

**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 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.
- Swartley, Willard M. *Covenant of Peace: The Missing Peace in New Testament Theology and Ethics*, Eerdmans, 2006
- 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%), webliography exercises (5%) and journaling, (15%)
2. Three essay exams (15% each).
3. Students will be encouraged to find an opportunity for applying the practices of just peacemaking to their own ministry or congregational context and submit a journal of their involvement at the end of the course. Alternatively, those for whom this is not possible with propose a ten-page position paper describing their thought on a particular practice of Christian peacemaking and how it can be taught and modeled in a church (15%).

PREREQUISITES: None.

RELATIONSHIP TO CURRICULUM: Elective.

FINAL EXAMINATION: Yes, an essay exam.