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Diplomacy Syllabi

School of Diplomacy and International
Relations

Spring 2014

DIPL 3851/CORE 3851 Religion, Law, War

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Elizabeth A. Wilson
DIPL/CORE 3851

Religion, Law, War
Syllabus

This course will examine wars of religion and religious views of war, focusing particularly on how religion has informed the international laws of war. We are living through an era fraught with religious warfare - wars animated by religious conflict and wars that use religious abuse as weapons to demoralize and subdue the enemy. The course will focus on three major religious traditions (primarily Judeo-Christianity and Islam, but some Buddhism will be brought in) and set in dialogue their respective views of war, assess their contributions to the contemporary laws of war, and examine particular historical episodes of religious conflict - as well as contrary episodes of religious toleration.

Office Hours: My office is 101B McQuaid Hall and my hours for Spring 2014 will be Wednesday 3-4:30 and by appointment.

Grading: 30% of the grade will be based on class participation; this may include doing informal class writing assignments based on the readings, being an assigned discussant of the readings, giving a short report on an additional issue or current event, completing short quizzes on the readings and lectures.

10% will be based on a group project based on a topic related to the Crusades and presented verbally to the class. 20% will be based on an *individual* 3-4 pp. paper written on the research that the student contributed to the presentation.

The remaining 40% of the grade will be determined by a final paper, on a topic to be determined in consultation with the professor on the basis of an initial list of topics. 10% of this grade will be based on a 1page "op-ed" summary of the paper's argument, and 10% on a verbal presentation to the class of the argument.

Laptops are permitted in the classroom but may only be open for specific research assignments, unless they are necessary to accommodate students with disabilities and proper documentation is presented. Notes should be taken by hand. Sometimes (but not always) I will distribute hard copies of slides for the day's lecture.

PLAGIARISM AND ALL FORMS OF INTELLECTUAL DISHONESTY WILL BE DEALT WITH SEVERELY, WITH A FAILING GRADE ON THE PARTICULAR EXERCISE OR IF WARRANTED A FAILING GRADE IN THE COURSE AND DISCIPLINARY ACTION.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES Students who have a physical, medical, learning, or psychiatric disability, either temporary or permanent, may be eligible for reasonable accommodation. In order to receive such accommodation, students must identify themselves at the Office of Disability Support Services (DSS), provide

appropriate documentation and collaborate with the development of an accommodation plan.

Books

Arthur F. Holmes, WAR AND CHRISTIAN ETHICS
 Jonathan Riley-Smith, OXFORD HISTORY OF THE CRUSADES
 Jessica Stern, TERROR IN THE NAME OF GOD

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday or Wednesday	
Week One	Jan 13	27 Introduction “What is Just War?” President Obama’s Nobel Remarks (first 20 minutes) ; West Wing, “A Proportional Response,” 5-6, 12-16, 18-22, 33-	
Week Two	Jan 20	War and the Greeks, Romans, Jews Readings: Holmes, pp. 13-31 Deuteronomy Ex. 14, 32 Watch PBS Documentary, first hour of Part I (“From Jesus to Christ”)	
Week Three	Jan 27	Class video lecture Watch PBS From Jesus to Christ (second half of Part I and Part II). Answer questions on BB re documentary	
Week Four	Feb 3	Sermon on the Mount – any version Luke 3 The Book of Revelations Holmes 48-50, 61-82 (Church Fathers, Augustine)	
Week Five	Feb 10	Islam: Introduction Qur’an & Hadith Excerpts (BB) Film: Islam: Empire of Faith	
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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday or Wednesday	
Week Six	Feb 17	Al-Andalus Readings: Menocal, <i>Ornament of the World</i> (BB) Lowney, <i>Vanished World</i> (BB) Watch <i>Cities of Light</i>	
Week Seven	Feb 24	Crusades I Readings: Riley-Smith (pp. TBA on BB) Holmes, 87-91 (Bernard de Clairvaux); 102-117; 118-125 (Aquinas, de Vittorio); Papal Bull (BB)	
Week Eight	Mar 3	Crusades II Crusades Presentations DUE	
	Mar 10	SPRING BREAK	
Week Nine	Mar 17	The Protestant Reformation Readings: Holmes, pp. 140-176	

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday or Wednesday	
Week Ten	Mar 24	Readings: Holmes pp. 195-225 H. Dunant, <i>A Memory of Solferino</i> ; International Committee of the Red Cross DETAILED OUTLINE DUE	
Week 11	Mar 31	Geneva Conventions; War on terrorism cases (BB)	
Week 12	April 7	Jessica Stern, <i>Terror in the Name of God</i>	

Week 13	April 14	Enhanced Interrogation, Torture, Drones, Preemptive War (BB)	
Week 14	April 21	The Responsibility to Protect (BB) Class Presentations	

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday or Wednesday	
Week 15	April 28	<p>Nuclear Deterrence/Nonviolence/People Power</p> <p>Readings: Holmes 291-314; 318-341 Gandhi and Nonviolent Civil Resistance (BB)</p> <p>Class Presentations</p> <p>FINAL PAPER DUE MAY7 (submitted via BB)</p>	

NAME _____

West Wing

What is the virtue of a proportional response?

What is the virtue of a disproportional response? Why don't the Generals want a disproportional response?

Why is the United States today compared to Rome?

Obama's Nobel Prize Speech

What is a Just War?
