

Sociology 052-301

Fall 2002

Freshman Seminar  
On  
War and Peace: Theories of the Causes  
And Prevention of War

William M. Evan

Office: 294 McNeil  
Telephone: Office: 898-7668; Home 546-0267  
Office hours: Wednesday  
11:00-12:00 noon and by appointment  
email: [evanw@wharton.upenn.edu](mailto:evanw@wharton.upenn.edu)

1 Objectives of the Seminar

Recurrent wars throughout history have led social scientists and laymen alike to the conclusion that war is an unavoidable institution. Is this a valid conclusion? If it is, it is a particularly grim conclusion in a nuclear age when humankind has the technological capacity to extinguish all life on the planet.

The purpose of this seminar is to address this question by a) exploring various theories of the causes of war, b) subjecting these theories to a test by means of detailed case studies of selected wars throughout history and c) examining various theories and strategies for preventing war.

2 Requirements

There are four requirements: 1) a final examination, which will comprise 30% of the seminar grade; 2) an oral as well as a written report on a particular war- which will count for 45% of the grade; 3) class participation in discussion of each of the readings; and 4) submission of one question for each reading-25% of the grade.

Each student will be required to select a particular war (with the approval of the instructor), immerse himself or herself in the relevant literature, and analyze the data in light of the various theories of the causes and prevention of war.

3 Required Readings

A bulk pack consisting of selections from books and periodicals covering parts I, II, and III of the course may be purchased at Wharton Reprographics, Room 400, Steinberg-Dietrich Hall.

4 Readings for Term Paper

Bibliographical items pertaining to different wars listed in Part IV of this syllabus are available in the Van Pelt Library.

PART I INTRODUCTION: HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

- Sept. 11 1) Durant, Will and Ariel  
The Lessons of History, 1968
- 2) O=Connel, Robert, AThe Origins of War@
- 3) Sun Tzu, The Art of War

PART II THEORIES OF THE CAUSES OF WAR

- Sept. 18 A) Biological Theories
- 4) Eibl-Eibesfeld, I  
The Biology of Peace and War
- 5) AThe Seville Statement on Violence@
- Sept. 25 B) Ideological Theories
- a) sacred
- 6) McKenna, Joseph C.  
AETHICS and War: A Catholic View,@
- 7) Armstrong, Herbert W.  
AComing soon B A World of Peace!@
- b) secular
- 8) Michael Walzer  
Just and Unjust War, 1977
- Oct. 2 C) Economic Theories
- 9) Stewart, Frances, ARoot Causes of Violent Conflict in  
Developing Countries.@
- 10) Adams, James  
Engines of War
- 11) Kennedy, Paul  
The Rise and Fall of Great Powers
- Oct. 9 D) Technological Theories

- 12) Brodie, Bernard  
The Absolute Weapon
- 13) Van Creveld, Martin  
Technology and War: From 2000 B.C. to the Present
- 14) Forden, Geoffrey, A World War III Now?
- 15) Mendelssohn, Jennifer, A The Winds of War: Amy Smithson Warns of the Poor Man's A-Bombs, Chemical, and Bio-Weapons.
- 16) Cock, Nick, A Sweden's Revolution in Military Affairs
- Oct. 16 E) Political Theories
- 17) Deutsch, Karl W. and J. David Singer  
A Multipolar systems and International Stability
- 18) Thucydides  
A The Melian Debate
- 19) Scott D. Segan and Kenneth Waltz, The Spread of Nuclear Weapons: A Debate
- a) Waltz  
b) Sagan
- Oct. 23 F) Psychological Theories
- 20) Dollard, John Leonard W. Doob and Neal E. Miller et al.  
Frustration and Aggression, 1939
- 21) Nathan, Otto and Henry Norden, eds.  
Einstein on Peace. 1960 (Einstein B Freud Correspondence on War).
- 22) Ralph K. White  
Nobody Wanted War, 1968
- 23) Lackar, John, A The Psychological Make-Up of a Suicide Bomber.
- G) Sociological/Anthropological Theories
- 24) Mead, Margaret

AWarfare is only one invention, not a Biological Necessity.®

- 25) Malinowski, Bronislaw  
AAn Anthropological analysis of War.®

PART III THEORIES AND STRATEGIES FOR THE PREVENTION OF WAR

- Oct. 30 A) Negotiation Strategies
- 26) Fisher, Roger and William Ury  
Getting to Yes: Negotiating Agreement without Giving Up
- 27) Ury, William Getting Past No.
- Nov. 6 B) Non-Violence Strategies
- 28) Sharp, Gene  
The Politics of Non-Violent Action
- C) International Law
- 29) Grotius, Hugo  
The Rights of War and Peace
- 30) Evan, William  
AWar Crimes®
- 31) International Court of Justice, Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons (Request for Advisory Opinion by the General Assembly of the United Nations)
- 32) Constitution of Japan, Article 9
- 33) Evan, William M. and Francis A. Boyle, AKashmir: Invoking International Law to Avoid Nuclear War.®
- Nov.13 D) Minimal Moral Framework
- 34) Bok, Sissela  
A Strategy for Peace
- 35) James, William AThe Moral Equivalent of War.®
- E) Peace Movements

- 36) Chatfield, Charles, and Peter van den Dungen  
Peace Movements and Political Culture
- Nov. 20 F) Democracy, Democratization and Peace
- 37) Russett, Bruce Grasping the Democratic Peace: Principles for a  
Post Cold War World
- 38) Mansfield, Edward and Jack Snyder, ADemocratization and War.@

PART IV CASE STUDIES OF WARS

Nov. 27, Dec. 4 Case Study Reports

SELECTED WARS FOR CASE STUDIES