I. Course Description

The Catholic Church boasts a rich tradition of reflection and action on war and peace. This course introduces students to the most well-known and well-developed part of that tradition: just war and pacifism. But it goes further and considers the relationship between the just war-pacifism strands of the tradition and the development of a theology, ethics and praxis of peacebuilding – i.e., the Church’s approach to conflict prevention, conflict transformation and post-conflict reconciliation. In considering these topics, the course will emphasize (1) the “living” nature of the tradition, the link between theory and practice, principles and policy; and (2) the importance of grounding ethics and action on war and peace in an understanding of Christian vocation.

Drawing on my 17 years as a senior official of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and my current role as coordinator of the Catholic Peacebuilding Network, the course will examine these broad topics in light of specific cases and issues, including the Iraq intervention, humanitarian intervention, nuclear disarmament, the landmines campaign, the Church’s role in Track Two diplomacy and truth and reconciliation processes, and other issues. Students will have an opportunity to engage directly with Catholic leaders who are working on these issues.

This course will also afford students the opportunity, primarily through a research paper, to contribute to the Catholic Peacebuilding Network’s (cpn.nd.edu) work in the Philippines, Colombia, the Great Lakes region of Africa, and South Sudan. Other course assignments will help students develop their written and oral skills in applied ethics through policy memos, opinion pieces (or blogs), homilies, and video-taped media interviews. There will be no in-class exams.

II. Principal Texts
ASSIGNMENTS

PART 1. STRATEGIC CATHOLIC PEACEBUILDING

1/16 What do Catholics have to do with peacebuilding?
Required Reading:
Peacebuilding, ch. 1: 3-22
Watch the clip from the movie, “Hotel Rwanda, 50:52-54:50 (scene where UN evacuates foreigners from hotel) at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bx7VmBLyxaw

1/21 The Moral Imagination
Required Reading:
Lederach, The Moral Imagination: 3-40

1/23 Strategic Catholic peacebuilding?
Required Reading:
Strategies of Peace, ch. 1: 19-44
Strategies of Peace, excerpts from ch. 13, 317-332

Supplemental Reading:
Schreiter in Peacebuilding: ch. 15: 421-448

PART 2. THEOLOGY, ETHICS, SPIRITUALITY OF PEACEBUILDING

1/28 Scripture and peace
Required Reading:
Challenge of Peace: 5-28 (paras 5-65)
Quesnell, “Hermeneutical Prolegomena to a Pastoral Letter,” in Reid, Jr., Peace in a Nuclear Age (1986): 3-19
"Matthew 5:9 Blessed are the Peacemakers,” in Blessed Are the Peacemakers: Biblical Perspectives on Peace and Its Social Foundations (Paulist, 1989)
Supplemental Reading: 

1/30 Theology and peace 
Required Reading:  
Peacebuilding, ch. 11: 300-331

Supplemental Reading:  
Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church, 11-39 (paras 20-86), 49-70 (paras 105-159)

2/4 Research Report Topic Approved by Professor

2/4 Catholic social teaching I 
Required Reading:  
John XXIII, Pacem in Terris (1963):  
http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/john_xxiii/encyclicals/documents/hf_j-xxiii_enc_11041963_pacem_en.html  
Peacebuilding, excerpt from ch. 10: 265-278  
Nye, Nuclear Ethics, 27-41

Supplemental Reading:  
Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church, 71-92 (160-208), 185-195 (paras 428-450), 213-226 (paras 488-520)  
Harvest of Justice Is Sown in Peace: 45-46  
Second Vatican Council, Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World (Dignitatis Humanae)

2/6 Catholic social teaching II 
Required Reading:  
Nye, Nuclear Ethics: 14-26  
Convention Against Torture, arts 1-5

2/11 Ecclesiology and peace 
Required Reading:  
Peacebuilding, ch. 14: 398-420  
O’Brien, excerpt from Public Catholicism

2/13 Sacraments, spirituality and peace
Required Reading:
*Peacebuilding*, ch. 8: 221-239

2/14  Paper #1 Due. Send by e-mail to gpowers1@nd.edu by 6:00 p.m. AND hand in hard copy in class on 2/18

PART 3. “IT’S A BIG CHURCH”: THE VARIETY OF CATHOLIC PEACEBUILDERS

2/18 Institutional Actors I: Vatican/ Episcopal Conference Commissions/ Offices
Required Reading:
Review following websites:
USCCB justice & peace (http://www.usccb.org/about/international-justice-and-peace/)

2/20 Institutional Actors II: Caritas Agencies and South Sudan
Guest: John Ashworth, CRS consultant for Sudan
Required Reading:
Ashworth/ Ryan, article on Catholic Peacebuilding in Sudan
*Peacebuilding*, ch. 5: 125-154
Review peacebuilding sites on the following websites:
Catholic Relief Services’s peacebuilding (http://crs.org/peacebuilding/)
Caritas Internationalis (http://www.caritas.org/)

Supplemental Reading:
*Artisans of Peace*, ch. 7 (Sudan): 196-225
“Free at Last,” in *U.S. Catholic* (Dec. 2011)

2/25 Independent Lay Organizations: Sant’Egidio’s Track 2 Diplomacy in Mozambique
Required Reading:
Johnston, article on Sant’Egidio
Sant’Egidio website, especially “War, Mother of All Poverty” (on Mozambique) (http://www.santegidio.org/en/pace/pace3.htm) and “The Method of Sant’Egidio” (http://www.santegidio.org/en/pace/pace4.htm)

2/27 Individual Peacebuilders: Engaging Armed Actors
Required Reading:
*Peacebuilding*, ch. 2: 23-55
“Men who walked the street,” in D. Little, *Peacemakers in Action*: 53-96

3/4 **People Power: religion, culture, nonviolence and the demise of Marcos**

**Required Reading:**
*The Harvest of Justice is Sown in Peace*: 2-5 (I. A and I.B.1.)
Ackerman and Duvall, *A Force More Powerful*: 369-395

**Supplemental Reading:**

3/6 **Paper #2 Due by e-mail to gpowers1@nd.edu by 3:00 pm (late submissions not accepted); hard copy in class**

3/6 **Class presentations on papers (5 minutes each)**

* * **SPRING B R E A K** * *

**PART 4. CATHOLIC PEACEBUILDING AND POLICY**

3/18 **Just war and nonviolence**

**Required Reading:**
*Challenge of Peace*: 28-52 (paras 66-121)
*Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*, pp. 213-20 (paras 488-505)
Cahill, *Love Your Enemies*, ch. 10: 205-230
Excerpt from Himes, *Peacebuilding*, ch. 10: 278-283

**Supplemental Readings:**
*Harvest of Justice*: 9-16

3/20 **Research Report Prospectus/ Outline/ Bibliography Due in Class**

3/20 **Moral limits on military force: Iraq 2003**

**Required Reading:**
US Conference of Catholic Bishops, Statement on Iraq, November 2002
Supplemental Readings:

3/25  Does war bring peace? Jus post bellum
Required Reading:
USCCB statement on responsible transition in Iraq

Supplemental Reading:

3/27  Humanitarian intervention
Required Reading:
Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church: 220 (para. 506)
Harvest of Justice: 38-41

Supplemental Reading:
Alex Bellamy, “The Responsibility to Protect – Five Years On,” Ethics & Int’l Affairs,24:2 (Summer 2010): 143-169
Powers on Syria in Huffington Post: http://www.huffingtonpost.com/gerard-powers/

4/1  EASTER HOLIDAY

4/3  Legitimate and illegitimate weapons: nuclear weapons
Required Reading:
Harvest of Justice: 31-36

Supplemental Reading:
Walzer, Just and Unjust Wars: 251-283
J. Nye, Nuclear Ethics, 42-80

4/15 Moral Norms and Advocacy: the Landmines Campaign
Required:
US bishops’ statement on landmines
Don Hubert, “The Landmine Ban: A Case Study in Humanitarian Advocacy,” an Occasional Paper #42 by Watson Institute, Brown University, at:
http://www.watsoninstitute.org/pub/op42.pdf

4/17 Political Reconciliation
Guest: Daniel Philpott
Required Reading:
Phiplott, Peacebuilding, ch. 4: 92-124
Pearson, Peacebuilding, ch. 7: 190-214

4/22 Inter-religious dialogue and peacebuilding OR Topic Chosen by Class
Required Reading:
Peacebuilding, ch. 9: 240-262.
Reread Strategies of Peace, ch. 13: 339-345
Supplemental Reading:
Peacebuilding, ch. 12: 332-365
Pursuing Just Peace, ch. 117-132
Artisans of Peace, ch. 4: 132-165

4/24 Topic chosen by class

PART V. WRAPPING UP

4/29 The Vocation of Peacebuilding
Required Reading:
John Paul II, Christifideles Laici
Schreiter, “Peacebuilding as Vocation”
Brady, Essential Catholic Social Thought, ch 2: 32-52