

CANADIAN SCHOOL OF PEACEBUILDING CANADIAN MENNONITE UNIVERSITY

Great Leaders of Peace: Stories of Aboriginal, Canadian and International Leaders

POLS/PCTS-2950/3

SESSION I: JUNE 18 - 22, 2012

Course Syllabus

INSTRUCTOR: Ovide Mercredi

TIMES: JUNE 18 - 22, 2012, 9am-5pm

E-MAIL: silentdrums@mymts.net

COURSE DESCRIPTION

A combination of culture and spirituality creates great leaders of peace. A culture that is predisposed to violence is not likely to produce great leaders of peace, unless they come from the marginalized edges of that culture and respond in contrast. Peoples whose culture advocates peaceful co-existence are more likely to produce peaceful leaders. This course will examine the influences and factors that foster the growth of great leaders of peace with particular emphasis on analyzing the role of culture and spirituality in the formation of peaceful leaders. To begin the conversation the course will reflect on Gandhi's approach, examining both his work and the way his culture and spirituality shaped him. This will be followed by an examination of the great Aboriginal leaders of peace, Black Elk, Big Bear and Chief Poundmaker. In conclusion the discussion will centre around the costs and consequences faced by leaders of peace in any culture.

The course is offered either for training or for 3 hours of academic credit.

CORE TEXTS AND DISCRETIONARY READING

Gandhi Texts

Collins, Larry and Dominique Lapierre. *Freedom at Midnight: The Epic Drama of India's Struggle for Independence*. 7th ed. New Delhi, India: Vikas Pub, 2009.

http://www.amazon.ca/Freedom-at-Midnight-Dominique-Lapierre/dp/8125931643/ref=sr_1_3?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1332773940&sr=1-3

Gandhi, Rajmohan. *Good Boatman: A Portrait of Gandhi*. New York: Penguin Books, 1998.

http://www.amazon.ca/Good-Boatman-Portrait-Gandhi/dp/014025563X/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1332774598&sr=1-1

Radhakrishnan, S. *Mahatma Gandhi: Essays and Reflections*. 9th ed. London, UK: Sangam Books, 2000.

http://www.amazon.ca/Mahatma-Gandhi-Reflections-S-Radhakrishnan/dp/8172241224/ref=sr_1_fkmr0_2?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1332774955&sr=1-2-fkmr0

Desai, Mahadev H. *Gandhi, An Autobiography: The Story of my experiments with Truth*. Boston: Beacon Press, 1993.

http://www.amazon.com/Gandhi-An-Autobiography-Story-Experiments/dp/0807059099/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1332775166&sr=1-1

Gandhi, Mahatma. *All Men are Brothers: Life and Thoughts of Mahatma Gandhi as told in his Own Words*. S.I.: Literary Licensing, 2011.

http://www.amazon.com/All-Men-Are-Brothers-Thoughts/dp/1258111217/ref=sr_1_6?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1332775295&sr=1-6

Gandhi, Mahatma. *The Essential Gandhi: An Anthology of his Writing on His Life, Work and Ideas*. 2nd ed. New York: Vintage, 2002.

http://www.amazon.com/The-Essential-Gandhi-Anthology-Writings/dp/1400030501/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1332775449&sr=1-1

Gandhi, Mohandas K. *Gandhi on Non-Violence: Selected texts from Mohandas K. Gandhi's Non-violence in Peace and War*. New York: New Directions, 1965.

http://www.amazon.com/Gandhi-Non-violence-Selected-Mohandas-Non-Violence/dp/B002OJFEOC/ref=sr_1_12?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1332775578&sr=1-12

Gandhi, Mohandas K. *Non-Violent Resistance (Satyagraha)*. New York: Dover Publications, 2001.

http://www.amazon.com/Non-Violent-Resistance-Satyagraha-M-Gandhi/dp/0486416062/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1332775778&sr=1-1

Black Elk Texts

Neihardt, John G. *Black Elk Speaks: Being the Life Story of a Holy Man of the Oglala Sioux*. New York: State University of New York, 2008.

http://www.amazon.com/Black-Elk-Speaks-Premier-Edition/dp/1438425406/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1332775839&sr=1-1#

Brown, Joseph Epes. *The Sacred Pipe: Black Elk's Account of the Seven Sacred Rights of the Oglala Sioux*. Oklahoma: University of Oklahoma, 1989.

http://www.amazon.com/The-Sacred-Pipe-Civilization-American/dp/0806121246/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1332775956&sr=1-1

DeMallie, Raymond J. and Hilda Neihardt. *The Sixth Grandfather: Black Elk's Teachings*. Winnipeg: Bison Books, 1985.

http://www.amazon.com/The-Sixth-Grandfather-Teachings-Neihardt/dp/0803265646/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1332776026&sr=1-1

Steltenkamp, Michael F. *Black Elk: Holy Man of the Oglala*. Oklahoma City: University of Oklahoma Press, 1997.

http://www.amazon.com/Black-Elk-Holy-Man-Oglala/dp/0806129883/ref=sr_1_4?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1332776103&sr=1-4

Costello, Damian. *Black Elk: Colonialism and Lakota Catholicism*. New York: Orbis Books, 2005.

http://www.amazon.com/Black-Elk-Colonialism-Catholicism-Culture/dp/1570755809/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1332776195&sr=1-1

Holler, Clyde, ed. *Black Elk Reader*. New York: Syracuse University Press, 2000.

http://www.amazon.com/The-Black-Reader-Clyde-Holler/dp/0815628366/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1332776255&sr=1-1

Holler, Clyde. *Black Elk's Religion: The Sun Dance and Lakota Catholicism*. New York: Syracuse University Press, 1995.

http://www.amazon.com/Black-Elks-Religion-Lakota-Catholicism/dp/0815603649/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1332776313&sr=1-1

Quan, Holly. *Native Chiefs and Famous Métis: Leadership and Bravery in the Canadian West*. Surrey, BC: Heritage House, 2009.

http://www.amazon.ca/Native-Chiefs-Famous-M%25e9tis-Leadership/dp/1894974743/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1331927566&sr=8-1

Wiebe, Rudy. *Extraordinary Canadians: Big Bear*. Toronto, ON: Viking Canada, 2008.

http://www.amazon.ca/Extraordinary-Canadians-Bear-Rudy-Wiebe/dp/0670067865/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1331927636&sr=1-1

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND DEADLINES (for credit)

The following are the general outlines of requirements for those taking the class for credit. Others are encouraged to read as much as possible, however, in order to receive maximum benefit from the course. Assignments can be submitted in person during the course or via email to the instructor, silentdrums@mymts.net.

ASSIGNMENTS	DUE DATE	VALUE
<i>Reading review (Gandhi)</i>	<i>June 18</i>	<i>20%</i>
<i>Book review (Black Elk)</i>	<i>June 20</i>	<i>25%</i>
<i>Movie review</i>	<i>June 22</i>	<i>15%</i>
<i>Final Research Essay</i>	<i>August 10</i>	<i>40%</i>

ASSIGNMENT GUIDELINES (for credit)

1. Reading Review

Choose 500 pages of reading from 2-3 books on Gandhi from the book list above. Discuss the interplay of culture, historical time period and spirituality as factors in the emergence of Gandhi's leadership role as a pioneer of nonviolence for the 20th century.

Due: Monday, June 18 Length 3-5 pages.

2. Book Review

Choose a book from the list above regarding the life and impact of Black Elk. Discuss the role of culture, context and spirituality as part of Black Elk's contribution to the leadership of his community.

Due: June 20 Length: 4-6 pages

3. Movie Review

Write a brief review of the movie which will be shown in class on Monday, June 18. Comment on the links regarding culture and spirituality between Gandhi and Ovide Mercredi.

Half a World Apart...And a Lifetime Away. VHS. Directed by David Balcon. Canada: Solstice Entertainment Group Inc./National Film Board of Canada, 1996,

Due: Friday, June 22 Length: 2-3 pages

4. Final Research Paper – Dynamics of Leadership

Select a great leader of peace from any society or culture (e.g. Martin Luther King, Gandhi, Aung San Suu Kyi...) as the subject of your final research paper. The paper should include a brief summary of the leader's life and work. The paper should critically analyze the influence and factors that shaped and motivated the leader, with a particular

emphasis on the ways in which culture and spirituality influenced the peace work of the leader. Reflect on the elements in that leader's culture and spirituality which encourage peacebuilding and note other leaders of peace from within that same tradition. Reflect on the role of culture and spirituality in shaping leaders of peace. Students taking the course as a business credit need to specifically focus on dynamics in regards to leadership skills.

Due: Friday, August 10, 2012, 5pm. Length: 12-15 pages.

STYLISTIC REQUIREMENTS

CMU as adopted the following as its standard guide for all academic writing:

Hacker, Diana. *A Pocket Style Manual*. Fifth edition. Boston and New York: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2009.

The final paper should follow an accepted academic format for citations, bibliography, etc. (e.g. APA, Chicago). You may choose the format but whichever you use, be sure to use it properly and consistently.

EVALUATION

In general, I expect you to *follow the guidelines* of the assignment and to discuss deviations from them with me before turning it in. In evaluating your work, *quality* is more important than quantity. I appreciate creativity, clear expression of ideas, evidence of engagement with the reading and class sessions, and projects that are of real interest and value to you.

In your papers, be sure to avoid any form of *plagiarism*. If you have doubts about what is appropriate, a useful website is <http://www.indiana.edu/~istd/>. Plagiarism is a serious issue and will result in grade reduction or action by the university (see university policy on this).

Good communication skills are essential for justice and peacebuilding work. Students will be expected to communicate knowledgeably, clearly, effectively, concisely and persuasively. All written work should be well informed, well organized and well documented.

Each completed assignment will be given a numerical grade (according to its value toward the final grade) and the corresponding letter grade. The final mark for each student is determined by the sum total of all numerical grades, which is then assigned a letter grade according to the scale below.

LETTER GRADE/PERCENTAGE SCALE

Letter Grade	Percentage	Grade Points	Descriptor
A+	95-100	4.5	Exceptional
A	88-94	4	Excellent
B+	81-87	3.5	Very Good
B	74-80	3	Good
C+	67-73	2.5	Satisfactory
C	60-67	2	Adequate
D	50-59	1	Marginal
F	0-49		Failure

Criteria	A - Excellent	B - Competent	C - Below Expectations
CONTENT (quality of the information/ideas and sources/details used to support them)	- has clarity of purpose - has depth of content - displays insight or originality of thought -demonstrates quality and breadth of resources	- has clarity of purpose - has substantial information and sufficient support - contains some originality of thought -uses quality resources	- has clarity of purpose -lacks depth of content and may depend on generalities or the commonplace - has little originality of thought -uses mostly quality resources
STRUCTURE (logical order or sequence of the writing)	- is coherent and logically developed -uses very effective transitions	- is coherent and logically developed -uses smooth transitions	- is coherent and logically (but not fully) developed -has some awkward transitions
CONVENTIONS (appearance of the writing: sentence structure, usage, mechanics, documentation)	- has virtually no errors of conventions	- has minimal errors of conventions	- is understandable <u>but</u> has noticeable problems of sentence structure, usage, mechanics or documentation
STYLE (personality of the writing: word choice, sentence variety, voice, attention to audience)	- is concise, eloquent and rhetorically effective -has nicely varied sentence structure -is engaging throughout and enjoyable to read	- displays concern for careful expression -has some variation in sentence structure -is generally enjoyable to read	- has some personality <u>but</u> lacks imagination and may be stilted and may rely on clichés -has little variation in sentence structure -is not very interesting to read

NOTE: The CMU *Student Handbook* is a useful guide for further information on CMU policies regarding grades, academic misconduct, and appeals. Grades are not final until vetted and approved by the Dean's Office.

FINAL DATE FOR WITHDRAWAL

Final date to withdraw from this course without academic penalty is July 15, 2012.

SCHEDULE AND TOPICS - Draft– Subject to change

Monday

10:00 -12:00 Gandhi
Film – *Half a World Apart...And a Lifetime Away* - NFB (Ovide Mercredi and Gandhi)

1:00 – 5:00 Film - *Mohatma Gandhi: Pilgrim of Peace* (44 minutes) (Gandhi Serve Foundation)

Readings:

- Collins, Larry and Dominique Lapierre. *Freedom at Midnight: The Epic Drama of India's Struggle for Independence*. 7th ed. New Delhi, India: Vikas Pub, 2009.
- Gandhi, Rajmohan. *Good Boatman: A Portrait of Gandhi*. New York: Penguin Books, 1998.
- Radhakrishnan, S. *Mahatma Gandhi: Essays and Reflections*. 9th ed. London, UK: Sangam Books, 2000.

Recommended readings:

- Desai, Mahadev H. *Gandhi, An Autobiography: The Story of my experiments with Truth*. Boston: Beacon Press, 1993.
- Gandhi, Mahatma. *All Men are Brothers: Life and Thoughts of Mahatma Gandhi as told in his Own Words*. S.I.: Literary Licensing, 2011.
- Gandhi, Mahatma. *The Essential Gandhi: An Anthology of his Writing on His Life, Work and Ideas*. 2nd ed. New York: Vintage, 2002.
- Gandhi, Mohandas K. *Gandhi on Non-Violence: Selected texts from Mohandas K. Gandhi's Non-violence in Peace and War*. New York: New Directions, 1965.
- Gandhi, Mohandas K. *Non-Violent Resistance (Satyagraha)*. New York: Dover Publications, 2001.

Questions for reflection on the readings:

- What role does culture play in determining the value of nonviolence?
How was Gandhi influenced by his people's culture to come up with the idea of nonviolence?
How was Gandhi influenced by confronting oppression and racism in South Africa?
How was Gandhi influenced in the struggle for the freedom of India from British rule?

Tuesday

9:00 – 12:00 Gandhi

1:00 – 5:00 Black Elk

Readings:

- Neihardt, John G. *Black Elk Speaks: Being the Life Story of a Holy Man of the Oglala Sioux*. New York: State University of New York, 2008.
- Brown, Joseph Epes. *The Sacred Pipe: Black Elk's Account of the Seven Sacred Rights of the Oglala Sioux*. Oklahoma: University of Oklahoma, 1989.

Recommended Readings:

- DeMallie, Raymond J., and Hilda Neihardt. *The Sixth Grandfather: Black Elk's Teachings*. Winnipeg: Bison Books, 1985.
- Steltenkamp, Michael F. *Black Elk: Holy Man of the Oglala*. Oklahoma City: University of Oklahoma Press, 1997.
- Costello, Damian. *Black Elk: Colonialism and Lakota Catholicism*. New York: Orbis Books, 2005.
- Holler, Clyde. *Black Elk Reader*. New York: Syracuse University Press, 2000.
- Holler, Clyde. *Black Elk's Religion: The Sun Dance and Lakota Catholicism*. New York: Syracuse University Press, 1995.

Wednesday

9:00 – 12:00 Black Elk

1:00 – 5:00 Black Elk

Thursday

9:00 – 12:00 Big Bear & Chief Poundmaker

Watch:

FILM: *Kanehsatake 270 Years of Resistance*, Online. Directed by Alanis Obomsawin. Canada: National Film Board of Canada, 1993.

http://www.nfb.ca/film/kanehsatake_270_years_of_resistance/

Readings:

Quan, Holly. *Native Chiefs and Famous Métis: Leadership and Bravery in the Canadian West*. Surrey, BC: Heritage House, 2009.

Wiebe, Rudy. *Extraordinary Canadians: Big Bear*. Toronto, ON: Viking Canada, 2008.

Questions for reflection:

Were they victims of zealots within their cultures and by Canada?

What was the influence of Cree culture on these two Cree leaders at the time of the so-called Riel Rebellion?

How did their imprisonment in Stony Mountain impact the subsequent behaviour of the Cree people?

1:30 – 5:00 continued

Friday

9:00 – 12:00 The consequences of being a Peacemaker

Questions for reflection:

What impact did spirituality have on Gandhi and Black Elk?

What influence did culture play to influence their action for peace and non-violence?

What would have been Gandhi's personal agony with respect to the violence in India?

What would have been Black Elk's dissonance with respect to Catholicism?

1:00 – 3:00 continued

Note: Coffee Breaks are normally 10:30-11:00 am and 2:30-3:00 pm.