

War and Peace

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Course Description

Religion 6 is intended to be an introduction to the study of the interaction of ethics and religion in the past and in contemporary society. We will be examining attitudes to war in western civilization before and after the rise of the nation-state. The first two-thirds of the course will deal with ideas of war and peace from the Hebrews and Greeks to the present. The readings for this portion will be various primary sources, J. W. Frost, *Religion, Morality and War*, and Gwynne Dyer, *War*. These can be supplemented by Roland Bainton, *Christian Attitudes Toward War and Peace*. The theme in the last part will be justifications for and against recent wars involving America from World War II to Iraq. Swarthmore College is fortunate in having one of the best collections of manuscripts, archives, and books on war and peace in the Peace Collection. Students can draw upon the materials in the Peace Collection in writing papers.

Course Schedule

INTRODUCTION: Frost, *Religion, Morality and War*, "Introduction: The Past in the Present"

PART I - Shaping the Tradition

Assignment No. 1 War in the Hebrew Scriptures

A. Read one of these Old Testament books: *Judges*, *Joshua*, *I or II Samuel*, *I Kings*. Compare the style and content with one of the prophets (Amos, *Isaiah*) and with wisdom literature (*Job*, *Ecclesiastes*, *Proverbs*).
Exodus 14:5-15:21 departure from Egypt
Exodus 17:8-16 Lord against Amalek
Deuteronomy 22 Holy War
Numbers 30 Unholy War
Judges 4-8:29 Deborah and Gideon
Joshua 1-10 Conquest
I Samuel 15:1-23 Saul and the curse upon Amalekite spoils
I Kings 22:1-21 the role of professional prophets in Hebrew wars
II Kings 25 :1-6 destruction of the temple by invading Babylonians
Isaiah 2:1-4 swords into plowshares (also *Psalms* , 35; *Leviticus* 26 on Shalom)
9: 107 Prince of Peace
11:1 -I O The Peaceable Kingdom
Isaiah 7:1-9 trust in God, rather than Israel, and vs. Assyria
30:1-5; 28:14-18 a treaty with Egypt is a covenant
31: 1 -3 with death
Jeremiah 31:3 1-34

B. Frost, *Religion, Morality and War*, "The Hebrew Scriptures and War"
Gwynne Dyer, *War*, Chapter 1

For those who took Religion 3 and have a good grasp of the biblical texts, the best secondary source is Susan Niditch, *War in the Hebrew Bible: A Study in the Ethics of Violence*.

Recommended:

Duane Christensen, *Transformations of the War Oracle in Old Testament Prophecy*
 Gerhard von Rad, *Studies in Deuteronomy*, 45-59
 " " *Holy War in Ancient Israel*
 " " *Meaning of the Prophets*
 Fritz Stolz, *Yahwes und Israels Kriege*
 Rudolf Smend, *Yahweh War and Tribal Confederation*
 Peter Craigie, *The Problem of War in the Old Testament*

Assignment No. 2 The New Testament

If you have not done so recently, read one of the synoptic Gospels in its entirety (*Mark, Matthew, Luke*).
Luke is most valuable for our purposes.

Required: Frost, *Religion, Morality and War*, "The New Testament and War"

Gospel Parallels is an excellent way to compare the gospels.

on Love	<i>Matthew</i> 5:1-45 Sermon on the Mount <i>Luke</i> 17:1-4 Unlimited Forgiveness
on Justice	<i>Matthew</i> 7:1-5 on judging; see also <i>Mark</i> 11:12-18 <i>Matthew</i> 23:13-19 Rebuke to Pharisees; cf. <i>Luke</i> 11 :45, <i>Mark</i> 9:42
on State	<i>Luke</i> 22:36-38 the two swords . <i>Mark</i> 12:13-17 rendering to Caesar <i>Matthew</i> 26:52-3 Peter in Gethsemane; see also <i>Luke</i> 22:36,47
on the Kingdom of God	<i>Mark</i> 4 - Parables of the Kingdom; compare <i>Luke</i> 4: 13 <i>Matthew</i> 13:33-48 same and other parables <i>Matthew</i> 20:1-15 Laborers in the vineyard and their reward <i>Matthew</i> 18:23-35 Parable of the debt; cf. verses 10- 14 <i>Matthew</i> 4: 1 - 17 What kind of Kingdom?
Pauline Epistles	<i>Romans</i> 13:1-7 <i>I Corinthians</i> 14:8 war metaphors <i>II Corinthians</i> 10:3-4 " " <i>Thessalonians</i> 5 :2-8 Early Church <i>II Thessalonians</i> 2 " " <i>I Timothy</i> 2:1-4
Apocalypse	<i>Matthew</i> 24:6-8 <i>Mark</i> 13 :7-8 <i>Revelation</i> 19: 11 -21

Recommended:

S. G. F. Brandon, *Jesus and the Zealots*, 322-358
 John Yoder, *The Politics of Jesus*, Chs. 4-5, 78-94
 G. H. C. Macgregor, *The New Testament Basis of Pacifism*
 C. J. Cadoux, *The Early Christian Attitude to War*
 John Ferguson, *Politics of Love: The New Testament and Non Violent Revolution*
 Richard Cassidy, *Jesus, Politics, and Society*
 Ernst Bammel & C. F. D. Moule, *Jesus and the Politics of His Day*

Richard Horsley, *Jesus and the Spiral of Violence*

Assignment No. 3 The Classical Heritage

A. Ancient Greece

Frost, *Religion, Morality and War*, "The Greeks and War"

Arthur Holmes, ed., *War and Christian Ethics, Plato and Aristotle*, 11 -33

Thucydides, *History of Peloponesian Wars*, mimeographed

Aristophanes, *The Lysistrata*

Gwynne Dyer, *War*, Chapter 2

Recommended:

Martin Mueller, *Iliad*

Lionel Pearson, *Popular Ethics in Ancient Greece*

Cedric Whitman, *Aristophanes and the Comic Hero*

Gerardo Zampaglione, *The Idea of Peace in Antiquity*

Charles Alexander Robinson, *Athens in the Age of Pericles*

Martin Ostwald, "Peace and War in Plato and Aristotle"

B. Rome

Frost, *Religion, Morality and War*, "Rome: Pagan and Christian"

Helgeland, et al, *Christians and the Military*

Recommended:

William V. Harris, *War and Imperialism in Republican Rome*

Henry Paolucci, ed., *Political Writings (Saint Augustine)* 163 - 183

John Figgis, *The Political Aspects of St. Augustine's 'City of God'*

Charles N. Cochrane, *Christianity and Classical Culture*

Herbert A. Deane, *The Political and Social Ideas of St. Augustine*

Peter R. L. Brown, *Augustine of Hippo: a Biography and Religion and Society in the Age of St. Augustine*

Assignment No. 4 The Middle Ages: Christianity and Islam

Frost, *Religion, Morality and War*, "Islam in War and Peace" and "Medieval Europe"

Arthur Holmes, ed., *War and Christian Ethics*, 85-136

Mohammed, The Qu'ran, "Medina sirrahs," mimeograph passed out in class

John Kelsay, *Islam and War: A Study in Comparative Ethics*, 17-93

Recommended:

M. H. Keen, *The Laws of War in the Late Middle Ages*

James Brundage, *Medieval Canon Law and the Crusader*

Thomas Aquinas, *On the Governance of Rulers*

Joinville and Villehardouin, *Chronicles of the Crusades*

Alfred Vanderpol, *Le Doctrine scholastique du droit de guerre*

Majid Khadduri, *War and Peace in the Law of Islam*

Assignment No. 5 The Splintering of the Traditions

Frost, *Religion, Morality and War*, "Splintering of the Traditions,"

"War and Peace in the Age of Reason"

Arthur Holmes, *War and Christian Ethics*, 137-239
Machiavelli, *The Prince*

Recommended:

James T. Johnson, *Ideology, Reason, and the Limitation of War: Religious and Secular Concepts*
J. W. Allen, *A History of Political Thought in the Sixteenth Century*
James Stayer, *Anabaptists and the Sword*
Luther Hess Waring, *The Political Theories of Martin Luther*
John T. McNeill, *The History and Character of Calvinism*
F. C. Palm, *Calvinism and the Religious Wars*
Felix Gilbert, *Machiavelli and Guiccardini*
Sheldon Wolin, *Politics and Vision*

Assignment No. 6 Realpolitik and Nationalism

Frost, *Religion, Morality and War*, "The Realistic Tradition,"
"Revolutions as Just War"
von Clausewitz, *On War*, Chapters 1 & 2
Gwynne Dyer, *War*, Chapters 3 - 6
Sun Tzu, *The Art of War*, mimeograph

Recommended:

Thomas Hobbes, *Leviathan*
Michael Eliot Howard, *Clausewitz*
W. B. Gallie, *Philosophers of Peace and War*
Peter Paret, *Clausewitz and the State*
J. F. C. Fuller, *The Conduct of War 1789-1961*

PART II Contemporary Theories: Old Wine in New Bottles?

Assignment No. 7 Contemporary Theories: The Theologians: Pacifists, Just War, Christian Realism, Liberation

John Yoder, *Nevertheless*
Reinhold Niebuhr, selection in Holmes
Frost, *Religion, Morality and War*, "World War I"

Recommended:

Frost, *Religion, Morality and War*, "A Civilized Way to Peace? "

Assignments No.8 and No. 9 Contemporary Theories: The Philosophers and Political Scientists

Michael Walzer, *Just and Unjust Wars*, Chapters 10, 11, 12, 13
Gwynne Dyer, *War*, Chapters 8 & 9

Recommended:

Sheldon Cohen, *Arms and Judgment: Law, Morality and the Contents of War in the 20th Century*
Nicholas Fotion and Gerald Elfstrom, *Military Ethics*
Charles Beitz, *Political Theory and International Relations*
Stanley Hoffman, *Duties Beyond Borders*
James Johnson, *Can Modern War be Just?*
Edward Laarman, *Nuclear Pacifism: 'Just War' Thinking Today*
William O'Brien, *The Conduct of Just and Limited War*

Peter L. Stromberg, et al, *The Teaching of Ethics in the Military*
Malham Wakin, ed., *War, Morality, and the Military Profession*
Davis and Good, eds., *Reinhold Niebuhr on Politics*, 84-86, 105-108, 121-151, 181-182
Robert Tucker, *The Just War: A Study in Contemporary American Doctrine*
Charles Beitz and Theodore Herman, eds., *Peace and War*
Michael Howard, *Studies in War and Peace*
Robert McAfee Brown, *Religion and Violence*
Paul Mensel, *Moral Argument and the War in Vietnam*
Robert Ginsberg, ed., *The Critique of War*
Albert Marrin, ed., *War and the Christian Conscience*
Gene Sharp, *Politics of Non-Violent Action*
" " *Gandhi As A Political Strategist*
" " *Social Power and Political Freedom*
Mark Juergensmeyer, *Fighting with Gandhi*
Richard Wasserstrom, *War and Morality*
Paul Ramsey, *War and the Christian Conscience: How shall Modern War be Conducted Justly?*
Harold P. Ford and Francis W. Winters, *Ethics and Nuclear Strategy?*
Ralph B. Potter, *War and Moral Discourse*
Ralph Tucker, *Just War and Vatican Council II*
Roman Catholic Bishops Statement and *Pacem in Terris*
Methodist Bishops, *In Defense of Creation*

PART III Ethics and Modern War: Case Studies

Guest Lecturer, Melvin Endy, "American Churches and War"

WORLD WAR II:

Topics: Jewish Issue and World War II
Bombing Campaign in Europe
Atomic Bomb
Nuremberg Trials

Required: "Morality of Hiroshima, Nagasaki A-Bomb Drops Weighed" (transcript from PBS program, *Weekend Edition/Sat.* (8/5/95) (in binder)
Richard Wasserstrom, "The Relevance of Nuremberg," from Cohen, ed., *War and Moral Responsibility* (in binder)

VIETNAM:

Required: David Levy, *Debate Over Vietnam*

Recommended: George Herring, *America's Longest War: The U. S. and Vietnam*, the best short history
Stanley Karnow, *Vietnam: A History New Republic*, April 29, 1985 (Tenth anniversary of fall of Saigon - pro and con war)

CENTRAL AMERICA:

Required: Charles Krauthammer, "Morality and the Reagan Doctrine," *New Republic*, Sept., 1986, 17-24
Recommended:
Philip Berryman, *Inside Central America or What's Wrong in Central America*
James Dunkerley, *Power in the Isthmus: A Political History of Modern Central America*
Kevin Buckley, *Panama: The Whole Story*
Clifford Krauss, *Inside Central America: Its People, Politics, and History*

PANAMA:

Recommended: Bob Woodward, *The Commanders*

KUWAIT, IRAQ

Required: David Smock, *Religious Perspectives on War: Christian, Muslim and Jewish Attitudes Toward Force After the Gulf War*

John Kelsay, *Islam and War: A Study in Comparative Ethics*, 1-17, 93-122

Recommended: James Johnson and George Weigel, *Just War and the Gulf War*

Brian Hallett, ed., *Engulfed in War*

Phyllis Bennis, ed., *Beyond the Storm: A Gulf Crisis Reader*

Jean Elshtain, et al, *But Was It Just?*

BOSNIA

The U. N. and International Peacekeeping