuesday, October 21:

Gregor Chapter 7 From Warfare to Peacefulness Among the Waorani

Thursday, October 23 and Tuesday, October 28:

Silverberg & Gray: chapters 6 through 9- just discussions and summary section of each chapter. Chapter 10 - just the conclusion and summary

Thursday, October 30:

Hand in the 8th week journal and also your peace action report.
We will discuss them in class

Tuesday, November 4:

Silverberg & Gray: Chapter 11 Social Structure, Psychocultural Dispositions, and Violent Conflict: Extensions from a Crosscultural Study. Also the one and one half page Appendix if you haven't read it already

Thursday, November 6:

Gregor Chapter 8 War, Peace, and the Collapse of Native American Civilization
Film: Ghandi (1st part)

Tuesday, November 11: No Class

Thursday, November 13:

Film: Ghandi (2nd part)

Tuesday, November 18:

Film: The Axe Fight
Gregor Chapter 9 Why Violence is Rejected or Renounced

Thursday, November 20:

Film: Dead Birds
Gregor Chapter 10 Understanding Peace

Tuesday, November 25:

Taking the films, Ghandi and Dead Birds, write a few pages relating them to Chapter 1 (on conflict) in Silverberg and Gray and Chapter 9 and 10 (on peace) in Gregor. This could make a helpful first draft for your final paper. You may hand it in for comment by the professor if you like - this is optional.

Thursday, November 27: Thanksgiving vacation

Tuesday, December 2:

Gregor Chapter 11 Peace, Justice, Freedom, and Competence in a Changing World

Thursday, December 4:

Hand in your 12th week journal

Tuesday, December 9:

Hand in your final peace action summary/report

Thursday, December 11: Final paper: Policies and Actions that generate peaceful relations.