PCJ 260: INTRODUCTION TO PEACE, CONFLICT, AND JUSTICE

Session: Fall-Winter 2014-2015
Lectures: Tuesdays 12-2, Sidney Smith Hall 2110
Tutorials: Thursdays 12-2, Sidney Smith Hall 2110

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Office Hours: Wednesdays 2:30-4 (appointments recommended)

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Email: christopher.laroche@utoronto.ca
Office Hours: Thursdays, 2:30-3:30 (appointments recommended)

DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE

The course reviews theories exploring the causes of conflict, the possibilities for conflict resolution, and the role of justice in both. Drawing on a wide range of disciplines, it offers an introduction to diverse approaches to conflict resolution and peace-building.

COURSE MATERIALS

The following materials will be used for the reading assignments for the course:
1) Timothy Sisk, Power Sharing and International Mediation in Ethnic Conflicts, (United States Institute of Peace, 1996)
2) David Smock, Religious Perspectives on War, (United States Institute of Peace, 2002)
4) Blackboard site (containing PDF copies of assigned articles and book chapters)

Students will also be assigned one of the following books for their book review and presentation:
1) Joe Sacco, Safe Area Gorazde, (Fantagraphics, 2000) (Group 1)
2) Steven Galloway, The Cellist of Sarajevo, (Vintage, 2009) (Group 2)

The books will be available on short-term loan at Robarts Library. They will also be available for purchase at U of T Bookstore, located at 214 College Street.

FORMAT AND REQUIREMENTS

The course will meet for two hours of lecture per week and one hour of tutorial. Tutorials will start meeting on week 3 in the fall term and on week 15 in the winter term.

Students are responsible for course materials covered in reading assignments and lectures. Lectures and readings are complementary, but they do not overlap. Lectures presuppose familiarity with the readings, so it is advisable to complete reading assignments before the start of the week’s lecture.
Performance in the course will be evaluated on the basis of the following requirements:

- 2 term tests (20% each) 40%
- 1 book review 10%
- 3 response papers (10% each) 30%
- Tutorial Participation 10%
- Class Presentation 5%
- Class Participation 5%

The book review (10% of the final grade) will involve the preparation of an analytical review of an assigned book that engages with course themes. Length: 4-5 pages (around 1000 words).

The class presentation (5% of the final grade) will involve a group presentation to the class and the submission of a short individual reflection paper. Length of reflection: 1-page (around 200 words).

The response papers (10% of the final grade for each paper) will involve the preparation of analytical essays on assigned questions on course materials. Each paper will be due 3 weeks after the question is distributed. Length: 4-5 pages (around 1000 words each).

The term tests (20% of the final grade for each test) will be closed-book and will take place during class time in weeks 12 and 24.

Tutorial participation (10% of the final grade) will be graded on the basis of regular attendance and high quality participation in the weekly tutorials.

Class participation (5% of the final grade) will be graded on the basis of regular attendance and high quality participation in class discussions.

Further instructions will be provided for the preparation of written assignments. Please remember to staple the pages of your written assignments together before you submit them to avoid lost pages. Please also include word counts at the end of all written assignments.

**COURSE RULES AND POLICIES**

**Extensions and make-ups:** No extensions or make-ups will be granted on written assignments or term tests, unless students have strong acceptable reasons, such as a medical emergency supported by an official U of T medical certificate. Appropriate documentation must be submitted within one week of missed term work. Assignments or tests from other courses scheduled for the same day or work commitments do not constitute acceptable reasons, so plan in advance accordingly.

**Late penalties for written assignments:** Written assignments are to be handed in at the beginning of class on the date that they are due. Late assignments will be penalized. There is no allowance for computer problems, printer problems, late buses, late trains, and so on. The late submission penalty is 2% per each late day, weekends included. The cut-off time for the determination of the number of late days is 5 pm. (Please note: To be fair to students who submit their assignment on time, assignments received after class begins on the date they are due will be considered 1 day late.)

**Submission of late written assignments:** Late written assignments must be submitted to the reception of the Political Science Department on the 3rd floor of Sidney Smith Hall. All late work
must be stamped by departmental staff at the time of submission and must clearly note the course number and name of your TA. Submit your work during business hours (9 am to 5 pm) or no one will be there to receive it. Assignments submitted by fax or email will not be accepted, unless prior arrangements have been made with your TA.

Plagiarism: All sources used in written assignments must be properly cited. Failure to acknowledge sources constitutes plagiarism—a serious academic offense. For more information, students can review “How Not to Plagiarize” and other advice on sources at www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources.

Turnitin: Normally, students will be required to submit their course essays to Turnitin.com for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their essays to be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University's use of the Turnitin.com service are described on the Turnitin.com web site.

Writing skills development: Students can visit www.writing.utoronto.ca for advice on all aspects of academic writing. Students can make use of the college writing centres for individualized consultations on their written assignments. Interested students should book their appointments with the writing centres early, as they fill up fast. Information about college writing centres is available at http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/writing-centres/arts-and-science. Students can also take advantage of the Library’s free of charge “Writing Plus” workshop series, described at http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/writing-plus. International students can find information about the English Language Learning program (ELL), which includes practice opportunities for improving oral communication and reading skills, at http://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/current/advising/ell. For more information, please contact the ELL Coordinator at leora.freedman@utoronto.ca.

Blackboard and Email: Blackboard will be used to manage the course. Students must have an active University of Toronto email for this purpose. Students are expected to check their emails and the course blackboard page regularly to ensure they have access to posted course materials and announcements.

Double-sided printing: To help conserve paper, please print all written assignments double-sided if you can. You can learn how at: printdoublesided.sa.utoronto.ca.

**IMPORTANT DATES**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sep 23</td>
<td>Fall tutorials start meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 14</td>
<td>Book review due (at beginning of class)</td>
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<td>Oct 21</td>
<td>Class presentations</td>
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<td>Nov 11</td>
<td>Paper 1 due (at beginning of class)</td>
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<td>Dec 2</td>
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<td>Jan 20</td>
<td>Winter tutorials start meeting</td>
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<td>Feb 3</td>
<td>Paper 2 due (at beginning of class)</td>
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<td>Feb 16</td>
<td>Last day to drop course without academic penalty</td>
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<td>Mar 10</td>
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<td>Mar 31</td>
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<td>April 2</td>
<td>Last day to request late withdrawal at college registrar</td>
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<td>April 30</td>
<td>Last day to file a petition regarding term work</td>
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LECTURES

No classes will be held on November 18 (fall break) and February 17 (reading week).

All written assignments are to be handed in at the beginning of class on their due date.

I. Introduction
Sep 9  Week 1  Distribution of Syllabus
Sep 16 Week 2  Actors and Approaches
Sep 23 Week 3  Methods and Paradigms (fall tutorials start meeting)

II. Individual Agents and Conflict
Sep 30 Week 4  Human Nature
Oct 7  Week 5  Psychological Discontent
Oct 14 Week 6  Linguistic Categorization (book review due)
Oct 21 Week 7  Class Presentations  (paper 1 question assigned)

III. Social Groups and Conflict
Oct 28 Week 8  Ethnocentrism
Nov 4  Week 9  Stereotypes and Prejudice
Nov 11 Week 10 Ethnic Conflict (paper 1 due)
Nov 25 Week 11 Revolutions
Dec 2  Week 12  Term Test 1

IV. Rationality and Conflict
Jan 6  Week 13 Security Dilemmas
Jan 13 Week 14 Civil Wars: Guest Lecture by Noel Anderson (paper 2 question assigned)
Jan 20 Week 15 Structural Models of Conflict (winter tutorials start meeting)
Jan 27 Week 16 Arms Races and Zero-Sum Games
Feb 3  Week 17 Assessing Rational Choice (paper 2 due)

V. Peace and Justice
Feb 10 Week 17 Peace and Justice (paper 3 question assigned)
Feb 24 Week 18 Democratic Peace
Mar 3  Week 19 Liberal Peacebuilding
Mar 10 Week 20 Crafting Democratic Institutions (paper 3 due)
Mar 17 Week 22 Violence and Nonviolence
Mar 24 Week 23 Negotiating Peace
Mar 31 Week 24  Term Test 2
READING ASSIGNMENTS

I. Introduction

Week 1: Distribution of Syllabus
- No reading assignment.

Week 2: Actors and Approaches
- Documentary: “Yugoslavia: The Death of a Nation” episodes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6. (Available on youtube)

Week 3: Methods and Paradigms

II. Individual Agents and Conflict

Week 4: Human Nature

Week 5: Psychological Discontent
Week 6: Linguistic Categorization

Week 7: Student Presentations
• Group 1: Joe Sacco, *Safe Area Gorazde*, (Fantagraphics, 2000)
• Group 2: Steven Galloway, *The Cellist of Sarajevo*, (Vintage, 2009)

III. Social Groups and Conflict

Week 8: Ethnocentrism

Week 9: Stereotypes

Week 10: Ethnic Conflict

Week 11: Revolutions

Week 12: First Term Test
IV. Rationality and Conflict

Week 13: Security Dilemmas

Week 14: Civil Wars (Guest Lecture by Noel Anderson from MIT)

Week 15: Structural Models of Conflict

Week 16: Arms Races and Zero-Sum Games

Week 17: Assessing Rational Choice

V. Peace and Justice

Week 18: Peace and Justice
• Emanuel Adler, “Changing Identities: The Road to Peace” in Emanuel Adler, *Communitarian International Relations*, (Routledge, 2005), ch. 10.

**Week 19: Democratic Peace**

**Week 20: Liberal Peacebuilding**

**Week 21: Crafting Democratic Institutions**
• Timothy Sisk, *Power Sharing and International Mediation in Ethnic Conflicts*, (United States Institute of Peace, 1996), all.

**Week 22: Violence and Nonviolence**
• David Smock, *Religious Perspectives on War*, (United States Institute of Peace, 2002), all

**Week 23: Negotiating Peace**

**Week 24: Second Term Test**