Instructor: Reza Mohajerinejad
Email: Mohajeri@hawaii.edu
Meeting Times: MWF 12:30p to 1:20p in Saunders 541
Office Hours: MW 11:00a to 12:00p in Saunders 638

Course Description:
This course presents information regarding the different components within the field of Political Science as they apply to the study of war and peace. There will be an emphasis on the contemporary history of conflicts in the Middle East and the peace making processes for the future. On the first day of lecture a list of five guest speakers will be distributed, the top two with the highest votes by the students will present during the semester. This course will be divided into three main sections: introduction to theory and historical overview, case studies, and synthesis to explore in detail the study of war and peace in addition to analyzing the recent influences of social media. Activities will include the showing of films, discussions with guest speakers, group presentations, a classroom debate, take-home midterm, and a take-home final exam.

*Each week will follow a specific theme relating to war and peace. Lectures will not be based directly from the required readings but I will presume that everyone read the material.

Learning Expectations:
Students will develop the necessary skill set to analyze the dynamics of war and peace that affect modern politics. At the beginning of each lecture students will be expected to discuss current news and events related to this course (5min to 10min).

Teaching Philosophy:
I believe that the classroom is where an exchange of ideas takes place and everyone contributes to teaching and learning. My goal is that lessons, theories and methods covered in this course will have real-life applications.
Extra credit:
For extra credit students can respond up to two times with a one-page analysis of the information from any course readings, guest speakers, or films shown in class.

Group Presentation:
Topics include analyzing contemporary issues of war and peace such as the works of individuals or material related to the readings.

Grading Rubric:
Weekly Participation: 20%
Group Presentation: 20%
Take-home Midterm: 25%
Take-home Final Exam: 35%

Required Textbooks:

Additional required readings:
(Can be accessed from the library web page or Laulima)
Monshipouri, M., & Keynoush, B. (2008). Dealing with Iran: confrontation or negotiation?. Insight Turkey, 10(4 s 148).

*Any additional readings or changes will be made available on Laulima

Course Outline:
I. Introduction to Theory and Historical Overview (Weeks 1-5)
Week 1– Classroom Introductions
Discussion of the syllabus.
Vote on guest speakers.
Overview of different theories relating to the problems of war and peace.
Take a look at the present situations of war and peace.

Readings:
Reychler, L., *Challenges of peace research*, pp. 1-16.
Brooks, E., & Fox, *Ways of Meeting Oppression* by Martin Luther King, chapter 16 164-172
Brooks, E., & Fox, *Freedom from Fear* by Aung San Suu Kyi, chapter 18, pp.187-197

**Week 2 – WWI and WWII**
No lecture on Monday January 19th Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Film TBA

Readings:
Stoessinger, *Why Nations Go to War*, chapter 1, pp. 3-28
Stoessinger, *Why Nations Go to War*, chapter 2, pp. 31-54

**Week 3 – Arab-Israeli conflicts and the Camp David Accord**
Film TBA

Readings:
Stoessinger, *Why Nations go to War*, chapter 7, pp. 216-254

**Week 4 – 1953 coup in Iran and the Impact of 9/11**
Film TBA

Readings:
Stoessinger, *Why Nations go to War*, chapter 8, pp. 293-318
Brooks, E., & Fox, *Children and War* by Neil Boothby, chapter 12, pp.117-126

**II. Case Studies (Weeks 6-12)**

**Week 6 – Economic Sanctions on Iran and the Nuclear Program Negotiation Processes (P5+1)**
No lecture on Monday February 16th President's Day

Readings:
Monshipouri, M., & Keynoush, B., *Dealing with Iran: confrontation or negotiation?*, pp. 135-157

**Week 7 – The Iran-Iraq War and The Persian Gulf War**

Readings:
Stoessinger, *Why Nations go to War*, Chapter 8, pp. 293-318
Brooks, E., & Fox, *Children and War* by Neil Boothby, chapter 12, pp.117-126

**Week 8 – The 2001 Invasion of Afghanistan and the 2003 Invasion of Iraq**
**Take-home midterm due**

**Readings:**
Scahill, Dirty Wars: The World Is a Battlefield, chapter 14, pp. 147-162
Scahill, Dirty Wars: The World Is a Battlefield, chapter 35, pp. 328-350
Scahill, Dirty Wars: The World Is a Battlefield, chapter 49, pp. 444-451

**Week 9– Contemporary Social Movements in the Middle East**
Iran- The 18 Tir Student Uprising and 2009 Green Movement
Egypt- April 6 Youth Movement
Turkey- Taksim Square (Taksim Gezi Park) Movement

**Readings:**
Mohajerinejad R., Live Generation, chapters 1,2,7, 11 pp.1-27, 85-96, 137-141

**Week 10–Influence of the Arab Spring and the Conflicts in Syria**
Film TBA

**Readings:**
Leenders, R., & Heydemann, S. Popular mobilization in Syria: opportunity and threat, and the social networks of the early risers. pp. 139-159.

**Week 11– Spring Recess (March 23rd – March 27th)**

**Week 12– The Rise of the Islamic State and its Implications about the Middle East’s Future**
Classroom debate.

**Readings:**
Byman, Iraq after Saddam, pp. 149-162.
Romano, Whose house is this anyway? IDP and refugee return in post-Saddam Iraq, pp. 430-453.

**III. Synthesis (Weeks 12-17)**

**Week 13– How is the Waging of War Changing?**
No lecture on Monday April 3rd Good Friday
Film TBA
Guest speaker TBA

**Readings:**
Scahill, Dirty Wars: The World Is a Battlefield, chapter 16, pp. 167-180
Scahill, Dirty Wars: The World Is a Battlefield, chapter 36, pp. 350-356

**Week 14– Is Social Media the new Face of Peaceful Resistance or.....?**
Film TBA

**Readings:**
Ferguson, K. E. Anarchist Printers and Presses Material Circuits of Politics, pp. 391-414.
Week 15– Solidarity and Political Activity

Group Presentations

Readings:
Brooks, E., & Fox, Making Peace: A Reading/Writing/Thinking Text on Global Community, Chapters 21-24, pp. 219-257

Week 16- Discuss The Reasoning Behind Nations Going to War

Group Presentations

Readings:
Stoessinger, Why Nations go to War, chapter 10, pp. 293-318.

Week 17- Classroom Potluck

**Take-home final is to be turned in during finals week**

Group Presentations

No readings