International Studies 190 Syllabus  
Peace and War in the Modern Age

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Time and Room: Tuesdays, 5:00-7:50 p.m., RBC 1401  
Office Hours: Tuesdays, after class & by appointment

COURSE OBJECTIVES:  
The goals of this senior seminar are to assess issues of peace and war in the Modern Age, allow students to demonstrate what they have learned from coursework in the program, and teach the skills essential for completing a twenty page research paper. The central theme of this course is the seemingly contradictory nature of the 20th century. On the one hand, humankind took momentous steps toward recognizing universal human rights and attempting to ensure peace and security for nations and citizens. On the other hand, the twentieth century witnessed not one but two world wars, a Cold War that lasted forty-five years, a violent process of decolonization, and horrendous violations of human rights, not to mention massive loss of life. How do we reconcile this contradiction? Ultimately, we will be looking at “getting to peace through war.” The readings and assignments for this course are designed to provide you with an in depth examination of issues of peace and war in the twentieth century (and the beginning of the twenty-first) so you can form your own conclusions. The course also gives you the opportunity to formulate a prospectus, write a book review, work with primary and secondary source materials, and last but not least complete an original research paper. Students may write on any subject of their choice dealing with peace and/or war from 1914 to the present, but the essay must be analytical. Furthermore, each essay must rely on at least three primary sources.

REQUIRED READING:  
Dalton Trumbo, Johnny Got His Gun  
John Hersey, Hiroshima  
Robert Kennedy, Thirteen Days: A Memoir of the Cuban Missile Crisis  
William Ury, The Third Side: Why We Fight and How We Can Stop  
Course Reader, available at Soft Reserves, Student Center A, room 122

GRADING:  
Your grade in this course will be based on the following assignments:

Course participation (20%): Your participation in seminar discussions is important and mandatory. It may surprise you how much you can learn from others, and how much they can learn from you. Please remember, however, that this is an academic environment. A wide variety of opinions on any given topic exists; be respectful of the opinions and interpretations of others, even if you may not agree with them. In addition, you should honor the rules of common courtesy: arrive to class on time and stay the entire time; do not interrupt or talk while someone else has the floor; listen attentively; stay awake; and focus on this class rather than texting or completing assignments for other courses. Lastly, laptops, blackberries, cell phones, and any other electronic device you can think of are banned from this class. If you have an emergency situation, where your cell phone needs to be on or you need to receive a text message, please let me know. Your presentation (10 minutes) during the last two class meetings comprises 20% of your course participation grade. For your presentation you may use a maximum of four power point slides (not required) and you must present, not read.
Assignments (25%): Assignments for this course include a prospectus, book review, submitted draft, four quizzes or assignments on the assigned books, course reader, and lectures and three short written exercises on the assigned reading in the course reader. The prospectus should be approximately four to five pages and should make five things clear: (1) your topic and working hypothesis; (2) the questions you intend to explore; (3) your research methodology or approach; (4) a preliminary list of sources (including both primary and secondary sources) you plan to use; and (5) a preliminary outline of the major topics to be covered in your paper. The book review will be on one of the sources you will use in your paper. Your submitted draft should not be the first, unpolished draft of your paper; rather it should be a polished piece of writing in progress that incorporates your findings to date. Your 8-9 page draft is due week 7. The quizzes and assignments will be discussed the week before they are to be taken or are due.

The paper (55%): The final paper should be approximately 20 pages in length. We will be discussing the format of the paper, citations, and other mechanical details throughout the course. The final draft of the paper is due December 19 by 7:00 pm (you can turn the papers in early). Late papers will not be accepted.

SCHEDULE

October 7 (Week 1)  
Introduction: Defining Peace and War in the Modern Age  
Choosing a subject & formulating an outline  
Sources & Source evaluation  
World War I: The War to End All Wars?

October 14 (Week 2)  
Topic Selection & Quiz: Oral presentations of topic selection & Quiz on Johnny Got His Gun.  
How to write a research paper  
The Search for Peace after World War I  
Reading: Dalton Trumbo, Johnny Got His Gun

October 21 (Week 3)  
Prospectus Due & Short Assignment on Week 3 Readings  
World War II: The Good War?  
Discussion of Hitler’s rise to power, how the war was conducted, and resistance and collaboration  
Reading: Course Reader Week 3

October 28 (Week 4)  
Progress Check on Papers & Quiz. Updates on additional sources found, start writing & Quiz on Hiroshima  
The end and aftermath of World War II  
How to write a book review  
Reading: Paul Kennedy, Hiroshima

November 4 (Week 5)  
Book Review Due & short assignment on Week 5 readings  
Cold War & Decolonization: Universal Rights, Civil Rights  
Reading: Course Reader Week 5

November 11 (Week 6)  
NO CLASS. 2-3 page assignment on Thirteen Days and one fact about U.S. veterans in the 20th or 21st century.  
The Cuban Missile Crisis, avoiding WWIII?  
Reading: Robert Kennedy, Thirteen Days
November 18 8-9 pages due & short assignment on course reader week 7
(Week 7) Ending the Cold War…peacefully
Reading: Course Reader Week 7

November 25 Quiz on The Third Side
(Week 8) Peace and War in the 21st Century: Getting to Peace Through War?
Preparing the final draft
Reading: William Ury, The Third Side

December 2 Class Presentations
(Week 9)

December 9 Class Presentations
(Week 10)

December 19 FINAL PAPER DUE BY 7:00 pm

Academic Integrity Statement
Students are expected to do their own work, as outlined in the UCSD Policy on Integrity of Scholarship: http://www-senate.ucsd.edu/manual/appendices/app2.htm

Remember, you are responsible for everything on this syllabus. This syllabus is a contract between professor and student so that you know what to expect from me and I know what to expect from you. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.