

Spring 2019

SATYAGRAHA:

The History and Philosophy of Nonviolent Strategies for Social Justice

HON 395 / PHL 365 / REL 365

Monday / Wednesday / Friday 2:00pm – 2:50pm



This honors colloquium / upper-level seminar will introduce students to some of the key elements in the field of Peace & Conflict Studies through a mixture of readings, lecture, class discussion, films, and student presentations. The point of this course is not to convert

“If all you have is a hammer, everything looks like a nail.”

everyone to pacifism, but as the adage cited above says, if we only have one tool in our toolbox, we become limited in our responses to conflict. The goal of this course is therefore to consider the history and theory of nonviolent alternatives: why one might choose nonviolent strategies, what creative options exist, and how empirically effective they have

been. The field of Peace & Conflict Studies covers the entire range of conflict from the interpersonal to the international. This course will survey primarily the in-between range, the milieu of “social justice”, by looking primarily at (1) the applications to criminal justice (especially Restorative Justice) and (2) civil resistance to injustice and structural violence (especially through the examples of Mohandas Gandhi and Martin Luther King, Jr.).

For more information, contact Dr. Mathies.

