

Introduction to Peace & Conflict Studies

MWF 10:20-11:10 in Alumni 111 | Professor Jacob Mundy (jmundy@colgate.edu) Office: Alumni 222 ph. 315-228-6182

Course description: This course is an introduction to the interdisciplinary study of peace and conflict, as well as the PCON major at Colgate. We will explore the evolution of war and peace in the Modern period. Combining theoretical debate with mixed method analysis, this course not only sets the stage for its two immediate successors (PCON 218 and 225). It also critically evaluates the theoretical paradigms that have attempted to account for the historical patterns of war and peace at a global scale.

Books: The following books are required for the course and are available at the bookstore:

- COW: Roy Gutman and David Rieff (editors), *Crimes of War 2.0: What the Public Should Know*, second edition
- CSS: Alan Collins (editor), *Contemporary Security Studies*, second edition
- OHMW: Charles Townshend (editor), *The Oxford History of Modern War*, new edition
- (M): Other required and supplemental resources are available on the course Moodle website

Components of your grade:

30% Attendance and participation: Daily attendance and enthusiastic participation are expected. These will be measured randomly throughout the semester with half of your A&P grade issued at midterm and the other half at finals. Attendance credit can be earned by attending PCON organized/sponsored events (films and speakers) or, with instructor's permission, PCON related events during the semester.

30% Weekly Abstract: Each week, you will submit a one-page abstract (c. 500-600 words) analyzing the assigned resources (readings, films, etc) and class sessions. The goal of each abstract is to summarize and synthesize the previous week's classes and resources into a compelling story that fits within the broader story of this course. When writing your abstracts, ask yourself the following questions: (A) What is the basic point of each resource, how is the argument made, and how does it fit into each week's topic? (B) How does each week build upon the history of peace and conflict we saw in previous weeks? (C) Lastly, your abstract should evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of our four theoretical paradigms based on what we learned the previous week. The second (B) and third (C) questions will become easier to answer as the course progresses. Abstracts will be graded on a complete or incomplete basis. A more detailed assignment guide will be available on Moodle.

30% Paper: The goal of this paper is to understand the strengths and weaknesses of some of the major disciplines that contribute to the field of peace and conflict studies. It is also to understand the advantages of interdisciplinary analysis. Your paper will explore the ways in which one of the major disciplines that contribute to PCON (e.g., Anthropology, Economics, Geography, History, Political Science, International Relations, Religion, Philosophy, or Psychology) can help us account for the causes of war and peace today. A third of this grade will be based on a draft abstract of your argument and a critical annotated bibliography. A detailed assignment guide will be posted to Moodle.

10% Final exam: A take-home synthesis paper that (1) demonstrates your mastery of the course materials; (2) summarizes the major changes in war and peace we discussed; and (3) advances a compelling argument as to which of our four major theoretical paradigms can explain those changes, particularly the recent decline in violence worldwide.

Grading Scale

100%	A+	88-90%	B+	78-80%	C+	68-70%	D+	00-60%	F
94-99%	A	84-87%	B	74-77%	C	64-67%	D		
91-93%	A-	81-83%	B-	71-73%	C-	61-63%	D-		

Late Assignment Policy: Without previously obtained permission to submit work past the deadline, late assignments will immediately drop one full letter grade (A to B, B to C, etc.). Another half letter grade will be lost for each subsequent day it is late (i.e., after twenty four hours, an A will become a B-, a B+ will become a C, etc.). If you think your work will be late for any reason (legitimate or not), please contact me before it is due.

Academic Accommodations: Students who feel they may need classroom accommodation should contact the instructor to discuss specific needs. If you have not already done so, please contact Lynn Waldman, Director of Academic Support and Disability Services. Lynn coordinates reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities. Her office is in the Center for Learning, Teaching and Research: (315) 228-7375.

Laptop, tablet and cell phone use: Students with legitimate needs may use laptops on a daily basis. Laptops and other electronic devices will otherwise be allowed only when necessary. Any video, audio or photographic recordings of the course without the instructor's expressed permission are not allowed. Approved recordings should be used only for the purposes of studying and should not be made publicly available or given to third parties inside or outside the Colgate community.

Course Schedule

Wk	Date	Topic and Assignments
1	1/20	Half day
	1/22	200 years of war in 50 minutes. OHMW, "The Shape of Modern War"; Goldstein, "World peace..." (M)
	1/24	Theories of Peace & Conflict: Realism vs Liberalism. CSS: "Realism", "Liberalism"
2	1/27	... Political Economy & Constructivism. CSS: "Historical Materialism", "Social constructivism"
	1/29	The Origins of Conflict: Human Nature or Human Environments? Sapolsky "A Natural History of Peace" (M)
	1/31	... Human Nature or Human Environments? Film: <i>Guns, Germs and Steel</i> , Episode 2
3	2/3	Wars of Modernity: Violence and Nation-making. OHMW: "Nation in Arms I" & "... II" (ch.4-5); COW (M)
	2/5	... Colonialism — Liberalism's blind spot? OHMW, "Imperial Wars", Hall, "The West and the Rest" (M)
	2/7	<i>Continue discussion</i>
4	2/10	Total War: The World at War. OHMW: Ch.7, 8, 15; COW (M)
	2/12	Film: <i>The Prize</i> , Episode 4 ("Oil and War")
	2/14	<i>Continue discussion</i>
5	2/17	Total War: Genocide. Kiernan, "Introduction" (M); Snyder, "Holocaust: The Ignored Reality" (M); COW (M)
	2/19	Film: "The Desperate Edge of Now"
	2/21	Library Day
6	2/24	Total War: The Aftermath. COW (M); Bauman, "Modernity and the Holocaust" (M)
	2/26	<i>Discussion</i>
	2/28	<i>Discussion</i>
7	3/3	Cold War: The Bomb. OHMW: "Cold War" & "From Nuclear Stalemate to terrorism"; COW: "Nuclear weapons"
	3/5	Cohn, "Nuclear Language" (M)
	3/7	Cold War: Proxy Wars. OHMW, "People's War"; COW (M)
8	3/10	Cold War: The birth of peace studies. OHMW, "Against War"; CSS: "Peace Studies" (PCON Lecture: Douglas Porch in 105 Lawrence @ 7pm)
	3/12	Film: "War Redefined"
	3/14	Cold War: Gender and war OHMW: "Women and War"; CSS: "Gender and security"
9		Spring Break
10	3/24	Late Warfare: Genocide. Davis, "Ethnic Cleansing..." (M); Power, "Bystanders to Genocide" (M); COW (M)
	3/26	Diamond, "Malthus in Africa"; Mamdani, "The Politics of Naming"
	3/28	<i>Discussion</i>
11	3/31	Late Warfare: Genocide & response? CSS: "Humanitarian Intervention"; COW (M)
	4/2	<i>Discussion</i>
	4/4	<i>Discussion</i>
12	4/7	Late Warfare: Genocide & response? Minow, "Making History"; Hayner, "Fifteen Truth Commissions"; COW (M)
	4/9	Film: <i>War Don Don</i>
	4/11	<i>Discussion</i>
13	4/14	Late Warfare: Terrorism CSS "Terrorism"; COW (M)
	4/16	Late Warfare: Non-violent insurgencies Stephan & Chenoweth, "Why civil resistance works"
	4/18	<i>Discussion</i>
14	4/21	Late Warfare: Technology & Conflict. Singer, "Robots at War: The New Battlefield"
	4/23	Film: <i>Remote Control War</i>
	4/25	<i>Discussion</i>
15	4/28	Late Warfare: Resources & Conflict. CSS: "Environmental Security", "Energy security"; COW (M)
	4/30	<i>Discussion</i>
	5/2	Course summary and final exam overview
16		Finals week