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Spring 2013

## DIPL 3851 AA Religion, Law, War

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*Seton Hall University*

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JOHN C. WHITEHEAD  
SCHOOL OF DIPLOMACY AND  
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS  
SETON HALL UNIVERSITY

**Religion, Law and War**  
DIPL 3851 AA  
M and W 1:30 – 2:45

Spring 2013

Instructor: Edislav Manetovic  
Office hours: M 3:00-4:30; W 12:00-1:00 and 3:00-3:30  
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Office Tel.: 275-2258  
Cell: 347-635-9876 (please do not call before 10 am or after 10 pm)  
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**Course Description and Content**

This course will explore wars of religion and religious views 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 touch upon some major religious traditions 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.

Students should be prepared to do a significant amount of reading each class and to discuss it constructively. Courses work well only when everyone comes prepared for a critical and informed conversation.

Throughout the course we will try to link the readings with contemporary events. Hence, students should keep informed about relevant current events through regular reading of newspapers. You should read a newspaper that provides thorough coverage of international news (for example, *The New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *The Wall Street Journal*). If possible you should also read foreign newspapers. You may also want to watch news on TV. BBC, CNN International, CCTV9 (from China) and Russia Today provide good insight into current events. You will get a better insight if you follow news from different countries.

No computers or other electronic devices are to be used during class.

**Assignments and Grading Rules**

1. Exams. There will be two in-class exams, a midterm and a final. Use of books and notes will be prohibited.

2. Group activity – Policy memo and presentation. The class will be divided into groups of three. Each group will write a 10-15 page policy memo and present their findings. The presentation must include about 5 Power Point slides which support a 15 minute presentation.

The topic must be approved by the instructor; it must be directly and explicitly related to religion and conflict. You can choose a case study or compare two or more cases.

By February 4 you must create the groups and submit a tentative topic title. By February 13 each group must submit a one page paper proposal. I will not grade the proposal, but if it is not clear you will have to rewrite it until I am satisfied with its content and clarity. Save the proposal and attach it to your policy memo when you submit it on April 17.

The primary purpose of the policy memo is to stimulate the senior management in your institution of choice (a governmental institution, an NGO, or an IGO) to engage or disengage from a certain conflict. Hence, the memo must include four distinct parts – (1) history of the conflict, (2) current situation, (3) your institution’s (country’s) goals and role in the conflict, and (4) your policy recommendations. In part 2 (current situation), provide an overview of the key actors (governmental and non-governmental) and their relative influence. Explain all potential coalitions (national or international), their goals, role, and relative power. The paper must include a cover page which identifies the relevant case(s) and summarizes main recommendations contained within the memo.

3. Class participation and attendance. All students are expected to do the reading in advance and to take part in the discussion. The quality of class sessions is greatly enhanced when students are prepared to engage the course material in a constructive fashion. Participation will be noted and credited to your grade.

Poor attendance (over two absences) will result in a reduction of your grade. Each absence, beyond the two excused, will reduce your final grade by 2%.

**Basis for Grade**

Midterm exam .....	30%
Final exam.....	30%
Policy memo and presentation.....	30%
Class Participation.....	10%

**Course Materials**

Mark Juergensmeyer and Margo Kitts (eds), *Princeton Readings in Religion and Violence*, Princeton UP, 2011.

Timothy Sisk (ed), *Between Terror and Tolerance: Religious Leaders, Conflict, and Peacemaking*, Georgetown UP, 2011.

**Academic and Professional Integrity**

All forms of dishonesty, whether by act or omission, including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism and knowingly furnishing false information, are prohibited. Work submitted in the course must be the product of the efforts of the student presenting the work. Contributions of others to the finished work must be appropriately acknowledged.

**Disability Services**

If you have a documented disability you may be eligible for accommodations, in academic classes, the residence halls, food services areas, etc., under the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. Students are not permitted to negotiate accommodations directly with professors. To receive accommodations or assistance, please self-identify at the Office of Disability Support Services (DSS), Duffy Hall, Room 67. The staff at DSS will help you to develop a plan for accommodations. For more information contact DSS at (973) 313-6003.



## **Part II: Understanding the Religious Role in Violence**

- February 6 Introduction to Part II  
Chapter 14. Émile Durkheim, *Elementary Forms of the Religious Life*  
Chapter 15. Henri Hubert and Marcel Mauss, "Conclusion," *Sacrifice: Its Nature and Function*
- February 11 Chapter 16. Sigmund Freud, *Totem and Taboo*  
Chapter 17. René Girard, "Sacrifice," *Violence and the Sacred*
- February 13 Chapter 18. Walter Burkert, *Homo Necans*  
Chapter 19. Maurice Bloch, *Prey into Hunter*
- Group Assignment #2 -- submit a one page paper proposal.**
- February 18 Chapter 20. Georges Bataille, *Theory of Religion*  
Chapter 21. Karl Marx, *Critique of Hegel's Philosophy of Right*
- February 20 Chapter 24. Jean Baudrillard, *The Spirit of Terrorism*  
Closing Comments: The Connection between War and Sacrifice

## **Part III: Religious Leaders, Conflict, and Peacemaking**

- February 25 *David Little*, Religion, Nationalism, and Intolerance, in Sisk
- February 27 **Midterm exam**
- March 4 Spring Recess – No Classes
- March 6 Spring Recess – No Classes
- March 11 *Nader Hashemi*, Religious Leaders, Sectarianism, and the Sunni-Shia Divide in Islam, in Sisk
- March 13 *George Emile Irani*, Between Intolerance and Coexistence: The Vatican, Maronites, and the War in Lebanon, in Sisk
- March 18 *Micheline Ishay*, Globalization, Religion, and Nationalism in Israel and Palestine, in Sisk
- March 20 *Scott W. Hibbard*, Egypt and the Legacy of Sectarianism, in Sisk

March 25	<i>Carolyn Fluehr-Lobban</i> , Religion, War, and Peacemaking in Sudan: Shari'a, Identity Politics, and Human Rights, in Sisk
March 27	<i>Rosalind I. J. Hackett</i> , Nigeria's Religious Leaders in an Age of Radicalism and Neoliberalism, in Sisk
April	No Classes
April 3	<i>Mari Fitzduff</i> , Just Enough to Hate-Not Enough to Love: Religious Leaders in Northern Ireland, in Sisk
April 8	<i>Susan Hayward</i> , The Spoiler and the Reconciler: Buddhism and the Peace Process in Sri Lanka, in Sisk
April 10	<i>Sumit Ganguly and Praveen Swam</i> , Piety and Politics: Religious Leadership and the Conflict in Kashmir, in Sisk
April 15	<i>Timothy D. Sisk</i> , Conclusion: From Terror to Tolerance to Coexistence in Deeply Divided Societies, in Sisk
April 17	Group Presentations <b>Policy memos due</b>
April 22	Group Presentations
April 24	Group Presentations
April 29	Group Presentations
May 1	Group Presentations
May 6	<i>Last day of classes</i> <b>Final exam</b>