

Eastern Mennonite University/Center for Justice & Peacebuilding

Summer Peacebuilding Institute

Women, Leadership, & Peacebuilding

PAX 513

Session I: May 5-13, 2008

(Final syllabus)

Instructor

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Course Description

This course will identify the multiple roles that women play in the process of peacebuilding, examining strategies for empowering women to continue and expand their leadership roles. Using case studies of women's leadership for peacebuilding at the local and global levels, the course will provide up-to-date knowledge of the significant achievements made in the last five years on this issue. The course will also provide opportunity to explore ways to address the challenges to women's roles in peace building and will analyze the next steps for moving the agenda forward.

Course Objectives

- Highlight the roles women are playing in leading peace and conflict resolution at the local, regional, national and international levels.
- Illustrate that peacemaking, through non-violence, is a real option for average people, as well as for the exceptionally talented.
- Develop participants' peacemaking skills for individual action and successful group initiatives.

Course Requirements/Assignments (for training participants)

1. Class Participation

Regular participation is expected for this seven day course. In addition to showing up for class, you will also be expected to have read the required readings for each day and to contribute to class and/or small group discussions.

2. Prepare a 2 page statement about your work in peacebuilding. Bring it to class on Tuesday, May 6. Be sure you tell us:

- Where you work and what kind of conflict situation you are working in.
- What kind of organization you work for.
- What kind of work you are doing.
- Reflect on others working in your area that you have worked with or clashed with over work or wish you could work with more effectively.
- If you are not presently working in such a capacity, describe your hopes and expectations for this class.

3. *Personal Reflection Journal (optional for training participants)*

- Reflect on the readings, videos, and class discussions using the following questions as a general guide; do not summarize the readings but *interact* with them.
- What personal experiences do you have that relate to the class material?
- How does the class material help you gain new perspectives on peacebuilding in your life?
- Which of the analytical tools do you find most helpful for understanding the nonviolence and peacebuilding you deal with in your life and work?
- Try to make reference to specific readings several times throughout your journal.

Course Requirements/Assignments (for graduate students)

Note * the Handbook of Interethnic Co-Existence has been placed on reserve in our library TBA

1. *Class Participation (10 pts.)*

Since this course is offered over only seven days, regular participation is expected. In addition to showing up for class, you will also be expected to have read the required readings prior to coming, and to contribute to class and/or small group discussions.

2. *Prepare a 2 page statement about your work in peacebuilding. Bring it to class on Tuesday, May 6. Be sure you tell us: (5 pts.)*

- Where you work and what kind of conflict situation you are working in.
- What kind of organization you work for.
- What kind of work you are doing.
- Reflect on others working in your area that you have worked with or clashed with over work or wish you could work with more effectively.
- If you are not presently working in such a capacity, describe your hopes and expectations for this class.

3. *Personal Reflection Journals (45 pts.) Due on May 12*

- 2-4 pages, double-spaced
- Reflect on the readings, videos, and class discussions using the following questions as a general guide; do not summarize the readings but *interact* with them.
- What personal experiences do you have that relate to the class material?
- How does the class material help you gain new perspectives on Peacebuilding in your life?
- Which of the analytical tools do you find most helpful for understanding the nonviolence and peacebuilding you deal with in your life and work?
- Try to make reference to specific readings several times throughout your journal.

4. *Book Critique (20 pts.)*

This course is intended to reflect on women doing non-violent peacebuilding as it impacts organizational change, culture, conflict and leadership. You will be asked to delve more deeply into one of these substantive areas through reading and critiquing

any one book of your choosing from the list of “Recommended Texts” (see below) or from an approved book that you propose to the instructor.

The critique must be a minimum of five to six double-spaced pages, and include the following components:

- Two to three page summary of the author’s main points/conclusions
- Two to three page response to/critique of the author’s main points.

5. *Case Study (20 pts.)*

Students will form small groups based on organizational sector and/or shared interest, and develop a written case study of a particular person or organization known to one of the group members. The grade for this project will depend on the quality of the written case study and/or PowerPoint based on the case study which the group will present in-class.

Possible options for people are: (These are examples only)

- Cory Aquino, Philippines People Power
- Aung San Suu Kyi, Burmese Resistance
- Rachel Mayanja, Special Adviser of the Secretary-General on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women, United Nations
- Lina Sidrys Nealon, Initiative for Inclusive Security

Possible options for organizations are:

- **CODEPINK Women for Peace**
<http://www.codepink4peace.org/>
A women-initiated grassroots peace and social justice movement working to end the war in Iraq, stop new wars, and redirect our resources into healthcare, education and other life-affirming activities.
- **Capacitar International**
<http://capacitar.org/about.html>
Capacitar is a spirit of empowerment and solidarity and a network connecting people on 5 continents.
- **Pax Educare, Inc., The Connecticut Center for Peace Education.**
<http://www.paxeducare.org/>
A resource center whose mission is the promotion of the research, study, and teaching of peace.
- **Women Waging Peace Network**
http://www.huntalternatives.org/pages/82_women_waging_peace_network.cfm
A network of women peacemakers from conflict areas around the world, ranging from Sudan to Sri Lanka, Colombia to Bosnia, the Middle East to Sierra Leone.
- **“Motherist” Movements in Latin America**
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mothers_of_the_Plaza_de_Mayo
The Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo is an association of Argentine mothers whose children "disappeared" under the military dictatorship between 1976 and 1983.
- **Mahila Sarvangeen Utkarsh Mandal (MASUM)**
<http://citizencentre.virtualpune.com/html/manisha-gupte-article.shtml>

Formed in 1987 after the women in some villages of Purandar taluka (Pune district of Maharashtra) were organized through local Mahila Mandals so as to address the burning issues affecting their lives.

This assignment will be done in group and 30 minutes are allowed to present

*For those who are taking this class for graduate credit, you will be asked to do an additional reading of one or two articles. This will be discussed further at our gathering.

Required Reading

Benderly, J. (2000). A woman's place is at the peace table. SAIS Review.

Can be retrieved from:

https://muse.jhu.edu/journals/sais_review/v020/20.2benderly.html

Potter, M. (2004). Women, civil society, and peacebuilding; Paths to peace through the empowerment of women. Can be retrieved from:

<http://cain.ulst.ac.uk/issues/women/potter04b.pdf>

Schirch, L. (2004). The little book of strategic peacebuilding. Intercourse, PA: Good Books.

Slattery, L., Butigan, K., et al. (2005). Engage: Exploring Nonviolent Living. Las Vegas, NV: Pace e Bene Press.

Recommended Reading

Addams, J., Balch, E.G., Hamilton, A. (2003). Women at the hague. Chicago: University of Illinois Press.

Alonso, H. (1993). Peace as a women's issue. New York: Syracuse University Press.

Andersson, I. (2003). Women's unarmed uprising against war: a Swedish peace protest in 1935. *Journal of Peace Research*, 40, 4, 395-412.

Anderson, S, & Larmore, J. (1991). Nonviolent struggle and social defense. *War Resisters' International*. Retrieved December 4, 2007 from <http://www.wri-irg.org/books/nvsd.htm>

Appleby, S.R. (2000). The ambivalence of the sacred. Rowman & Littlefield Publishing Group, Incorporated.

Bailey, A. (1993). Mothers, birthgivers, and peacemakers: The problem of maternal thinking in feminist peace politics. Cincinnati: University of Cincinnati.

Beck, S. (2005). World peace efforts since Gandhi. World Peace Communications.

Boano, P. (1916). Universal peace when women will permit. San Francisco: Peter Boano.

Boulding, E. (2000). Cultures of peace: The hidden side of history. New York: Syracuse University Press.

Cejka, M., Bamat, T., (1970). Artisans of peace. Grassroots peacemaking among Christian communities. New York: Orbis Books.

Lorentzen, L.A. & Turpin, J. (1998). The Women & War Reader. New York: University Press.

Nagler, M. N. (2004). A search for a non-violent future; a promise of peace for ourselves, our families, and our world. Makawan, HI: The Inner Ocean Publishing.

Sampson, C. & Lederach, J.P. (2000). From the ground up: Mennonite contributions to international peacebuilding. Oxford University Press.

Not a Minute More: Ending Violence Against Women. Unifem, 2004.

Women, War, and Peace. Unifem, 2003.

Women, Leadership & Peacebuilding Class Schedule Session I: May 5-13, 2008

Day	Topics	Readings, In-Class Handouts, and Assignments
Monday May 5 AM	<u>Basic Concepts and Definitions</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductions • Syllabus • Case study-definitions exercise 	Handouts: “Definitions” Read “A Woman’s Place is at the Peace Table” (internet article) Why Should there be a Course Specifically for Women in Peacebuilding?
Monday May 5 PM	Exploring Nonviolent Power The Situation we Face Why is analysis important?	Read pgs. 1-87 from Engage Exploring Nonviolent Living
Tuesday May 6 AM	Paths to Peace Through the Empowerment of Women Case Study: Students present and discussion	Read “Women, Civil Society, and Peacebuilding” (internet article)

Tuesday May 6 PM	Gender and Peacebuilding	Handouts
Wednesday May 7 AM	What is Peacebuilding? Introduction, Defining Strategic Peacebuilding, Values for Peacebuilding	Read pgs. 3-18 from The Little Book of Strategic Peacebuilding
Wednesday May 7 PM	Map of Peacebuilding Activities Relational Skills for Peacebuilding, Analysis for Peacebuilding, An Overview of Peacebuilding Processes	Read pgs. 18-28 from The Little Book of Strategic Peacebuilding
Thursday May 8 AM	What is Power? Waging Conflict Nonviolently, Reducing Direct Violence, Transforming Relationships.	Read pgs. 28-56 from The Little Book of Strategic Peacebuilding
Thursday May 8 PM	Case Study: Student presentations and discussion	
Friday May 9 AM	Structural Violence and Nonviolent Power	Read pgs. 109-153 from Engage Exploring Nonviolent Living
Friday May 9 PM	Nonviolence Today Putting Nonviolent Power into Action	
Saturday & Sunday May 10-11	Weekend Free No scheduled classes	
Monday May 12 AM	Student Book Critique Summary	Read pgs. 177-235 from Engage Exploring Nonviolent Living
Monday May 12 PM	Building Capacity, Strategic Design of Peacebuilding, Evaluating and Coordinating Peacebuilding	One page summary due (follow handout) Read pgs. 56-81 from The Little Book of Strategic Peacebuilding
Tuesday May 13 AM	Student presentations and discussion	
Tuesday May 13 PM	Wrap up and Evaluations	

