

Western Peace Traditions

War and peace seem to be a perennial aspect of the human condition. This course will examine how peace has been understood, at the level of theory and practice, within the Western Tradition (past and present). The course will begin with the Classical Greek, Roman and Jewish perspectives, explore the complex nature of the Classical Christian synthesis of such traditions, include the 16th century Magisterial and Anabaptist notions of war and peace, then conclude with a discussion of peace activists on the stage of world politics today. The major peace themes such as pacifism, various forms of just war theory and peace through strength will be examined. *Lysistrata*, Cicero, Augustine, Hildegard and Julian, Francis/Clare, More and Erasmus, Grebel and Weil, Grant and Woodsworth, Gandhi and Mandela, and Merton and the Dali Lama will be discussed. The course will conclude with a discussion of the Canadian Peace Tradition.

Week	Topic
1	The Greeks: War and Peace
2	The Jewish Prophets and Peace
3	Cicero and Just War
4	Jesus and the Sermon on the Mount
5	Augustine and Cicero: Just War
6	Francis/Clare and the Crusades
7	The Oxford Reformers and Peace
8	Erasmus and the Anabaptists
9	Grotius, Peace and International Law
10	Tolstoy and Gandhi

11	Peace Movements in the 20 th Century
12	Interfaith Alliances and Peace
13	The Canadian Peace Tradition

Marking

Midterm Test	30%
Class Presentation	30%
Class Participation	10%
Final Exam	30%

Texts

Musto, Ronald: The Catholic Peace Tradition

Simone Weil: 'Antigone' and 'The Iliad, Poem of Might'

Plato: Gorgias

Class Handouts

It is essential that the readings are faithfully read. We will, in each class, discuss the assigned readings. So, do come prepared with readings well read.

Ron Dart