

Peace and Conflict: For Daily Life, Civic Affairs, and Professional Life Ahead

PEAC 201

Time: 1pm – 2:15pm

Location: Belknap Academic Building
Room 410A

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"Education is quite simply, peacebuilding by another name." Kofi Annan, UN General Secretary

"These courses should be made mandatory for every degree, major, minor, and even mandated as a general requirement within colleges and universities, across this nation." BreAnna Martin, UofL and PJCT graduate, 2017

Course Objectives

- Students will explore essential concepts of peace studies including: conflict transformation, positive and negative peace, restorative justice, cultural and structural violence, social justice, sustainability, and environmental justice.
- Students will gain international perspective that serves them as global citizens as they understand opportunities and responsibilities in an interconnected world.
- Students will study conflict on a macro scale.
- Students will explore the history and power of nonviolence.
- Students will apply concepts of peace and conflict to their career goals.
- Students will engage with peace research and writings leading to their awareness of its breadth and practice.

Topics Covered

- Conflict analysis and transformation
- Justice and Fairness
- Cultural competency
- Imperialism and Colonialism
- Macro conflict
- Nonviolent civil action
- Incorporating peace practices

Graded Assignments

All assignments are due via blackboard. Do not send me an assignment via email unless you are having issues with Blackboard. Please be sure to submit your assignment before the due date. Late work will receive a significantly reduced grade.

1. Attendance/Participation (2pt. x 10 class meetings = 20%)

- Attendance and participation are mandatory!
- This is a hybrid course which meets on one day a week in person and requires outside assignments. Missing an in-person class meeting equates to missing a full week of classes. **Please note, you do NOT have to tell me when/why you are absent.**

2. Making the Connection (10 x 3pts. = 30%)

- You are responsible for submitting a photo, tweet, news article, etc. that coincides with the readings/videos that you read/watched for that day's class. Additionally, you are required to submit a short paragraph writeup explaining your choice.
- This assignment is due by noon on the days we meet for class.

3. Final / Adobe Express Assignment (25%)

- Directions for this assignment are posted on Blackboard. We will discuss this in class, and I will provide a grading rubric for this assignment.

4. Discussion Board (10 x 2.5pts. each = 25%)

- **Weekly online written assignments:** These are designed to test your ability to understand and critically evaluate the videos, readings, lectures, and discussion materials covered during the semester. *(1)* You must complete your initial (*200 words*) assignment by 10pm on Friday of each week. *(2)* You must choose a classmates post to evaluate (*100+ words*) by midnight on Monday of the following week.
 - **Participation Requirements**
 - To pass this course, you need to visibly participate in discussions by posting each week.
 - **(Initial Post)**
 - Your initial post must be at least 200 words.
 - Consider the following questions before writing your weekly response: 1) What are the central themes of the readings/lectures/videos? 2) What methods did the authors use to examine the problems/ questions? 3) What were the main findings/arguments? 4) What are the contributions of the readings/lectures/videos? And 5) What are the limitations?
 - Your answers should be in your own words with direct quotes only when absolutely necessary.
 - **(Substantive Classmate Assessment)** Your comments should add significantly to the discussion by building on others' comments, suggesting alternative solutions, pointing out problems, and even at times, constructively disagreeing. The most common question concerning participation is "What do you mean by 'substantive'?" Here are my guidelines:
 - Like many things, 'substantive' is easiest to define by its *negative*. 'Substantive' is not a post that simply says 'I agree', or 'That's what I have found to be true as well',

- or 'Good idea!' or even 'what did you mean by...?'
- A substantive post, consisting of at least 100 words, moves the discussion along in one of several ways. Some of these ways are:
 - Agreeing/disagreeing with the discussion and including an example from your experience: "I agree/disagree with what Jane posted. In fact, in my workplace, we have found that..."
 - Agreeing/disagreeing with the discussion and substantiating your statement with theory from the readings "I agree/disagree with what John posted. As <author> points out ... "
 - Posing a question that the course material has caused you to consider. "<Author> says ... However, I see the following occurring ... Does anyone else find this to be true?"
 - Asking for clarification and explaining why you are confused "Jane, can you explain ... I don't get the connection you made between ... and ... because..."

Note that these are examples of substantive posts, not an exhaustive list. I hope they give you an insight into my expectations.

Our discussion goal is to be collaborative, not combative. Experience shows that even an innocent remark in the online environment can be easily misinterpreted. I suggest that you always reread your responses carefully before you post them to assure you have worded it in a way that will not be seen as a personal attack! Be positive in your approach to others and diplomatic with your words. Respect, demonstrated in what we say (words) and how we say it (tone), is the foundation of successful online learning.

University Policies:

Title IX/Clery Act Notification

Sexual misconduct (including sexual harassment, sexual assault, and any other nonconsensual behavior of a sexual nature) and sex discrimination violate University policies. Students experiencing such behavior may obtain confidential support from the PEACC Program (852-2663), Counseling Center (852-6585), and Campus Health Services (852-6479). To report sexual misconduct or sex discrimination, contact the Dean of Students (852-5787) or University of Louisville Police (852-6111).

Disclosure to University faculty or instructors of sexual misconduct, domestic violence, dating violence, or sex discrimination occurring on campus, in a University-sponsored program, or involving a campus visitor or University student or employee (whether current or former) is not confidential under Title IX. Faculty and instructors must forward such reports, including names and circumstances, to the University's Title IX officer. For more information, see the Sexual Misconduct Resource Guide (<http://louisville.edu/hr/employeerelations/sexual-misconduct-brochure>)

Students with Disabilities

The University of Louisville is committed to providing access to programs and services for qualified students with disabilities. If you are a student with a disability and require accommodation to participate in and complete requirements for this class, contact the Disability Resource Center (119 Stevenson, 852-6938) for verification of eligibility and determination of specific accommodations.

Clear Communication: Always matters in every written assignment, presentation, or portfolio entry. "Writing is like thinking. It is hard." (Sir Harold Evans) If you would like help with you writing, contact the Writing Center, 312 Ekstrom Library at 502-852-2173 or writing@louisville.edu The Writing Center offers face-to-face consultation, online meetings, and email exchange. **If English is not your native language, please inform the teacher.**

COURSE CALENDER

The syllabus may change with advance notice. Students should always arrive to class prepared in advance to contribute to learning about that day's material.

Understanding the calendar

Theme – The Topic for the day

Class Meets – Scheduled class meeting days

Read/Watch Before Class

- All Required Readings and Videos are available Blackboard in the Course Content/Module Tab

Theme	Class Meets	Week	Readings	Videos
Intro	23-Aug	Week 1		
Introducing PEACE STUDIES	30-Aug	Week 2	UN Dec. (BB)	
The Nature of Peace Studies	6-Sep	Week 3	pg. 10 - 25	Imp & Col (BB)
International Relations	13-Sep	Week 4	pg. 36 - 45	Hotel Rwanda
Thinking Peace	20-Sep	Week 5	pg. 65 – 79 (BB)	Russia v. Ukrain (BB)
Social Movements	27-Sep	Week 6	pg 132 - 149 & (BB)	MLK & Gbowee
	Fall Break	Week 7		
The Nature of Violence pt. 1	11-Oct	Week 8	pg. 158 - 166	Video (Dr. Adshead)
Violence pt. 2	18-Oct	Week 9	pg. 167 - 173	Video (BB)
Why War?	25-Oct	Week 10	pg. 174 - 183 & BB	Pinker (BB)
Nonviolence pt. 1	1-Nov	Week 11	pg. 272 - 288	MLK on Vietnam (BB)
pt. 2	8-Nov	Week 12	pg. 289 - 311	Gbowee (BB)
Closing Lecture	15-Nov	Week 13		
	Thanksgiving			