PHIL 3120: Philosophies of Peace
Fall 2015
Social Science Building 3029
TTH 3:30-4:45

Instructor: Gabriel Soldatenko
Email Address: gsoldate@kennesaw.edu
Office Phone: (470) 578-7759
Office: Social Science #4091
Office Hours: Mondays 11:00-12:00, Tuesdays 9:00-11:00, and by appointment

Course Description: The demand for peaceful philosophies implies the reality of war or violence, that is, without war and violence there would be no need for peace. This course then is dedicated to both the philosophical investigation of peace as a concept, and the practical project of creating a peaceful society and world. Thus, in as much as this course is driven by the need for clearly articulating what peace is we must also clearly outline the manifold dimensions of violence, and think seriously about the means by which a violent society and world can be transformed into a more peaceful one. As a result, peace is at once a pressing conceptual riddle and a practical demand in the face of a world rife with violence.

Required Texts: All course materials will be provided through Georgia View. Note that the cost you save in not having to buy books may be incurred through printing and photocopying.

Student Learning Outcomes: By the end of the course students will have gained
- a firm historical understanding of the role of violence in the development of modern Western societies;
- a sharp and critical awareness of the varied forms that violence may take and its consequences;
- a rich and global sense of the history of peace discourse;
- a holistic understanding of peace that includes humanity’s relationship to nature; and
- a general knowledge of current social movements and the practical difficulties they face in creating a peaceful world.

Course Requirements: Over the course of the semester students
- will bring the days reading to class according to the schedule on the syllabus and/or the professor’s instructions;
- will actively engage the course material and participate in the class discussion; and
- will attend class regularly, even if attendance is not taken.

Attendance Policy: There are no excused absences in college. Students are responsible for making up class by conferring with classmates (i.e. getting notes and discussing the main topics of conversation). Students are responsible for all material covered: readings, lectures, and documentary presentations.
Grading Scale:
Students are evaluated on the following scale:
A (90%–100%)
B (80%–89%)
C (70%–79%)
D (60%–69%)
F (59% and below)
I (Indicates an incomplete grade for the course, and will be awarded only when the student has done satisfactory work up to the last two weeks of the semester, but for nonacademic reasons beyond his/her control is unable to meet the full requirements of the course. Incomplete grades are only valid after submission of the Incomplete Grade form (signed by both the instructor and student) to the Department Chair’s office.)

Evaluation: Your final grade will be determined by the combination of three exercises; the first, and most important, is a final paper of eight to ten pages in length worth 30% of your grade. The second major portion of your grade will be a fifteen minute group presentation that will constitute an additional 20%. And, an additional 40% of your grade will come from two exegetical writing exercises approximately five pages in length. The remaining 10% of your grade and will be determined by in-class participation and engagement.

Academic Integrity Statement Every KSU student is responsible for upholding the provisions of the Student Code of Conduct, as published in the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs. Section 5. C 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 Department of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity (SCAI), 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. See also https://web.kennesaw.edu/scai/content/ksu-student-code-conduct.

ADA Compliance: Students with qualifying disabilities under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and/or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act who require “reasonable accommodation(s)” to complete the course may request those from Office of Student Disability Services. Students requiring such accommodations are required to work with the University’s Office of Student Disability Services rather than engaging in this discussion with individual faculty members or academic departments. If, after reviewing the course syllabus, a student anticipates or should have anticipated a need for accommodation, he or she must submit documentation requesting an accommodation and permitting time for a determination prior to submitting assignments or taking course quizzes or exams. Students may not request retroactive accommodation for needs that were or should have been foreseeable. Students should contact the office as soon as possible in the term for which they are seeking accommodations. Student Disability Services is located in the Carmichael Student Center in Suite 267. Please visit the
Student Disabilities Services website at www.kennesaw.edu/stu_dev/sds for more information, or call the office at 470-578-6443.

Reading Schedule:

August 18: Introduction and Groups assigned

I. Considering Violence and Modern Western Society


August 25: Nagler continued, and


September 3: Chapters 4 and 5 of Manhunts

September 8: Chapters 7 and 8 of Manhunts

September 10: Chapter 12 and “Conclusion” of Manhunts


September 17: Chapters 5 and 6 of Stolen Harvest


Paper #1 Assigned

September 24: Chapter 4 of Biopiracy

II. Considering Peace as a Philosophical Concept


October 1: Michael Nagler, Chapter 2 of The Search for a Nonviolent Future

Paper #1 Due
October 6: Martin Luther King, Jr., “Introduction” and Chapter 2 in *The Radical King* (Beacon Press: Boston, 2015)

October 8: Boaventura de Sousa Santos, “Introduction” to *Another Knowledge is Possible* (Verso Press: NY, 2007)


October 15: de Sousa Santos continued
   Paper #2 Assigned

October 20: Michael Nagler, Chapter 9 of *The Search for a Nonviolent Future*

**III. The Practice of Peace**

October 22: Chapter 12 of *The Radical King*

October 27: Chapters 6 and 7 of *Biopiracy*
   Paper #2 Due


November 10: Michael Nagler, Chapter 6 of *The Search for a Nonviolent Future*

November 12: In-class workshop on peaceful futures

November 17: In-class workshop on institutions

November 19: In-class workshop on practice

November 24 &26: No Class

December 1: Presentations

December 3: Presentations

December 8: Final paper due in History and Philosophy main office no later than 3:00 pm