

Soc 120 - The Sociology of War and Peace

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Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday 2:30 – 4:00

Learning Objectives (adapted from Department of Sociology website)

(1) the ability to examine social structures analytically and critically; (2) an understanding of how social constructs such as gender, race, and class influence people's social positions and organize their daily lives; (3) knowledge of how people change society by forming social movements and using the media; (4) a comparative perspective on cultures, social structures, institutions, and practices; (5) in-depth knowledge of a subfield.

Course Requirements:

- (1) Mid-term
- (2) Final Examination

Course Texts:

- (1) Susan Sontag, *Regarding the Pain of Others* (Tufts Bookstore)
- (2) Paul Joseph, *Are Americans Becoming More Peaceful?* (Tufts Bookstore)
- (3) Helen Benedict, *The Lonely Soldier: The Private War of Women Serving in Iraq* (Tufts Bookstore)
- (4) * Indicates text located in "Resources/Assignment" folder on Trunk site

Schedule of Classes

September 7 (W) Introduction: The Concepts of War and Peace

Part I: Enemy Images

September 12 (M) The Role of Enemy Images - Part I: Film: "Faces of the Enemy"

- Reading: (1) William Gibson, "Becoming the Armed Man;"*
- (2) Sam Keen "Excerpts from 'Faces of the Enemy'">*

September 14 (W) Social Organization of Enemy-Making

- Reading: (1) Iris Chang, "Six Weeks of Horror"*
- (2) Joseph Gerson, "The Atomic Bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki"*
- (3) Paul Fussell, "Thank God for the Atomic Bomb"*
- (4) Bill Gamson, "Hiroshima, the Holocaust, and the Politics of Exclusion;"*

September 19 (M) Contemporary Examples

- Reading: (1) Sinisa Malesevic, “War Propaganda and Solidarity”^{*}
(2) “Hijack script: Smile, pray;”^{*}
(3) “Why Did They Do It?” (Excerpt of Report of the Official Account of the Bombings in London on 7th July 2005)^{*}

Part II: “New Wars”

September 21 (W) Globalization - Features of the “New Wars”

- Reading: (1) Mary Kaldor, “Old Wars,” “The Politics of New Wars,” and “The Globalized War Economy”^{*}
(2) P.W. Singer, “An Era of Corporate Warriors?”^{*}

September 26 (M) Child Soldiers

- Reading: P.W. Singer, Children at War (excerpts)^{*}
(2) Hill and Langholtz, “Rehabilitation Programs for African Child Soldiers”^{*}

September 28 (W) Informal Networks of War

- Reading: (1) Excerpts from Carolyn Nordstrom’s *Shadows of War*;
(2) Dietrich Jung, “A Political Economy of Intra-State War”

October 3 (M) Application to Afghanistan

- Reading: Sarah Stillman, “The Invisible Army”; Dexter Filkins, “The Afghan Bank Heist”; Karen DeYoung, “US Funds Diverted to Taliban” (to be distributed)

October 5 (W) War and Gender – Film on Comfort Women

- Reading: (1) Watanabe Kazuko, “Militarism, Colonialism, and the Trafficking of Women: ‘Comfort Women’ Forced into Sexual Labor for Japanese Soldiers”^{*}
(2) Kathy Moon, “Partners in Prostitution”^{*}
(3) Jane Freedman, “Explaining Sexual violence and Gender Inequalities in the DRC”^{*}

October 12 (W) Gender and the War System [Midterm Essay Questions Distributed]

- Reading: (1) Elizabeth Jean Wood, “Variation in Sexual Violence during War” found at <http://pas.sagepub.com/cgi/content/abstract/34/3/307> (link to full pdf on right side of abstract – free access through Tufts library)
(2) Sinisa Malesevic, “Gendering of War”

Part III: The Changing Social Organization of War in the U.S.

October 17 (M) From Mobilized to Conditional War

Reading: (1) Joseph, Introduction and Chapter 1
(2) P.W. Singer, "Outsourcing War"*

October 19 (W) Public Opinion: How Smart is the American Public?

Reading: (1) Joseph, Chapters 2-3
(2) Stephan Lewandowsky et.al. "Memory for Fact, Fiction, and Misinformation"*
(3) Thomas Hargrove and Guido Stempel, "Was 9/11 an 'inside job'?"*

October 24 (M) Media I - Midterm Essays Due

Reading: (1) Joseph, Chapter 4
(2) Robert Entman, "Projecting Power in the News"*
(3) Kurt Lancaster, "News Media Coverage of the Iraq War in Basra"*

October 26 (W) Media II – Exercise: Comparing the Pentagon Papers (Vietnam) with "Wikileaks" (Afghanistan)

Reading: (1) Kristin Daly, "Remediating War in Iraq"*
(2) Ken Auletta, "Non-Stop News"*

October 31 (M) Photography and War – Slideshow on Combat Photojournalism

Reading: Susan Sontag: Regarding the Pain of Others (all)

November 2 (W) Photography and War (application to Abu Ghraib)

Reading: (1) Joseph, Chapter 5
(2) Susan Sontag, "What Have We Done?"*
(3) Joan McAlpine, "Why the Jezebel of Abu Ghraib is such bad news"*
(4) Philip Zimbardo, "Power turns good soldiers into 'bad apples'"*

November 7 (M) The Economics of War/Military Bases

Reading: (1) Winslow Wheeler, "Unaccountable: Pentagon Spending on the post 9/11 Wars"*
(2) Catherine Lutz, "Bases, Empire, and Global Resonse"
(3) Joseph Gerson, "US Foreign Military Bases and Military Colonialism: Personal and Analytic Perspectives"

November 9 (W) Gender and the War System

- Reading: (1) Joseph, Chapter 6
(2) Cynthia Enloe, “When Soldiers Rape”^{*}
(3) Jade Lamb, “U.S. Military Women and Sexual Assault”^{*}
(4) Start Reading Helen Benedict, *The Lonely Soldier*

November 14 (M) Women Warriors?

- Reading: (1) Sara Corbett, “The Women’s War”^{*}
(2) Regina Titunik, “The Myth of the Macho Military”
(3) Finish Benedict, *The Lonely Soldier*

November 16 (W) Casualties

- Reading: (1) Joseph, Chapter 8
(2) Neta Crawford, “Assessing the Human Toll of the post 9/11 Wars”^{*}

November 21 (M) Counterinsurgency and Human Terrain Teams

- Reading: (1) Steve Featherstone, “Human Quicksand for the U.S. Army”^{*}
(2) Army Enlists Anthropology^{*}
(3) Paul Joseph, “Defining Success for Human Terrain Teams”

Thanksgiving Break

November 28 (M) Military – NGO Panel

- Reading: (1) Mark Crow, “Bridging the Cultural Divide: NGO-Military Relations”^{*}

November 30 (W) Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder

- Reading: (1) M.L.Lyke, “The unseen cost of war: American minds”^{*}
(2) Dan Baum, “The Price of Valor”^{*}
(3) Susan Blumenthal and Elise Schlissel, “Pervasive Wound of War”^{*}

December 5 (M) Military Opposition to War

- Reading: (1) David Cortright, “GI Resistance During the Vietnam War”

December 7 (W) Alternative Approaches to the War on Terror and the War in Afghanistan

- Reading: (1) Matthew Evangelista: *Coping with 9/11: Alternatives to the War Paradigm*
(2) Jon Lee Anderson, “Force and Futility: Is It Time to Leave Afghanistan?”
(3) Afghanistan Study Group, “A New Way forward: Rethinking US Strategy

December 12 (M) Conclusions [final examination questions distributed]