Phil 3120: Philosophies of Peace  
Instructor: Tom Pynn  
Autumn 2012

Peace is not an absence of war; it is a virtue, a state of mind, a disposition for benevolence, confidence, justice.

--Baruch Spinoza

Nonviolence is a perfect stage. It is a goal towards which all mankind moves naturally, though unconsciously.

--Gandhi

Office Hours: SO 2008. MW, 10-11 and 1-2; TR, 11-1, and by appointment.

E-mail address: tpynn@kennesaw.edu. Use only for communication purposes. If you use the email on GeorgiaView, there is a chance that I may not respond for a couple of days. You are more likely to get a quicker response by using my KSU address. Exams submitted electronically without authorization will be deleted.

Course Description: Phil 3120: Philosophies of Peace is an introductory and interdisciplinary course that introduces students to the texts, figures, movements, theories, and practices in the philosophy of peace from western and non-western perspectives. Within these general headings some topics include: philosophical, religious, and poetic perspectives on the prospect and meanings of peace; concepts and practices of nonviolence; language and peace; peacebuilding; and justice. Prerequisite: ENGL 1101.

Required Texts
The End of War, Paul K. Chappell
Dreaming the End of War. Benjamin Alire Saenz
Gandhi’s Experiments with Truth, Richard L. Johnson
How Nonviolence Protects the State. Peter Gelderloos

Evaluation: The student will demonstrate performative competence in communicating (through writing and speaking) his/her understanding of the material. Essay composition helps the student practice a range of writing and thinking skills, most important among these are development of ideas and appropriate idea transitions. The following are the three parts of a student’s performance with respective %s of grade. The grading scale is as follows: A: 90-100, B: 80-89, C: 70-79, D: 60-69; F: 59 and below.
• **Exams:** (80%) Students will take four exams. Each exam will emphasize readings and what is done in class: lecture, class discussion, and videos. The take-home exams are essay formats with several options from which to choose given out one week prior to the due date. Each exam emphasizes composition and critical thinking skills as well as content knowledge. If you are unsure of your composition skills please visit the writing center in the Humanities building. If you are unsure of your critical thinking skills please see me during office hours.

• **Attendance at Peace Lectures or Mike Ryan Lectures:** (10%) Students will attend five peace related lectures of their choice. Credit is acquired by meeting me at the lecture venue and recording your name on the roll. Other lectures other than those listed above may be eligible. Check with the instructor.

• **Class participation:** (10%) Class participation is willingly and spiritedly engaging in reading aloud, asking questions and freely participating in discussion of the topics at hand.

**Extra credit:** all exams must have been turned in order to receive extra points. Extra credit is obtained by completing a 500 word (minimum) summary any presentation you attend outside of class that is directly relevant to the course. See the semester schedules for the Peace Studies Lecture Series and Mike Ryan Lecture Series posted on Georgia View Vista. Each summary/critique you complete is worth up to 5 points and the points will be attached to the most recent exam relative to when you turn in the extra credit work. You may attend and compose summaries for as many lectures and/or presentations as you wish. **NOTE:** You may not turn all extra credit writings at once at the end of the semester.

**Expected Outcomes:** By the end of the semester the student will

- Demonstrate a college-level understanding of the major figures, themes, and movements from the history of philosophy through reading, exams and writing assignments;
- use the concepts of the various philosophers, philosophical traditions and philosophical periods we have studied in reading, reading, exams and writing assignments;
- compare and contrast different philosophical schools of thought and their cultural and historical roots in both Western and non-Western contexts as evidenced in classroom discussion, reading, exams and writing assignments;
- identify and employ philosophical language, analysis, and argumentation by participating in classroom dialogue and writing expository compositions;
be ethically sensitive to the role of cultural, social and political diversity in human thought and action by exploring with and responding to others in open dialogue about human diversity;

critically examine her/his own social, cultural, and historical situation and its effects on individual, group, and national beliefs about the self, others, and the world through evaluating and discussing the social and historical origins and implications of those positions; and

apply the ideas we study to his/her life as evidenced in classroom discussion, reading, exams and writing assignments.

**Academic Integrity Statement:** Every KSU student is responsible for upholding the provisions of the Student Code of Conduct, as published in the Undergraduate Catalogs. Section II of the Student Code of Conduct addresses the University's policy on academic honesty, including provisions regarding plagiarism and cheating, unauthorized access to University materials, misrepresentation/falsification of University records or academic work, malicious removal, retention, or destruction of library materials, malicious/intentional misuse of computer facilities and/or services, and misuse of student identification cards. Incidents of alleged academic misconduct will be handled through the established procedures of the University Judiciary Program, which includes either an informal resolution by a faculty member, resulting in a grade adjustment, or a formal hearing procedure, which may subject a student to the Code of Conduct's minimum one semester suspension requirement.

**Absence Policy:** The student will neither be punished for absence nor rewarded for presence; however, the student is responsible for material covered: all readings, lectures, and documentary presentations. I will allow late exams only if the student contacts me about the absence at least one week prior to the exam date and/or if the student finds himself/herself in dire straits; e.g., giving birth, comatose, hospitalization for an extended period of time, and, of course, being dead. *A student may email me their assignment(s) only if prior arrangements have been made with me.*

**Schedule of Events**

**August 18:** Introduction to Philosophies of Peace

**August 23-September 13:** Conceptions of Peace and *The End of War*

Aug. 23: Conceptions of peace: handout on Georgia View
Aug. 25: *The End of War*, ix-16
Aug. 30: *The End of War*, 17-44
Sept. 1: *The End of War*, 45-64
Sept. 6: *The End of War*, 65-79
Sept. 8: *The End of War*, 80-123
Sept. 13: *The End of War*, 124-152

**Exam 1**: September 20, 2011

**September 15-October 6: Sources of Aggression**
Sept. 15: *Media and the Images of War* (video)
http://www.constitution.org/wj/meow.htm
Sept. 27: Oct. 6: *Dreaming the End of War*
**Exam 2**: October 13, 2011

**October 11-November 1: Gandhi’s Experiments with Truth**
Oct. 11: *Mahatma Gandhi: Pilgrim of Peace* (video)
Oct. 13: Introduction to Nonviolence, handout on Georgia View
Oct. 18: *Gandhi’s Experiments with Truth*, ix-70
Oct. 20: *Gandhi’s Experiments with Truth*, 71-162
Oct. 25: *Gandhi’s Experiments with Truth*, 163-197
Oct. 27: *Gandhi’s Experiments with Truth*, 228-262
Nov. 1: *Gandhi’s Experiments with Truth*, 263-372
**Exam 3**: November 3, 2011

**November 3-December 1: How Nonviolence Protects the State**
Nov. 3: *How Nonviolence Protects the State*, 1-22
Nov. 8: *How Nonviolence Protects the State*, 23-44
Nov. 10: *How Nonviolence Protects the State*, 45-64
Nov. 15: *How Nonviolence Protects the State*, 65-80
Nov. 17: *How Nonviolence Protects the State*, 81-116
Nov. 22: *How Nonviolence Protects the State*, 117-134
Nov. 29: *How Nonviolence Protects the State*, 135-143
**Exam 4**: December 12, 2011

**NOTE**: Schedule of events subject to change by Fate, the insightful awareness of the instructor, and/or the collaboration between students and instructor.

**Summary of Grading Percentages and Grading Scale**
Four Essay Exams: 80%
Lecture Attendance: 10%
Participation: 10%

A: 90-100; B: 80-89; C: 70-79; D: 60-69; F: 59 and below

**Important Dates**
• Labor Day Break: September 1-3, 2012
• Last day to withdraw with a W: October 12, 2012
• Fall Break: November 21-25, 2012
• Last Class: December 4, 2012