Purpose of Course: The Faith, Peace, and Justice Program at Boston College sponsors this course as an introduction to the field of Peace Studies. The course reflects the interest of faculty and students in developing an interdisciplinary approach to the study of war and conflict and the study of alternatives to their resolution in contemporary global society.

The course is organized along multidisciplinary lines, with faculty members from various departments responsible for each topic of discussion. This interdisciplinary approach demonstrates the varied and complex perspectives on the causes of war and conflict and attempts to develop out of the resources of these respective disciplines comprehensive, intelligent insights into the resolution of conflicts and the development of creative alternatives to war.

Required texts:
Bacevich, Andrew J, The New American Militarism
Bailie, Gil, Violence Unveiled
Barash, David P., ed. Approaches to Peace
Byers, Michael, War Law
Chomsky, Noam, What Uncle Sam Really Wants
Derber, Charles, Morality Wars
Hedges, Chris, War is the Force That Gives Us Meaning
Orend, Brian, The Morality of War

Texts for Book Review
Packer, George, The Assassins Gate
Schell, Jonathan, The Unconquerable World
Stiglitz, Joseph, The Trillion Dollar War
Powers, Samantha, A Problem from Hell

Recommended Texts
Fogarty, War, Peace and the Social Order, esp. Chap. 2 and 3
Holmes, Robert, On War and Morality
Walzer, Michael, Just and Unjust Wars

Required texts and texts for book review are available in the Bookstore under PL259. All required and recommended texts are on reserve in O'Neill Library. Other required readings will be made available as handouts for particular classes. The handouts for all classes are required reading and are material for examination questions and background for class papers and examinations.
**Required Movies**
The Battle of Algiers
The Corporation
The Fog of War
Shake Hands with the Devil
Why We Fight

(The movies will be on BC channels and the schedule will be announced in class. The movies are available at the Media Center in O’Neill for individual viewing.)

**Course Requirements:**
1. Two short papers: Book Review due Oct 2, assigned topic due on Oct 30, 5-7 pages each. (50%)
2. Final research paper, 15 pages, one page proposal due Nov 6, final paper due Dec 4. (30%)
3. Final exam, Dec 11, 9 pm (10%)
4. Required attendance for lectures and active participation in bi-weekly Discussion Group. (10%)
5. Required readings (and movies when assigned) prepared in advance for each class and engaged participation in class discussion.
6. Soul

**CLASS PARTICIPATION AND DISCUSSION GROUPS:** In making up your class schedules, please remember to budget time for the discussion group that will meet on Thursdays at 3pm. Our first discussion groups will begin on Thursday, September 11th. Half the class will meet at this time on alternate weeks from Sept 11 to Nov. 13 for a total of five meetings for each group. Make sure that you keep the discussion group time open. The discussion will focus on our questions and reflections arising from the required readings and the themes of the lectures. This period will also be an opportunity to view occasional important documentaries bearing on the course.

**Academic Integrity**
Students are expected to uphold the standards and guidelines set forth in Boston College’s ‘Policy on Academic Integrity’. Cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of your work or person, and failure to cite properly other scholar’s ideas or work are common violations of academic integrity. For the complete statement of the University’s policy consult on the web at www.bc.edu/integrity

**Coordinator for Course**
Matthew Mullane
Theology Department
Director, Faith, Peace, and Justice Program
Office: 21 Campanella Way, Rm 362
Phone 552-3886
E-mail: mullanmd@bc.edu
Office Hours: Mon 9-10, 12-3, Tues. 1:30-4:00, -Thurs., 1:30-3.
Class Schedule: Perspectives: War, Aggression and Conflict Resolution, Fall 2008

Sept. 2-11 Intro to Course/Peace Studies Prof. Mullane (Theology)
(N.B. Classes at noon on Sept 9th are cancelled)

Sept. 16-18 Aggressive Behavior Prof. Strauss (Biology)

Sept. 23-25 Typology of War Prof. Lowry (Sociology)

Oct 2 Book Review due

Sept. 30-Oct 2 Social-Psych Perspectives Prof. Canavan (Psych.)

Oct. 7-9 Use and Abuse of Propaganda Prof. Michalczyk (F. Arts)

Oct. 14-16 Religion and Violence Prof. Daly (Theology)

Oct. 21-23 Christian Ethics and War Prof. Himes (Theology)

Oct. 28-30 Historical/Political Perspectives Prof. Jacobs (History)

Oct. 30 2nd short paper due

Nov. 4-6 Domestic Roots of War Prof. Derber (Sociology)

Nov. 11-13 Democracy and Peacemaking Prof. Deese (Pol. Sci)

Nov. 13 Proposal for Final Paper due

Nov. 18-20 International Conflict Resolution Prof. Helmick (Theology)

Dec 2-4 Theological Foundations for Peace Prof. Lawrence (Theology)

Dec 4 Final Term Paper Due

Dec 11, Final Exam 9:00am

War, Aggression, and Conflict Resolution, Fall 08
Reading Schedule

Sept 2-11 Prof. Mullane - Introduction to Course
Readings: Hedges, Chris, War is the Force That Gives Us Meaning
Bacevich, Chap. 1 “Wilsonians under Arms”, Chap 2, “The Military
Profession at Bay”, Chap 3, “Left, Right, Left”.


Sept 16-18  Prof. Strauss – Aggression in Animals/Humans
Readings:  Barash, pp. 5-26
           Bacevich, Chap. 4-7

Sept 23-25  Prof. Lowry – Typology of War
Readings:  Barash, pp. 36-58
           Forgarty, Chap. 2, “The Social Structure of War and Peace”
           Chap. 3  “Explaining War”, cf. Blackboard Vista

Sept 30-Oct 2  Prof. Canavan - Social-Psychological Perspectives
Readings:  Barash, pp.70-125,
           Movie: “The Corporation”

Oct 2  Book Review Due

Oct 7-9  Prof. Michalazyk - Propaganda
Readings:  Barash, pp. 45-60
           Start Bailie, Violence Unveiled

Oct 14-16  Prof. Daly – Religion and Violence
Readings:  Bailie, Violence Unveiled
           Movie: “Shake Hands with the Devil”

Oct 21-23  Prof. Himes - Christian Ethics: War, Pacifism, and Nonviolence
           Orend, Chap 1-4, pp. 8-158
           Recommended: Walzer, Part One, “The Moral Reality of War” pp.3-50,
           Part Two, “The Theory of Aggression” pp. 51-117
           US Catholic Bishops, The Challenge of Peace (on line)

Oct 28-30  Prof. Jacobs - Historical/Political Perspectives
Readings:  Barash, pp. 26-44
           Bacevich, Chap. 8
           Movie: “The Fog of War”

Oct 31  2nd Short Paper Due

Nov 4-6  Prof. Derber – Domestic Roots of War
Readings:  Chomsky, What Uncle Sam Really Wants
           Derber, Morality Wars
           Movie: “Why We Fight”

Nov 11-13  Prof. Deese – Democracy and Peace Making
Readings:  Byers, War Law
           Selected handouts
Nov 18-20  Prof. Helmick - Principles of Conflict Resolution
Readings:  Barash, Chap 2, “Building ‘Negative Peace’”
           Chap 3, “Building ‘Positive Peace’”
           Movie:” Iraq for Sale”

Nov 24   Thanksgiving Break – no class

Dec 4    Final Paper due

Dec 2-4  Prof. Lawrence – Theological Foundations for Peace
Readings: Barash, Chap 4, “Nonviolence”, Chap. 5 “Religious Inspiration”,
           Chap 6, “Peace Movements, Transformations and the Future”

Dec 11   Final Exam, 9 am.

“There is no reason good can’t triumph over evil, if only angels will get
organized along the lines of the Mafia.” Kurt Vonnegut
A Man Without a Country