

**ET520: BIBLICAL AND PRACTICAL PEACEMAKING (4 units). Glen Stassen, Professor of Christian Ethics;
Online Facilitation by Matthew Hamsher, Adjunct Instructor in Christian Ethics.**

DESCRIPTION:

The course has four objectives: (1) to develop practical ways for following Jesus' call to Christian peacemaking in our ministry and practice; (2) to compare a multilevel just peacemaking approach to preventing terrorism with the present official approach; (3) to compare different Christian ethical approaches to peace and war, including nonviolence, just war theory, and just peacemaking theory; (4) to consider theological rationales for Christian commitment to nonviolence and transforming initiatives of peacemaking.

RELEVANCE FOR MINISTRY: The course objectives are to:

- Demonstrate a Christian assessment of strategies for preventing terrorism and war, and realistic alternatives.
- Demonstrate knowledge that supports teaching biblically based peacemaking in ministry.
- Develop realistic practices of peacemaking that have proven effective in real experience.
- Practice skills in conflict transformation to cope with conflicts that occur within the church.

COURSE FORMAT:

The class will be conducted on the Internet using a 10-week lesson program aligned with Fuller's academic calendar. Each week, students and the instructor will interact with the material and each other through journaling, threaded discussions, and live Internet "chats," and web-based research. Lectures for each lesson will be available online.

REQUIRED READING:

- Herr, Judy Zimmerman and Robert Herr. *Transforming Violence: Linking Local and Global Peacemaking*. Herald Press, 1998.
- Fisher, Roger, and Scott Brown. *Getting Together: Building Relationships as we Negotiate*. Penguin: 1989.
- National Conference of Catholic Bishops. *The Challenge of Peace*. U.S. Catholic Conference, 1983.
- Stassen, Glen, ed. *Just Peacemaking: Ten Practices for Abolishing War*. Pilgrim, 1998 or 2004.
- Tooley, M. *Voices of the Voiceless: Women, Justice, & Human Rights in Guatemala*. Herald, 1997.
- John Howard Yoder, *The Politics of Jesus*. Eerdmans, 1994.

RECOMMENDED READING:

- Cahill, Lisa Sowle. *Love Your Enemies: Discipleship, Pacifism, & Just War Theory*. Fortress, 1994.
- Gish, Peggy. *Iraq: A Journey of Hope and Peace*. Herald: 2004.
- Marshall, Christopher. *Beyond Retribution: A New Testament Vision for Justice, Crime, and Punishment*. Eerdmans, and Lime Grove House: 2001.
- _____. *Crowned with Glory and Honor: Human Rights in the Biblical Tradition*. Pandora, Herald, and Lime Grove House: 2001.
- Murphy, Nancey and G. Ellis. *On the Moral Nature of the Universe*. Fortress, 1996.
- Sharp, Gene. *The Politics of Nonviolent Action*. 3 vols. Porter Sargent, 1974.
- Shriver, Donald. *An Ethic for Enemies*. Oxford University Press, 1995.
- Wink, W. *Engaging the Powers: Discernment & Resistance in a World of Domination*. Fortress, 1992.
- Yoder, John Howard. *The Original Revolution*. Herald Press, 2003.
- _____. *The Lamb's War*. Forthcoming.
- Zehr, Howard. *The Little Book of Restorative Justice*. Good Books, 2002.

ASSIGNMENTS:

1. Weekly threaded discussions (20%) and journaling, (10%)
2. One mid-term essay exam (15%)
3. One final essay exam (25%)
4. A ten-page position paper describing your thought on a particular practice of Christian peacemaking and how it can be taught and modeled in a church (20%).
5. Students will be encouraged to find an opportunity for peacemaking ministry and write a brief report on their activities. Those for whom this is not feasible will devise a plan for incorporating peacemaking into future ministry (10%).

PREREQUISITES: None.

RELATIONSHIP TO CURRICULUM: Elective.

FINAL EXAMINATION: Yes, an essay exam.