Syllabus

JUST WAR: HISTORY AND THEORY - 58309

Last update 03-08-2016

HU Credits: 4

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: international relations

Academic year: 0

Semester: 2nd Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Dr Tal Dingott Alkopher

Coordinator Email: 1. dalkopher@mssc.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: Monday 16:00-17:00

Teaching Staff:
　Dr. Tal Dingott Alkopher
Course/Module description:  
The course wishes to examine how perceptions of Just War (JW) were (and still are) constituted and changed throughout history in light of cultural and social structures in Europe from Medieval times, via the 18th century and till today. This examination is relevant especially today when the righteousness of "humanitarian wars", "preventive wars" and "the war on terror", that challenge the conventional understanding of JW, is being examined.

Course/Module aims:  
1. Introduction to Just War Theory that is central to International Relations Research through central historical periods of its evolution until today.
2. Gathering an Empirical and historical knowledge of cultural and social structures that had tremendous impact on Just War Theory's development in Europe and in the international arena.
3. An analysis of Just War Theory through the prism of central IR paradigms such as the Grotian School, Constructivism and Critical theory.

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:  
1. Identify and describe critical time periods in the evolution of just war theory.
2. Evaluate the impact of culture and social processes on central IR concepts and especially the concept of just war theory.
3. Debate and criticize the impact of just war theory on wars and peace throughout history of IR such as the Crusades, military humanitarian interventions, the war on terror as well as post-conflict regulations and peace agreements.
4. Implement the materials taught in class regarding the manner in which just war influenced IR on other empirical cases than the ones discussed in class.
5. Judge other wars than the ones discussed in class in terms of just war theory.

Attendance requirements(%):  
None

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Lectures  
Personal guiding for paper preparation

Course/Module Content:  
1. Just War Theory: Constructivism vis-à-vis the traditional approach  
2. From Pacifism to the Justification of War: The early days of the Christian Church
3. The Crusades: Wars in the name of God.
4. Battle of Agincourt and St. Thomas Aquinas
5. Grotius and the development of the Laws of War
6. Preventive Wars and Just Wars of occupation in the 18th Century
7. Just War in the 20th Century
8. Movie: "No man's Land"
9. Just Humanitarian Wars
10. Preemptive Wars and the Global War on Terror in light of Just War Theory
11. Just War in Judaism and Islam
12. Ius Post Bellum
13. Feminist Perception(s) of Just War

Required Reading:

Additional Reading Material:
Boyle, Just War Doctrine and the Military Response to Terrorism, pp.165-170.
International Politics 45:1-18.

Course/Module evaluation:
End of year written/oral examination 70 %
Presentation 0 %
Participation in Tutorials 0 %
Project work 30 %
Assignments 0 %
Reports 0 %
Research project 0 %
Quizzes 0 %
Other 0 %

Additional information: