This course explores both the theory and the use of nonviolence as a means for waging and resolving conflict. The course explores Nonviolence Theory as it applies to issues of social change, alternative defense, and personal transformation. Writings from political, sociological, feminist, religious, and philosophical perspectives will be examined. Case studies will be used to demonstrate the use of nonviolent tactics and strategies, and to increase students' understanding of how and when nonviolence has been used to resolve conflict.
**COURSE LEVEL STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOME(S) Supported by this course:**

1. explain the major theoretical and empirical approaches to nonviolence and nonviolent action.
2. identify a broad sampling of case histories where nonviolent action has been employed as a means of struggle.
3. evaluate, in writing, nonviolent action as a phenomenon in political and social conflicts.
4. interpret violence and nonviolence through the lenses of diverse cultural environments.
5. apply interpretations of violence and nonviolence to issues in the contemporary world.
6. demonstrate an understanding of nonviolence both theoretically (intellectually) and personally (experientially) as a pedagogical method of learning.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

1. Engage in a thorough review and critique of the major theoretical and empirical approaches to nonviolence and nonviolent action.
2. Identify a broad sampling of case histories where nonviolent action has been employed as a means of struggle.
3. Research and write about nonviolent action as a phenomenon in political and social conflicts.
4. Interpret violence and nonviolence through the lenses of diverse cultural environments.
5. Apply interpretations of violence and nonviolence to issues in the contemporary world.
6. Demonstrate an understanding of nonviolence both theoretically (intellectually) and personally (experientially) as a pedagogical method of learning.

**COURSE CONTENT:**

**LECTURE CONTENT:**

A. Roots and Perspectives
   1) Vocabulary: Violence & Nonviolence
   2) Historical Roots

B. Application of Nonviolence: Cultural environment, Pacifism, Social Movements, Alternative Defense
   1) Pacifism and Abolitionists
   2) "Passive Resistance" to "Direct Action"
   3) Social Movements: Women's Movement
   4) Gandhi - Movement for Self rule
   5) Martin Luther King and Civil Rights Movement
   6) Alternative Defense-- Case Studies for Resistance to Terror

C. Pragmatic Nonviolence
   1) Pragmatic Nonviolence and Strategic Choices
   2) Possible Nonviolent Campaigns
   3) Theory of power-- Using Power vs. Force
   4) Social power
   6) Alternatives-- The new world of power

D. Critiques
   1) Nelson Mandela--The Case for a Violent Resistance Movement
   2) Methods of Nonviolence - Case Studies
METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

A. Lecture:
B. Independent Study:

INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNIQUES:

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS:

Reading Assignments

Text
Websites

Out-of-class Assignments

Writing Assignments

Definition paper and a research paper

METHODS OF STUDENT EVALUATION:

Midterm Exam
Final Exam
Written Assignments
Report
Projects (ind/group)
Oral Presentations

Demonstration of Critical Thinking:

A personal project demonstrating practice of nonviolence Group projects on a construction of a nonviolent campaign

Required Writing, Problem Solving, Skills Demonstration:

Definition paper and a research paper

TEXTS, READINGS, AND RESOURCES:

TextBooks:


LIBRARY:

Adequate library resources include:

Comments:

Attachments:

Attached Files