Course Title:
Morality and Foreign Policy

Course Number:
PSC 5523-222

Course Description:
This course will examine the problem of justice in war through an examination of Thucydides, *History of the Peloponnesian War* and the writings of the contemporary philosopher Michael Walzer. We will consider the problems of justice in going to war (jus ad bellum), justice in fighting war (jus en bello), justice in post war reconstruction (jus post bellum), and justice in the threat of force (jus ad vim). Specific issues may include preemptive/preventive war, interventions, terrorism, boundary crossings, and treatment of prisoners. In addition to these books, I will be posting articles and primary source documents on Desire to Learn in the content area. I have identified as “required” readings articles that are likely to come up in class discussion. We will also be viewing some videos.

Class Dates, Location and Hours:

Dates: April 24-29, 2012  
Location: Lakenheath, England. See Site Director for classroom location.  
Hours: Tue-Fri 6:00-9:30 p.m.; Sat-Sun 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.  
Last day to enroll or drop without penalty: March 26, 2012

Site Director:
Laura Kenning. Phone: 44-1638-52-6186; DSN 226-6186; Fax: 44-1638-532827; E-mail: aplakenheath@ou.edu

Professor Contact Information:
Course Professor:  Ronald M. Peters, Ph.D.  
Mailing Address:  The University of Oklahoma  
Carl Albert Center  
Monnet Hall, Room 101  
Norman, OK 73019  
Telephone Number: (405) 325-6372  
Fax Number: (405) 325-6419  
E-mail Address: rpeters@ou.edu  
Professor availability: The professor will be available via e-mail to students before and after the class sessions. On-site office hours are half an hour before and after each class session, by appointment.

Textbook(s) and Instructional Materials:
Student materials are available at the Follett/AP Bookstore located in the Oklahoma Memorial Union, 900 Asp Ave., Norman, OK. Orders can be placed online at www.oklahomaunion.bkstr.com or by telephone at 866-369-9713 (toll free in the U.S.) or 405-325-5960 (outside the U.S.). E-mail orders may be sent to oklahomaunion@bkstr.com. Representatives are available from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. CST Monday through Thursday and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. CST on Friday. Summer hours: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. CST. Faxed orders may be placed 24 hours a day to 866-223-5607 (toll free in the U.S.) or 405-325-1557 (outside the U.S.).


4. Materials posted on the OU Desire to Learn (D2L) system: Access D2L at http://learn.ou.edu; enter your OU NetID (4+4) and password, and select course to access material. Please contact your local Site Director if you require assistance.

Note: The Follett/AP Bookstore is the Advanced Programs contractual textbook provider. Should text changes become necessary after publication of the course syllabus, Advanced Programs will facilitate text returns/refunds only for texts purchased through the Follett/AP Bookstore.

E-mail: Please make sure that you access mail sent to your OU email address. One way to do this is to forward your OU email address to the email address you actually use. I will be sending any message to you via Desire to Learn, and it operates on the basis of your OU email address. To forward your OU email, go to http://webapps.ou.edu/pass. Log in with your OU 4x4 and password. Scroll down to see the “forward the above acct to:” box. Make sure you read the instructions. If you choose to forward your OU ID to an external email address (gmail, yahoo, etc.) all your mail will go to that address and your exchange.ou.edu mailbox will not receive any mail sent to it. So, either you should forward your email to the address you regularly use or you should check your OU email address during the period in which this course is still active.

Course Objectives:

- To consider the underlying philosophical foundations of morality in international relations and foreign policy.
- To consider dimensions of the problem of just and unjust war
- To discuss recent United States foreign policy in moral perspective.

Assignments, Grading and Due Dates:

Required Reading:

Thucydides can be accessed on line, but I recommend that you purchase the book so that you can mark it and bring it to class. http://classics.mit.edu/Thucydides/pelopwar.html. Please note that the Kindle versions of texts are not paginated. This will make it difficult to know exactly what passages are assigned. Also, in accessing some on-line texts, it is necessary to actually download the document rather than to simply click on the link in order to get the full text. All in all, I strongly recommend that you purchase the assigned texts. The Strassler version of Thucydides, in particular, is a keeper.

Thucydides. There are many editions of Thucydides and, as indicated, it can be found on the internet. You may already own a copy or prefer a different edition or to access it online. I have ordered the Strassler edition because it is by far the most comprehensive and well documented. This is a book you can and should keep. Since some students may use other editions, I have listed the required readings by paragraph number below. As you will find, we will be focusing on those passages involving speeches, dialogues, and treaties, rather than the narratives of battles. You may need to read some passages before and after these to set the context of the assigned passages.

- Book 1:
  - [Paragraphs 1-45]
  - [66-88]
  - [118-125]
  - [136-146]
Pre-Class Paper:
Students are asked to deposit in the D2L dropbox a paper of no less than 3000 words and no more than 3500 words. This paper is due no later than the beginning of the first class session.

Topic: In Book III of *The Peloponnesian War* Thucydides places back-to-back the debate in Athens between Cleon and Diidotus over the fate of the Mytilenians, and the appeals of the Plataeans and the Thebans to the Spartans over the fate of Plataea. In Book V, the Athenians debate the Melians over the fate of Melos. Write a paper in which you analyze and discuss the various conceptions of justice that are either stated or implied in these dialogues. Thucydides is well known for contrasting justice and expediency, but in order to do that one has to consider what justice requires. Upon what do the various parties’ conceptions of justice seem to rest? How do their respective conceptions of justice relate to the position of their city, or their city’s relationships to other cities? Do these arguments seem to present moral claims in the sense in which we would consider moral argument today? Explain your position. Be sure and be specific in citing textual passages to support your interpretation. You should reference any direct quotes by including the book and paragraph number as a parenthetical citation in the text. You should not rely on secondary material in preparing this paper. This assignment asks for your reading of the texts.

Participation:
Students are expected to participate in class discussions in a thoughtful and informed way.

Final Exam:
Students will write a take home final exam in essay form that will be deposited in the D2L approximately one week after the class sessions end, the exact due date to be determined in consultation with the class. The purpose of this exam is to provide an opportunity for you to gather your thoughts and reflect your understanding of important issues that the course has addressed. The final exam will consist of two essays and you should expect to write approximate 2000-2500 words on each of these two essays.
Grading:

This is a letter-graded course: A, B, C, D, or F.

- Pre-class Paper: one-third of course grade
- Class Participation: one-third of course grade
- Final Exam: one-third of course grade

NOTICE: Failure to meet assignment due dates could result in a grade of I (Incomplete) and may adversely impact Tuition Assistance and/or Financial Aid.
Policies and Notices

Attendance/Grade Policy

Attendance and participation in interaction, individual assignments, group exercises, simulations, role playing, etc. are valuable aspects of any course because much of the learning comes from discussions in class with other students. It is expected that you attend all classes and be on time except for excused emergencies.

Excused absences are given for professor mandated activities or legally required activities such as emergencies or military assignments. Unavoidable personal emergencies, including (but not limited to) serious illness; delays in getting to class because of accidents, etc.; deaths and funerals, and hazardous road conditions will be excused.

If you are obtaining financial assistance (TA, STAP, FA, VA, Scholarship, etc.) to pay all or part of your tuition cost, you must follow your funding agency/institution’s policy regarding “I” (Incomplete) grades unless the timeline is longer than what the University policy allows then you must adhere to the University policy.

Students who receive Financial Aid must resolve/complete any “I” (Incomplete) grades by the end of the term or he/she may be placed on “financial aid probation.” If the “I” grade is not resolved/completed by the end of the following term, the student’s Financial Aid may be suspended make the student ineligible for further Financial Aid.

Students are responsible for meeting the guidelines of Tuition Assistance and Veterans Assistance. See the education counselor at your local education center for a complete description of your TA or VA requirements.

Academic Honesty

Honesty is a fundamental precept in all academic activities and … [you] have a special obligation to observe the highest standards of honesty. Academic misconduct in any form is inimical to the purposes and functions of the University and is therefore unacceptable and is rigorously proscribed. Academic misconduct includes:

- cheating (using unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise), plagiarism, falsification of records, unauthorized possession of examinations, intimidation, and any and all other actions that may improperly affect the evaluation of a student’s academic performance or achievement; assisting others in any such act; or attempting to engage in such acts.

All acts of academic misconduct will be reported and adjudicated as prescribed by the student code of the University of Oklahoma. All students should review the “Student’s Guide to Academic Integrity” found at http://www.ou.edu/provost/integrity

Accommodation Statement

The College of Continuing Education [Advanced Programs] is committed to making its activities as accessible as possible. For accommodations on the basis of disability, please contact your OU Site Director.

Course Policies

Advanced Programs policy is to order books in paperback if available. Courses, dates, and professors are subject to change. Please check with your OU Site Director. Students should retain a copy of any assignments that are mailed to the professor for the course.

Copyright

Any and all course materials, syllabus, lessons, lectures, etc. are the property of professor teaching the course and the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma and are protected under applicable copyright.

For more information about Advanced Programs, visit our website at: http://www.goou.ou.edu/
INSTRUCTOR VITA

Ronald M. Peters, Jr., Ph.D.

Education

1974 Ph.D. in Political Science, Indiana University

Current Positions

- Advanced Programs Professor since 1975
- Regent’s Professor, Carl Albert Congressional Research and Studies Center

Frequently Taught Advanced Programs Courses

- PSC 5453 The Presidency
- PSC 5393 Regulatory Politics
- PSC 5173 Bureaucracy and Politics
- PSC 6173 Leading Public Organizations
- PSC 5263 Congress in the Political System
- PSC 5223 American Foreign Policy
- PSC 5323 Morality and Foreign Policy

Major Areas of Teaching and Research Interest

- Political Theory
- American Government
- Congress and Congressional Leadership

Representative Publications and Presentations

- “Institutional context and leadership style: The case of Newt Gingrich,” in Nicol Rae and Colton Campbell, (Eds.), New Majority or Old Minority: The Impact of the Republicans on Congress. (Lanham, MD: Roman and Littlefield, 1999).

Representative Honors and Awards Received

• Amoco Teaching Award in 1978
• Regents’ Teaching Award in 1994
• Named Outstanding Oklahoma Political Scientist for 1995

Major Professional Affiliations

• American Political Association
• Oklahoma Political Association