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Diplomacy Syllabi

School of Diplomacy and International  
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Spring 2016

## DIPL 3851/CORE 3851 Religion, Law, War

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**Seton Hall University**  
**School of Diplomacy**  
**DIPL/Core 3851: Religion, Law and War**

Spring 2016	Thursdays 02:00-04:30PM	Jubilee Hall 118
Hossein Hafezian, PhD	Email: hafezimo@shu.edu	Office Phone: (973) 275-2265
Office Hours:	Tuesdays 06:30-07:30PM	McQuaid 109
	Thursdays 04:30-05:30PM	

**Course Objectives:**

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 Judaism, Christianity and Islam) and set in dialogue their respective views of war, assess their contributions to the contemporary norms of war, and examine particular historical episodes of religious conflict notably the Crusades as well as a number of religious conflicts in the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries. These case studies will include the India-Pakistan conflict, the Bosnian civil war, the Arab-Israeli conflict, the Al-Qaeda and September 11<sup>th</sup> events and the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS).

**Required Textbooks:**

Vesselin Popovski, Gregory Reichberg and Nicholas Turner (eds.), *World Religions and Norms of War*, New York: United Nations University Press, 2009.

Jonathan Riley-Smith, *The Crusades, Christianity, and Islam*, New York: Columbia University Press, 2011.

**Recommended:**

Jessica Stern, *Terror in the Name of God: Why Religious Militants Kill*, New York: HarperCollins, 2004.

Mehran Kamrava, *The Modern Middle East: A Political History since the First World War*, Berkley: University of California Press, 2013.

The above books, as assigned, are required reading for the course. Additional reading assignments will be added during the course of the semester.

### **Course Requirements:**

Students will be graded on the following basis:

- 1) One-hour midterm exam (Thursday, February 25). It will be given during the regular class period and will cover the material studied thus far. Questions will be of the essay type, but there will be objective and identification questions as well. It counts 25% of the final grade.
- 2) A term paper of 10-12 pages with at least seven references (not including the textbooks), on a topic to be approved beforehand by the professor. Due April 14 and counts 25% of the final grade. Students should work in groups of two or three. All groups should present findings of their research in class in 10 minutes, followed by five minutes of questions and answers.
- 3) Take home final exam for which essay type questions will be provided on April 29 and must be received by May 6. It will cover the entire course, lectures and readings, counting 40% of the final grade. Students can choose three out of five questions and write a one-page essay for each.
- 4) Class participation counts 10% of the final grade.

### **Disability Services Statement**

Under the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Civil Rights Restoration Act, students at Seton Hall University who have a disability may be eligible for accommodations in this course. Should a student require such accommodation, he or she must self-identify at the Office of Disability Support Services (DSS), Room 67, Duffy Hall, provide documentation of said disability, and work with DSS to develop a plan for accommodations. The contact person is Ms. Diane Delorenzo at (973) 313-6003.

### **Academic Integrity & Dishonesty**

Plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty will be reported to the administration, and may result in a lowered or failing grade for the course and up to possible dismissal

from the School of Diplomacy. See university and school standards for academic conduct here:

<http://www.shu.edu/offices/student-life/community-standards/community-standards.cfm> --- <http://www.shu.edu/academics/diplomacy/academic-conduct.cfm>.

### Schedule of Topics and Readings

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Topics</b>	<b>Readings</b>
1/14	<b>Introductory Notes</b> Popovski, "Introduction"	
1/21	<b>War, Religion and the Idea of Just War</b> Popovski, Chap. 1 President Obama's Nobel Remarks, <a href="https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/remarks-president-acceptance-nobel-peace-prize">https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/remarks-president-acceptance-nobel-peace-prize</a>	
1/28	<b>Crusades I</b> Riley-Smith, Chaps. 1-2 Popovski, Chap. 6	
2/4	<b>Lecture by Mr. Antti Pentikainen, Convener of the Network for Religious and Traditional Peacemakers</b> "Reforming UN Mediation through Inclusion of Traditional Peacemakers," Available on Blackboard	
2/11	<b>Crusades II</b> Riley-Smith, Chaps. 3-4 Popovski, Chap. 7	
2/18	<b>Jihad and War in Islam</b> Popovski, Chaps. 9-10	

- 2/25                    **Midterm Exam**  
**India-Pakistan Conflict**  
Popovski, Chap. 2
- 3/3                      **Spring Break**
- 3/10                    **Civil War in Bosnia and Kosovo**  
Will be posted later.
- 3/17                    **Arab-Israeli Conflict**  
Popovski, Chap. 5  
Kamrava, Chaps. 4 and 7
- 3/24                    **Holy Thursday**
- 3/31                    **Al-Qaeda and September 11<sup>th</sup> Events**  
*The 9/11 Commission Report*, Particularly Chaps. 1-2  
<http://www.9-11commission.gov/report/>
- 4/7                      **Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS)**  
Greeme Wood, “What ISIS Really Wants,”  
<http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2015/03/what-isis-really-wants/384980/>
- 4/14                    **Student Presentations**
- 4/21                    **Student Presentations**
- 4/28                    **Student Presentations**
- 5/6                      Take Home Essays Due