

## Fall 2016 Religion, War and Peace, POS/REL378

Updated Oct. 18

Professor Warner, Ph.D.

Office: School of Politics and Global Studies, Coor 6738

e-mail: cwarner@asu.edu

Office Phone: 480-965-5201

course meets : Tu/Th 12:00 pm to 1:15 pm, Coor 184

Office Hours: Thursdays 2-4 pm and by appointment

Teaching Assistant: Ms Mijun Lee, Ph.D. candidate

email: Mijun.Lee@asu.edu

Office for appointments: School of Politics and Global Studies, Coor 6775

Office hour: Tuesdays 10:30-11:30am and by appointment, please email ahead to confirm

This course aims to analyze the complicated and sometimes conflictual relationship between major religious faiths, religious adherents and structures of governing authority, particularly but not exclusively during the Reformation and in the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries. Among the topics to be covered are: the possible sources within religions for conflict; an examination of under what conditions those factors might lead to conflict; possible sources of tolerance and conflict reduction within religion, and the conditions that might foster that; the role of political actors and state institutions in leading to conflict, tolerance or peace, and what we mean when we say a conflict is “religious.” This course does not claim to provide a survey of religion and politics for all major world religions, or other religions, nor in all parts of the world. This class takes a broad view of what “war” is, and does not spend much time on traditional inter-state wars or periods of peace between states. The focus is more on intergroup violence and tolerance than on traditional events such as wars between states, and signing of peace agreements between states or between (formerly) warring parties in a civil war.

One of the goals of this course is to achieve a better understanding of the above listed topics. Thus, there will considerable attention to different theoretical analyses of religion and its role in conflict and in promoting peace. A second goal is to exercise and enhance your analytical and communication skills.

The course is a mix of in-person lecture, discussion and small group activities.

### **Summary of graded course activities: 100 points total [not counting the extra credit points]**

Quizzes: 2 points each x 15 that count towards final grade: 30 points

One page essays: three each at 5 points each: 15 points

First Exam: 25 points

Second exam: 30 points

---Extra Credit: 5 points (see p. 5)

**Final Course grades** will be assigned according to the following point totals:

A+: 97-100  
A: 93-96  
A-: 90-92  
B+: 87-89  
B: 83-86  
B-: 80-82  
C+: 77-79  
C: 70-76  
D: 60-69  
E: 59 and below

**Requirements:**

**Exams:** (25 points, 30 points respectively) two in-class true-false, multiple choice and short essay format exams on **Oct. 6, 2016**, and **Dec. 1, 2016**. Exams will be closed books/articles and closed notes. No computer, iPad, smart phone or other portable electronic device usage is allowed, either. Paper to write on will be provided. Along with covering the material from Oct. 13 forward, the second exam assumes you remember the main points of materials prior to the first exam.

**Quizzes:** (2 points each for 30 points total). There will be a quiz in class almost every class meeting, on the assigned reading for that day or on the assigned video or podcast for that day. Quizzes cannot be made up. We will drop your 3 lowest scores.

**One page essays:** three at 5 points each for 15 points total. The one page essays will be based on course readings and class sessions. These will be graded on an above satisfactory [5], satisfactory [3], below satisfactory [1], no credit [0] basis in terms of points. There will be one due on Sept. 6, one on Nov. 1, and one on Nov. 29, 2016.

**Classroom policies**

**Conduct and Learning Environment**

Students are expected to help maintain a positive learning environment in our classroom. Let's make sure all students have the opportunity to focus on the material. In classroom discussions please remain courteous and respectful toward your fellow students. This includes avoiding distracting behavior such as arriving to class late, leaving early, leaving your cell phone ringer on, answering your cell phone, text messaging during class, surfing the internet, reading non-class material during class time, studying for another course, doing homework or assignments for another course, or talking when someone else is talking. These bad habits interfere with the learning environment, along with being annoying at best and extremely rude at worst. I reserve the right to ask anyone whose behavior is inappropriate to leave the class. I also reserve the right to dock your grade, by deducting points, for disruptive classroom behavior (again, that includes arriving late or leaving class early). *We will always treat your questions and concerns with respect. Feel free to ask questions.* Please address the Professor as Professor Warner or Dr.

Warner; please address the Teaching Assistant as Ms Lee.

### **Attend Class and Participate in Class:**

If you miss class, please consult the syllabus to see what you missed. Please *do not email me or Ms Lee* asking what was covered in class or ask us to summarize the class that you missed during office hours or another appointment. We will not redistribute notes, course materials or make power point slides available. In-class activities and quizzes cannot be made up later for any reason. With the exception of the scheduled exams, for which there are rules about excused absences for make-up exams, we do not need to know why you missed class.

### **NO portable electronic devices to be used during class time.**

No laptops, phones, or tablets allowed to be out during classtime. What this means is just what it says; keep your portable electronic devices stored with volume/ringers off in your bags/purses/pockets when you come to class. Do not check them during class. Every semester more and more students confide in me their struggles with focusing on the course material when everybody else is tweeting/snapping or checking out Sports Center every 10 seconds. This also means you will need to bring note paper and a pen or pencil to class, in order to take notes. Several studies also suggest that writing out your notes (as opposed to typing them out) leads to better retention of information. See <http://lifehacker.com/5738093/why-you-learn-more-effectively-by-writing-than-typing> for a further discussion. If you have a disability that prevents you from writing out notes then you should be registered with the Disability Resource Center (DRC) and I will communicate with them regarding your specific situation. For the rest of us, we're doing it "old school." If, for some reason, I want you to have a laptop in class to use, I'll notify the class a few days in advance. Thank you for your cooperation.

### **Blackboard and E-mail**

We will be using blackboard to upload some course readings, other materials, and to keep track of your grades, and to communicate with you. You are responsible for checking it (and your asu.edu email account) on a regular basis. (I'd do it daily). Inevitably, in every class, there are students whose e-mail gets bounced back for various reasons (mailbox is full, organization doesn't exist, etc.), or who use a non-asu e-mail, that is not linked up to their ASU account. You will be disadvantaged if you do not have a working asu.edu email account or if you can't access our course. If you do not get an announcement from me because of a technical error on your end that you don't fix, it is not my responsibility—it is yours.

### **E-mail etiquette**

When you contact me or Ms Lee, the teaching assistant, via e-mail, you should communicate professionally and avoid informal salutations and unprofessional or casual language. The appropriate salutations in e-mails to me are "Dr. Warner" or "Professor Warner," and for the teaching assistant, "Ms Lee." We will not read e-mails that lack a salutation or begin with an informal salutation such as "Yo" or "Hey". You should also include your name at the end of any e-mail. If you do not include your name we will not take the time to look you up based on your e-mail address, we will have no idea who sent the e-mail, and will therefore not respond.

**Contact:** Please first contact Ms Lee with any questions about your scores or possible excused absences. For substantive questions about the course material and other questions, please feel free to see Prof. Warner or Ms Lee.

**ACADEMIC DISHONESTY, including plagiarism and inappropriate collaboration or cheating, is not tolerated!**

In the “Student Academic Integrity Policy” manual, ASU defines “Plagiarism” [as] using another's words, ideas, materials or work without properly acknowledging and documenting the source. Students are responsible for knowing the rules governing the use of another's work or materials and for acknowledging and documenting the source appropriately.” You can find this definition at:

<https://provost.asu.edu/academicintegrity/policy/Definitions>

**Student Obligations to Academic Integrity**

Each student must act with honesty and integrity, and must respect the rights of others in carrying out all academic assignments. A student may be found to have engaged in academic dishonesty if, in connection with any Academic Evaluation or academic or research assignment (including a paid research position), he or she:

- A .Engages in any form of academic deceit;
- B .Refers to materials or sources or uses devices (e.g., computer disks, audio recorders, camera phones, text messages, crib sheets, calculators, solution manuals, materials from previous classes, or commercial research services) not authorized by the instructor for use during the Academic Evaluation or assignment;
- C .Possesses, reviews, buys, sells, obtains, or uses, without appropriate authorization, any materials intended to be used for an Academic Evaluation or assignment in advance of its administration;
- D .Acts as a substitute for another person in any Academic Evaluation or assignment;
- E .Uses a substitute in any Academic Evaluation or assignment;
- F .Depends on the aid of others, including other students or tutors, in connection with any Academic Evaluation or assignment to the extent that the work is not representative of the student's abilities;
- G .Provides inappropriate aid to another person in connection with any Academic Evaluation or assignment, including the unauthorized use of camera phones, text messages, photocopies, notes or other means to copy or photograph materials used or intended for Academic Evaluation;
- H .Engages in Plagiarism;
- I .Uses materials from the Internet or any other source without full and appropriate attribution;
- J .Permits his or her work to be submitted by another person in connection with any Academic Evaluation or assignment, without authorization;
- K .Claims credit for or submits work done by another;
- L .Signs an attendance sheet for another student, allows another student to sign on the student's behalf, or otherwise participates in gaining credit for attendance for oneself or another without actually attending;
- M .Falsifying or misrepresenting hours or activities in relationship to an internship, externship,

field experience, clinical activity or similar activity; or Attempts to influence or change any Academic Evaluation, assignment or academic record for reasons having no relevance to academic achievement.

There are severe sanctions for cheating, plagiarizing and any other form of dishonesty. Please see the Student Code of Conduct and Student Disciplinary Procedures. An initial incident will result in the student receiving a failing grade (E or possibly an XE – failure for academic dishonesty) for the course. All work must be yours and it must be original to this class. If you have questions about this, please ask me.

**Make-up exam and course work:** If a serious emergency (i.e., sickness, family death, terminal illness, car accident, court appearance, etc.) prevents you from taking an exam as scheduled, then you will have to take the make-up exam outside of class time. You must bring **documentation to the teaching assistant** as soon as is practicable. This will serve as your “excused” absence from doing the exam on the original scheduled date. If you must be absent due to observance of a recognized religious holiday (see <http://students.asu.edu/cora/holidays>), you must tell me in advance. No early exams will be given. A make-up exam will not be allowed for events such as weddings, anniversary parties, furniture deliveries or home repair issues, or family reunions. If your event schedule prevents you from taking the exams on Oct. 6 and Dec. 1, please take a different course. If you have a legitimate excuse for missing the exam on Dec. 1, you must take the make-up exam no later than Dec. 6 or, conditional on Incomplete policy (see below), you will be assigned a grade of I for the course and have to make up the exam the next semester.

For assignments, computer and printing problems are not an excuse. Get in the habit of backing up your work so a computer crash does not hinder you from turning in an assignment on time. ASU has numerous free computing sites. Late papers will lose one grade step per day, starting after class the day they are due. If for some reason you cannot print out a one page essay the day and time it is due, e-mail it as an attachment in Word format to Ms Lee before class the day it is due (NOT after class, unless you want to incur a late penalty).

**Extra Credit:** you may once do ONE extra credit assignment for 5 points maximum. These will be graded on the same scale as the one page essay. To be considered, you must attend one event (a talk, colloquium, or panel or “roundtable”) sponsored or co-sponsored by ASU’s Center for the Study of Religion and Conflict ([csrc.asu.edu](http://csrc.asu.edu)). Light snacks and beverages are sometimes available at these CSRC events. Pay attention to whether you need a ticket (free but required) or need to RSVP. Write a one page essay that summarizes **IN YOUR OWN WORDS** the speaker's(s’) main points, and that includes your analytical observations about or responses to their points (typed, single-spaced, one inch margins, with your name and the name of the speaker and the event title, date, time and location on a separate cover page or in the header of the one page essay). This must be turned in by the second class session after the event, no later, and in class. The last date for attending anything to be counted for this extra credit is Nov. 23, 2016.

## **Incompletes**

I strongly discourage Incompletes and grant them only in emergency situations. At the time of the request for an Incomplete, you also must be in good standing (C or above) in this course. If there is an emergency situation, a grade of I will be granted contingent upon signing of a contract of work due, with a deadline. A grade of **I** will not be assigned if you simply stop coming to class. In that case, a grade of **E** will be assigned.

**Disability Accommodations:** Qualified students with disabilities who will require disability accommodations in this class are encouraged to make their requests to me at the beginning of the semester either during office hours or by appointment. **Note:** Prior to receiving disability accommodations, verification of eligibility from the Disability Resource Center (DRC) is required. Disability information is confidential. Students who think they will need disability accommodations in this class but have not registered with the Disability Resource Center (DRC) should contact DRC immediately. Their office is located on the first floor of the Matthews Center Building. DRC staff can also be reached at: 480-965-1234 (V), 480-965-9000 (TTY). For additional information, visit: [www.asu.edu/studentaffairs/ed/drc](http://www.asu.edu/studentaffairs/ed/drc). Their hours are 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday.

## **Sexual Harassment and Violence Policy:**

Title IX is a federal law that provides that no person be excluded on the basis of sex from participation in, be denied benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity. Both Title IX and university policy make clear that sexual violence and harassment based on sex is prohibited. An individual who believes they have been subjected to sexual violence or harassed on the basis of sex can seek support, including counseling and academic support, from the university. If you or someone you know has been harassed on the basis of sex or sexually assaulted, you can find information and resources at <http://sexualviolenceprevention.asu.edu/faqs/students>.

## **Academic Expectations and Readings**

This course is an upper division special topics course, which moves at a fairly rapid pace and is not based on any particular traditional type of textbook. The readings are demanding, as appropriate for an upper division social science course at a Research 1 university. It is expected and assumed that you will have done the reading for the day, before class, and will have engaged with it as you read it—think about, ask questions of it, rather than just run your eyes across the pages. Doing the readings before class is critical to doing well in this class, including contributing to discussions and other in-class activities. Class lectures, activities and discussions will further facilitate comprehension and analysis, as will the assignments. If your preference is to cram before exams, please consider taking a different course. Readings are based on two books available for purchase, books in the ASU catalogue as “e-books”, and a variety of materials posted to our course Blackboard under “content.” Please bring the assigned reading for the day to class or at least bring your notes about it.

If you have questions at any time, please raise your hand and ask. It is likely that other students will have similar questions. Please also feel free to see me and/or Ms Lee during office hours, too, or set up an appointment if you cannot make our regularly scheduled office hours.

**ASU also has a variety of free academic assistance services: <https://tutoring.asu.edu>**

The course assumes you know how to find e-books on ASU's catalogue. If you do not know, please see a reference librarian immediately for guidance and assistance, or ask one of your colleagues.

In the interest of fairness, there will be absolutely NO exceptions to these rules.

**Books for the class:** at the ASU campus and other nearby bookstores:

Benjamin J. Kaplan, *Divided by Faith: Religious Conflict and the Practice of Toleration in Early Modern Europe*. Harvard University Press. 2007. Paperback. ISBN 9780674034730 Also as e-book on ASU library on-line, and on course reserve.

Ron. E. Hassner, *War on Sacred Grounds*. Ithaca: Cornell Univ Press, 2009. Cloth ISBN: 978-0-8014-4806-5 Also on course reserve.

While the Hassner and Kaplan books are listed as "required" at the bookstores, purchasing them is up to you. All of the readings are available from web sites on-line, and/or via ASU's electronic journal subscriptions or its library catalogue (e-books), or in a few cases, posted on Blackboard. Those on Blackboard will be noted on the syllabus.

Pod Casts: This course uses pod casts several times. The pod casts that go through an iTunes system are compatible with any Mac or PC or any kind of smart phone and most tablets. The others can be listened to directly from the listed website or downloaded from that site onto an MP3 player.

This document is a course syllabus, not a legal contract. It is a good-faith outline of course requirements and expectations. Note, however, that specific readings and seminar topics are subject to alteration and emendation during the course of the semester. While such changes will be announced during classes, it is each student's sole responsibility, in the event of absence, to ascertain whether or not such alterations have been made.

### **Week 1, Aug. 18. Introductory Session**

Th: Introducing the Course

### **Week 2, Aug. 23-25 Is it a religious conflict? What do we mean by "religious"? How do we tell? What difference does it make?**

Tu: Graeme Wood, "What ISIS Really Wants," *The Atlantic*, March 2015, pp. 1-40, on

Blackboard

Th: Bruce Lincoln. *Holy Terrors. Thinking about religion after 9/11*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2003. Read the Preface and pp. 1-8, on Blackboard

Christopher R. Duncan, *Violence and Vengeance: Religious Conflict and Its Aftermath in Eastern Indonesia*, Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2013, pp. 1-10, ASU e-book and Blackboard.

### **Week 3: Aug. 30-Sept. 1 Religious Sources of Conflict**

Tu: Benjamin J. Kaplan, *Divided by Faith. Religious Conflict and the Practice of Toleration in Early Modern Europe* Cambridge: Harvard Univ. Press, 2007. Introduction and Ch 1 (A Holy Zeal), so pp. 1-47 total.

Th: no class. Watch/listen to talk by Professor Stephen Prothero, "God is Not One: Religious Tolerance in an Age of Extremism," Center for the Study of Religion and Conflict, Oct. 21, 2013. You need to go to this website: <https://csrc.asu.edu> Scroll down to the section on bottom left "stay up to date", click on "podcast" and then when that opens in iTunes, scroll down until you find the talk (Oct. 21, 2013). You may quit when it gets to the Question and Answer section (at 48 minutes). Do the accompanying essay assignment *that is posted on Blackboard*, to turn in on Sept. 6 in class.

### **Week 4, Sept. 6-8 Religion and conditions for conflict**

Tu: Discussion of Prothero assignment

Th: Kaplan *Divided by Faith* ch 2 "Corpus Christianum"

### **Week 5, Sept. 13-15, Sparks of Conflict?**

Tu: Kaplan *Divided by Faith*, ch. 3 "Flashpoints"

Th: Hassner, *War on Sacred Grounds*, Prologue and pp. 1-14

### **Week 6, Sept. 20-22, Religious sources of conflict**

Tu: Hassner, *War on Sacred Grounds*, chs. 2-3

Th: continue Hassner *War on Sacred Grounds*, chs. 4-5

## **Week 7, Sept 27-29, Oct. 1, Religion, and Political Sources of Conflict**

Tu: Anand Gopal, "Hell after ISIS", The Atlantic, May 2016, pp. 78-90, on Blackboard

Th: no additional assigned reading

## **Week 8, Oct. 4-6 Midterm**

Oct. 4: Exam review

Oct. 6 First Exam in class

*Extra Credit:* You are encouraged to attend a talk, if your schedule allows, by Mr. Shaun Casey, US Special Representative for Religion and Global Affairs, US State Department, "Religion and Conflict: A View from the State Department," at 1:30-2:45pm in West Hall 135 (Oct. 6). See <https://csrc.asu.edu/programs/marshall-speaker-series/religion-and-conflict-view-state-department-marshall-speaker-series>. Light snacks and beverages are sometimes available at these CSRC events. Pay attention to whether you need a ticket (free but required) or need to RSVP. If you would like extra credit (5 points possible), please write a one page essay that summarizes IN YOUR OWN WORDS the speaker's main points, and that includes your analytical observations about or responses to his points (typed, single-spaced, one inch margins, with your name and the name of the speaker and the event title, date, time and location on a separate cover page or in the header of the one page essay). Turn your paper at the beginning of class on Oct. 13.

## **Week 9, Oct. 11, 13,**

no class Oct. 11 due to Fall Break

Oct. 13: no assigned reading, exams returned

**Week 10, Oct. 18, 20 Religion and the State:** How to get from state-sponsored religious persecution to state-sponsored religious tolerance

Tu: Kaplan, *Divided by Faith*, ch 4, "One Faith, One Law, One King."

Th: read summary of an event at the United Nations, "Religious Freedom in Sri Lanka," March 25, 2015, <http://imadr.org/summaryfreedom-of-religion-in-srilankahrc28-sideevent/>

Re-read Matthew Isaacs, "Why are Buddhist Monks promoting violence in Sri Lanka?" <https://politicalviolenceataglance.org/2014/07/01/why-are-buddhist-monks-promoting-violence-in-sri-lanka/>

### **Week 11, Oct. 25, 27, Religious and Political Bases of Compromise**

Tu: Anthony Gill *Political Origins of Religious Liberty*, Ch. 2, on Blackboard

Th: No class. Watch and listen to podcast by Professor Najeeba Syeed-Miller, “Actual Peacemaking,” Sept. 26, 2013, Center for the Study of Religion and Conflict. You need to go to this website: <https://csrc.asu.edu>

Scroll down to the section on bottom left “stay up to date”, click on “podcast” and then when that opens in iTunes, scroll down until you find the talk. Do the accompanying essay assignment *that is posted on Blackboard*, to turn in on Nov. 1 in class.

### **Week 12, Nov. 1, 3 The Politics of Reducing Conflict**

Tu: Discussion of Syeed-Miller podcast.

Th: Victor Gaetan, “Why the Vatican Was Key to the U.S.-Cuba diplomatic breakthrough” at <http://www.ncregister.com/daily-news/why-the-vatican-was-key-to-the-u.s.-cuba-diplomatic-breakthrough>

### **Week 13: Nov. 8, 10 Reducing Conflict Continued**

Tu: Hassner, *War on Sacred Grounds*, ch 6 “The Foundations and Limits of Religious Authority”

Th: Hassner *War on Sacred Grounds*, Ch 8, “Successful Conflict Management, Mecca 1979”

### **Week 14, Nov. 15, 17 How Not to Solve a Conflict, and Why Ignorance is Lethal**

Tu: in class: "Frontline: Waco, the Inside Story"

Th: Malcolm Gladwell, “How Not to Negotiate with Believers,” *The New Yorker*, March 31, 2014. On Blackboard.

### **Week 15, Nov. 22, 24 (24<sup>th</sup> Thanksgiving official holiday)**

Tu: No Class, listen to Professor Scott Atran talk, “Measuring Religion: Sacred Values in Human Conflict” Center for the Study of Religion and Conflict. You need to go to this website:

<https://csrc.asu.edu>

Scroll down to the section on bottom left “stay up to date”, click on “podcast” and then when that opens in iTunes, scroll down until you find the talk, dated Nov. 13, 2014. Do the accompanying essay assignment *that is posted on Blackboard*, to turn in on Nov. 29 in class.

**Week 16, Nov. 29, Dec.1 Looking back on the role of religion in war and peace**

Tu: Discussion of Atran talk, and Q&A session.

Th: Second Exam (in class)