

WAGING PEACE THROUGH CROSS-CULTURAL UNDERSTANDING

University of Tübingen, in Cooperation with Oregon State University

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Fall 2020, Syllabus (Version 10/08/2020)

1. COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course provides students with a unique opportunity to develop a global diversity perspective in communication and dialogue. Students will explore their own identity and positionality in the world in a way that allows them to develop empathetic skills that are critical to developing a more secure, healthy, and just world. Utilizing the skills of appreciative inquiry, appreciative curiosity and a variety of dialogic techniques, students will be able to engage some of the world's most compelling issues: immigration, poverty and development, extremism, xenophobia/racism, sexism, religious, cultural, and political divisions.

2. COURSE SCHEDULE

10/9/2020: Session I: Introduction

Welcome, Syllabus, Format, Assignments

10/16/2020: Session II: How Do We Relate to Each Other

- Identity and Positionality
- Relation between the Self and the Other

Readings:

- Erich Fromm (1956): *The Art of Loving*,
Foreword (p. xix-xxi),
Chapter I "Is Love an Art" (p. 1-6),
Chapter II "The Theory of Love" (p. 7-82)
- Bobbie Harro (2000): *The Cycle of Socialization*.

10/23/2020: Session III: Understanding Myself and Others

- Define diversity, equity, inclusion through explorations of identity and positionality
- Understand and confront internal and national bias by unpacking stereotypes
- Learn how to use Appreciative Inquiry and Appreciative Curiosity for ourselves and the world around us
- Develop a mindfulness mindset

Readings:

- Erich Fromm (1956): *The Art of Loving*
Chapter III “Love and Its Disintegration ...” (83-106),
Chapter IV The Practice of Love (107-132)
- Kwame Anthony Appiah (2016): “There Is No Such Thing As Western Culture”
- Ibram X. Kendi (2019): *How to Be an Antiracist*, Summary
- Edward Said (1979): *Orientalism*, Definition
- Short Video: Media Theorized: Edward Said

10/30/2020: Session IV: Waging Peace Through Cross-Cultural Understanding

- Define different conceptions of peace, conflict, and violence;
- Identify key peacebuilding priorities;
- Describe how context and perspective influence the peacebuilding process; and
- Identify the different tools, types of interventions, and strategies for building peace.

Readings:

- Marcus Aurelius (180): *Meditations*, Excerpts
- Philip Pecorino (N.D.): Kant, The Categorical Imperative, and the Golden Rule
- Immanuel Kant (1795): *Perpetual Peace*
- Rüdiger Kunow (2011): *Unavoidably Side by Side*

11/6/2020: Session V: Understanding conflict and negotiation

- Describe the two main components of any negotiation process;
- Identify different conflict styles; and
- Explain how different conflict styles may arise in a negotiation.

Readings:

- Hannah Arendt (1971): *Thinking and Moral Considerations*
- Mattias Iser (2019): *Recognition* (Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy)

Assignment Due:

- **Response Paper “What Is Peace”, Monday 11/2, by 8 PM Pacific Time**

11/13/2020: Session VI: Mediating Difference

- Describe the importance of mediation
- Define mediation and identify the roles mediators play;
- Identify the role identity plays in mediation; and
- Recognize the basic principles behind effective mediation.

Readings:

- Karl Popper (1986): Utopia and Violence
- Theodor Adorno (1966): Education after Auschwitz

11/20/2020: Session VII: Community Based-Dialogue

- Distinguish dialogue from other conflict resolution processes;
- Determine when community-based dialogue is an appropriate process to manage a conflict; and
- Design a community-based dialogue process in their own geographical and social context.

Readings:

- Ratnesh Nagda et al. (2008): Dialogue, discussion, and debate.
- Matthew Kelly (2019): Paulo Freire's Five Ideas for Dialogical Learning

11/27/2020: Thanksgiving Holiday: No Class

12/4/2020: Session VIII: Role of Media and the Arts

- Describe how media and the arts contribute to peacebuilding;
- Consider the impact media and the arts have on the individual and how that may influence peacebuilding;
- Identify the role media and the arts have in fostering a culture of peace; and
- Describe the role of media and the arts have in post-conflict societies.

Readings:

- Joseph Nye (1990): Soft Power
- Short Video: Media Theorized: Stuart Hall

12/11/2020: Session IX: Student Presentation, Session I

- **Assignment 2: Research Presentation, Due Dec 11**

12/18/2020: Session X: Student Presentation, Session II + Conclusion

- **Assignment 3: Research Paper, Due End of December (TBC)**

3. ASSIGNMENTS

- Assignment 1: Response Paper “What Is Peace”, Due Nov 2. 2 pages, 10 points
- Assignment 2: Research Presentation, Due Dec 11. 10 points (TBC)
- Assignment 3: Research Paper, Due End of December (TBC). 20 points

4. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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- Ratnesh Nagda, Gurin, P., Rodriguez, J., & Maxwell, K. “Dialogue, discussion, and debate.” Adapted from *Differentiating Dialogue from Discussion*. The University of Michigan Program on Intergroup Relations. Retrieved <https://depts.washington.edu/fammed/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/3d-HANDOUT.pdf>. 2008.
- Said, Edward W. *Orientalism*. Vintage, 1979.