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:
Allman, Mark J, Who Would Jesus Kill?
Bacevich, Andrew J, The New American Militarism
, The Limits of Power
Barash, David P., ed. Approaches to Peace, 2nd edition
Byers, Michael, War Law
Chomsky, Noam, What Uncle Sam Really Wants
Hedges, Chris, War is the Force That Gives Us Meaning
Kirwan, Michael, Discovering Girard

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

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. The instructor reserves the right to require further readings or film/documentary viewing at his discretion.
**Required Movies**
The Battle of Algiers (highly recommended)
The Corporation
The Fog of War
Shake Hands with the Devil
Why We Fight
South Africa: Truth and Reconciliation

**Course Requirements:**
1. Two short papers: Book Review due Oct 6, assigned topic paper due on Nov 10
   5-7 pages each. (50%) (no extensions, no electronic submissions)
2. Final research paper, 12-15 pages, one page proposal due Nov 10, final paper due
   Dec 8. (30%) (no extensions)
3. Final exam, Dec 18 @ 9am, (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 24 to Dec 3** 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](http://www.bc.edu/integrity)

**Classroom etiquette:** Please be on time for class, turn off all cellular phones and
personal electronic devices, and bury them deep in your backpacks. Do **not** use
computers in the classroom.

**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, 1-4, Tues. 1:30-4:30, Thurs., 1:30-3.
Class Schedule: Perspectives: War, Aggression and Conflict Resolution, Fall 2009

Sept. 8-15  Intro. to Course/Peace Studies  Prof. Mullane (Theology)

Sept. 17  No Class  (Classes at noon on Sept 17th are cancelled university wide.)

Sept. 22-24  Typology of War  Prof. Lowry (Sociology)

Sept. 29-Oct 1  Aggressive Behavior  Prof. Strauss (Biology)

Oct 6  Book Review due in class

Oct 6-8  Social-Psych Perspectives  Prof. Canavan (Psych.)

Oct. 13-15  Use and Abuse of Propaganda  Prof. Michalczyk (F. Arts)

Oct. 20-22  Religion and Violence  Prof. Daly (Theology)

Oct 27-29  Christian Ethics and War  Prof. Himes (Theology)

Nov 3-5  Historical Perspectives  Prof. Jacobs (History)

Nov. 10  Proposal for Final Paper due

Nov 10  2nd short paper due in class

Nov. 10-12  Domestic Roots of War  Prof. Derber (Sociology)

Nov. 17-19  Democracy and Peacemaking  Prof. Deese (Pol. Sci)

Nov. 24  Principles of Conflict Resolution  Prof. Nielsen (Org. Studies)

Dec 1-3  International Conflict Resolution  Profs. Helmick (Theology)

Dec 8  Final Research Paper Due in class

Dec 8  Justice and Reconciliation  Prof. Pope (Theology)

Dec 10  Conclusion  Prof. Mullane

Dec 18, Final Exam 9:00am
**War, Aggression, and Conflict Resolution, Fall 09**

**Reading Schedule**

**Sept 8-15**  Prof. Mullane - Introduction to Course  
**Readings:**  Hedges, *War is the Force That Gives Us Meaning*  
*The Limits of Power*, Intro & Chap 1

**Sept 22-24**  Prof. Lowry – Typology of War  
**Readings:**  Barash, pp. 37-46  
Forgarty, Chap. 2, “The Social Structure of War and Peace”  
Chap. 3 “Explaining War”, cf. Blackboard Vista

**Sept 29-Oct 1**  Prof. Strauss – Aggression in Animals/Humans  
**Readings:**  Barash, pp. 9-30  
Movie: “Shake Hands with the Devil” (See on your own)

**Oct 6-8**  Prof. Canavan - Social-Psychological Perspectives  
**Readings:**  Barash, pp.31-36, 66-70  
Movie: “The Corporation” (on your own)

Oct 6  **Book Review due in class**

**Oct 13-14**  Prof. Michalazyk - Propaganda  
**Reading**  Barash, pp. 47-53  
*New American Militarism*, Chap 4  
Start: Kirwan, *Discovering Girard*

**Oct 20-22**  Prof. Daly – Religion and Violence  
**Readings:**  Kirwan, *Discovering Girard*  
*New American Militarism*, Chap. 5  
Barash, Chap 6 (selections)

**Oct 27-29**  Prof. Himes - Christian Ethics: War, Pacifism, and Nonviolence  
**Readings:**  Allman, *Who Would Jesus Kill?* Chapter 2-5

**Nov 3-5**  Prof. Jacobs - Historical/Political Perspectives  
**Readings:**  Barash, pp. 115-131, 78-98  
Movie: “The Fog of War” (see on your own.)

Nov 10  **2nd Short Paper Due in class; term paper proposal due**

**Nov 10-12**  Prof. Derber – Domestic Roots of War  
**Readings:**  Chomsky, *What Uncle Sam Really Wants*  
*New American Militarism*, Chap 6 & 7
Nov 17-19  Prof. Deese – Democracy and Peace Making
Readings:  Byers, War Law
           Barash, pp 99-111
           Selected articles, cf. BbV

Nov 24   Prof. Nielsen-Principles of Conflict Resolution
Readings: Barash, pp 71-78
           Chap 3, “Building ‘Positive Peace’

Dec 1-3   Prof. Helmick – International Conflict Resolution
Readings: Barash, Chap 5, “Non-Violence”

Dec 8    Final Paper due in class

Dec 8    Prof. Pope -War and Reconciliation
Readings: Barash, pp. 266-281
           Movie:  South Africa: Beyond a Miracle

Dec 10    Prof. Mullane-Peacemaking is Hard
Readings: New American Militarism, Chap 8
           The Limits of Power, Chap 2 & 3
           Barash, Chap 7 (selections)

Dec 18    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