

# PACS

# 164A

Vol 1

Introduction to Nonviolence

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University of California, Berkeley

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PACS 164A is dedicated to the theory and practice of nonviolence, especially *principled* nonviolence, which Mahatma Gandhi called "the greatest force at the disposal of humankind." We will in fact be using Gandhi as our primary example, since he was the first, and remains so far the greatest pioneer of this science. The main purpose of the course is to help us understand how nonviolence works, which will enable us to account for its successes and failures - and ultimately understand how to use it in our own lives as well as a tool for social change. The theory will emerge from a fairly close study of the history of nonviolence from earliest times up to the brief career of Martin Luther King, Jr., with particular emphasis on the career of Gandhi first in South Africa (1893-1914) and then in India (1915-1948). Students will become familiar with this history and develop a way to analyze it, so that they leave the course more able to understand (and communicate to others) some of the basic laws of nonviolent dynamics.

Like most PACS courses, 164A is undervalued at 3 units. There is a considerable amount of reading, and keeping up with that reading is important for the kind of lively, informed discussion we typically have in class. There will be a final paper, with an outline or preview to be handed in around the time of the midterm, and there will be a midterm and a final exam. The exams and the final paper are counted about equally for grading purposes - all this will be discussed in due course.

In addition to the books listed below, there is a reader at Copy Central (on Bancroft) and a reserve book list for items which will eventually show up in Moffitt. PACS 164A is listed on Courseweb. NOTE: 164A is prerequisite to 164B, "Nonviolence Today."

### Course Outline

#### Week

#### Topic

#### Reading

#### Section I: Background and general principles.

- |                |   |   |
|----------------|---|---|
| 1. Aug.29-31   | Overview: strategic and principled NV; what to look for                                     | Section I.a of Reader (Rdr.); Flinders in <i>Gandhi the Man</i> ; Nagler Ch. 1-2; Abu-Nimer 5-25 (recom.)               |
| 2. Sept. 5-7   | More background: how 'science' and 'history' weigh in on the possibility of the 'NV effect' | Rdr. I.b (Science & History):   |
| 3. Sept. 12-14 | The Vedanta as old/new paradigm: The Gita on human action and life's purpose                | Rdr. 1.c; Bhagavad Gita, Ch. 1-2, 4, 6, 18<br>Note: <b>Continue reading Nagler</b> through Ch. 8 at your own pace . . . |

#### Section II: The Story Unfolds

- |                |   |  |
|----------------|---|--|
| 4. Sept. 19-21 | The First Phase: Arrival in South Africa to the birth of Satyagraha (1893-1906); Constructive Program | Rdr. II.a; Fischer Chs. 4-9                |
| 5. Sept. 26-28 | Success in South Africa: Return to India and the year of silence.                                     | <b>Continue with <i>Gandhi the Man</i></b> |



Week	Topic	Reading
6. Oct. 3-5	Tragedy at Amritsar: rebellion heats up	Rdr. II.b; Gandhi, <i>V&amp;O</i> 29-48 and 154-end; Fischer, 10-26
7. Oct. 10-12	The final phase: legacy of triumph and tragedy	Easwaran, <i>Nonviolent Soldier of Islam</i> (Abu-Nimer as desired)
8. Oct. 17-19	<b>Tuesday: Review</b> <b>Thursday: MIDTERM</b>	No new readings (I'm nonviolent)
<b>Section III: The Western Experience of NV</b>		
9. Oct. 24-26	Tuesday: midterm diagnostic Thursday: NV in the West (yes, there is). Judeo-Christian & Islamic sources	Rdr. III; Nuttall (recom)
10. 10/30-11/2	Medieval and modern NV Christian sects; the Society of Friends (Quakers)	Lynd, 1-5, 8, 10, 15a, 16, 25
11. Nov. 7-9	The American Civil Rights movement, I: Montgomery [Guest lecture: Prof.	King, <i>Stride Twd. Freedom</i> (in <i>Test. of Hope</i> )
12. Nov, 14-16	CRm, II: King's last years	Frady (recom, and choose your own selections)
<b>Section IV: The Legacy</b>		
13. Nov. 21-23	Tu: The 'Wheel of NV'; Gandhian economics Th: THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY	Rdr. IV, Gandhi, <i>CP</i> Ch. 4& 18
14. Nov. 28-30	Aspects of NV since Gandhi and King (a foretaste of PACS 164B)	To be announced
15. Dec. 5-7	Grand overview. <b>Th: Term Papers Due</b>	No new reading ☺

#### Required texts:

M.K. Gandhi, *Hind Swaraj*, or *Indian Home Rule*  
\_\_\_\_\_, *Constructive Programme*  
\_\_\_\_\_, *Vows and Observances*  
Eknath Easwaran, *Gandhi the Man*  
\_\_\_\_\_, *Nonviolent Soldier of Islam*  
\_\_\_\_\_, *The Bhagavad Gita*\*  
Louis Fischer, *Gandhi: His Life and Message for the World*  
M.N. Nagler *The Search for a Nonviolent Future*\*\*  
M.L. King, Jr. *Testament of Hope*  
Lynd and Lynd, *Nonviolence in America*\*\*

**Recommended texts:**

Mohammed Abu-Nimer, *Nonviolence and Peace Building in Islam*

Marshall Frady, *Martin Luther King, Jr.*

Geoffrey Nuttall, *Christian Pacifism in History*

\* Other translations are acceptable

\*\*This title will also be used in PACS 164B



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- Acknowledgments (and page numbers)

### **Section I: Background and General Principles**

#### **a) A conceptual framework for nonviolence**

- Lanza del Vasto, Warriors of Peace. 1974 [excerpt]
- Kenneth Boulding: "The Place of Nonviolence in a General Theory of Power"
- M.K. Gandhi: "Four Basic Terms" from The Harijan. 1920
- Ralph Summy: "Nonviolence and the Case of the Extremely Ruthless Opponent" from Legacy and Future of Nonviolence by True & Adams 1996
- *Key Terms Pamphlet* by the Einstein Institution
- Arne Naess: Gandhi and Group Conflict: An Exploration of Satyagraha. [excerpts] 1974

#### **I. b) 'Science' and 'History'**

- Wendell Berry: Life is a Miracle: An Essay Against Modern Superstition. [excerpt]
- Max Plank & Henry Stapp: "Quotations" from New Physics.
- Henry Stapp: Quantum Physics and Human Values. 1989
- Nick Herbert: "How to Be In Two Places at the Same Time" from New Scientist. August 2, 1986
- Robert Augros & George Stanciu: The New Biology: Discovering the Wisdom in Nature. [excerpts] 1988
- Frans de Waal: Good Natured: The Origins of Right and Wrong in Humans and Other Animals. [excerpt, Ch.1: Darwinian Dilemmas]
- Frans de Waal: Peacemaking Among Primates. [excerpt, Ch. 6: Humans] 1989
- Natalie Angier: "Why We're so Nice: We're Wired to Cooperate" from The New York Times. July 23, 2002
- Elizabeth Marshall Thomas: "Management of Violence Among the Ju/wasi of Nyae Nyae: The Old Way and A New Way" from Studying War: Anthropological Perspectives by Reyna and Downes 1994

- ❑ Stuart A. Schlegel: "Justice Without Domination" [Ch.11] from Wisdom From A Rain Forest. 1998
- ❑ Philostratus: The Life of Apollonius of Tyana. [selection]
- ❑ Karen Ridd: An incident in El Salvador
- ❑ Ian Frazier: "On the Rez: The Story of SueAnne Big Crow" Atlantic Monthly. December 1999

### **I. c) A new/old alternative: basic ideas of the Vedanta**

- ❑ M. N. Nagler: *Gandhi's Spiritual Vocabulary- Some Terms*
- ❑ Michael Sonnleitner: Gandhian Nonviolence: Levels of Satyagraha. [Introduction] 1985
- ❑ M.K. Gandhi "Five Great Yajnas," from Hindu Dharma.

## **Section II. The Story Unfolds**

### **a) South Africa**

- ❑ S. Radhakrishnan, Mahatma Gandhi: Reflections on his Life and Work. [excerpts] 1956
- ❑ M.K. Gandhi: "Nonviolence the Greatest Force"
- ❑ Homer Jack: *Short Chronology of Gandhi's Life*, from The Gandhi Reader. 1956
- ❑ M.K. Gandhi: Satyagraha In South Africa. [excerpts] translated by Valji Govindji Desai 1972

### **II. b) India**

- ❑ Pyarelal and Sushila Nayar: In Gandhiji's Mirror. [excerpts] 1991
- ❑ *Unfolding of Satyagraha in India* (1915-1924) from Preface to Satyagraha in South Africa.
- ❑ Bipan Chandra: "Gandhi: Leader of the Masses" from Indian & Foreign Relations. October 15, 1996

## **Section III. The Western Experience of NV**

- ❑ Reuven Kimelman: "Nonviolence in Talmud" from Roots of Jewish Nonviolence. ed. by Allan Solomonow
- ❑ Saint Augustine: The City of God: Book XIX. [excerpts]
- ❑ Howard Thurman: "Deception" from Jesus and the Disinherited. 1976
- ❑ Martin Luther King, Jr.: "Principles of Nonviolence"

#### Section IV. The Legacy

- M.K. Gandhi: “On Varnashrama” from Hindu Dharma.
- Vinoba Bhave: “The Bhodan-Ganga Flows On” from Moved by Love.
- M. N. Nagler: “The Time for Nonviolence Has Come” from YES! A Journal of Positive Futures. Summer 2003
- Richard Quinney: “The Way of Peace” from Criminology as Peacemaking. eds. Harold Pepinsky and Richard Quinney 1991
- Terry Mollner: “Business, the Relationship Age, and a New Kind of Nation”
- Essays In Gandhian Economics eds. by Romesh Diwan and Mark Lutz
  - Handa Madan: Gandhi and Marx; “An Outline of Two Paradigms” [Ch.13]
  - Romesh Diwan and Sushila Gidwani: “Elements in Gandhian Economics” [Ch.3]
  - J.D. Sethi: “Poverty, Alienation, and the Gandhian Way Out” [Ch.15]
- Vandana Shiva: “The Plunder of Nature and Knowledge” from Dialogues by Jerry Brown 1998
- Michael Toms: “Saving our Cultural Environment” from New Dimensions. November 1998
- Elise Boulding: “The Other America: The Forgivers and the Peacemakers” from Peace and Change. July 3, 2003
- Quote from Marija Gimbutas from M. Nagler, America without Violence.