Course Description, Objectives, and Student Learning Outcomes: This course will examine the philosophical theme of nonviolence in a three dimensional way: historically, spiritually, and politically. We will investigate the ways in which nonviolence and nonviolent activism has developed and matured throughout history, from its beginnings in the ancient philosophy of Hinduism to current applications regarding war and social injustice. We will also articulate the practices and techniques of living a peaceful life and come to understand that peace must begin within oneself. Finally, we will explore the methods of nonviolent activism that have proved successful in overcoming political situations of war and social injustice. The Western perspectives of Mark Kurlansky, J. Glenn Gray, Martin Luther King Jr., and Dietrich Bonhoeffer will be compared and contrasted with the Eastern perspectives of Mohandas Gandhi and Thich Nhat Hanh.

The primary learning objectives follow: (1) To document, historically, the following insight: When a nonviolent religion or philosophical ideology becomes politicized, the force for peace and human freedom is replaced with the force for power, violence, and subjugation; (2) To appreciate the value of encountering the world with an open mind capable of seeing alternatives to conflict resolution, as opposed to fanaticism; (3) To formulate the essential qualities of peaceful co-existence; (4) To create a work of art expressing a significant theme of nonviolence; (5) To determine the personal, political, and universal value of a peaceful mode of being, a mode of being that is constantly threatened by the attributes of an aggressive and competitive world.

As a course in intellectual history, the following broad objectives follow: (1) Impart the values of intellectual integrity and honesty; (2) Develop respect for the materials of historical inquiry; (3) Foster a capacity for dialogue with the past; (4) Engender an understanding of good scholarly technique and practice.

Course Requirements: Three written take-home assignments (about 4 pages each); One art project; Assigned readings must be read carefully prior to class; Class participation is strongly encouraged; Attendance is mandatory.
Course Determinants: The written assignments are worth 70% of your grade; The art project: 10%; Attendance and class participation: 20%. Note: If you miss more than three classes, you will be in danger of failing.

Required texts:

Mark Kurlansky, *Nonviolence: Twenty-Five Lessons From The History Of A Dangerous Idea*
Eknath Easwaran, *Gandhi The Man: The Story of His Transformation*
Martin Luther King, Jr., *A Testament of Hope*
Thich Nhat Hanh, *Being Peace*

Class Schedule

Jan 23 – Introduction to the History of Nonviolence
Jan 30 – *Understanding Violence Philosophically* (An essay by J. Glenn Gray)
Feb 6 – *Nonviolence* (Ch 1-4)
Feb 13 – *Nonviolence* (Ch 5-8)
Feb 20 – *Nonviolence* (Ch 9-11)
Feb 27 – *Mahatma Gandhi: Pilgrim of Peace* (DVD) (1st written assignment due)
Mar 6 – *Gandhi The Man* (Page 5 – 146)
Mar 13 - *Gandhi The Man* (Page 147 – 173)
Mar 20 – Spring break
Mar 27 -- *King: Man of Peace In A Time of War* (DVD) / A Testament of Hope (Page 35-41; 5-10; 54-62)
Apr 3 – *Dietrich Bonhoeffer: Memories and Perspectives* (DVD) (2nd written assignment due)
Apr 10 - *Peace Is Every Step: The Life And Work of Thich Nhat Hanh* (DVD) / *Being Peace* (Ch 4, 5)
Apr 17 – *Being Peace* (Ch 6)
Apr 24 – Art Projects Due (3rd written assignment due)
May 1 - Art Projects Due
May 8 – Last class
**Americans with Disabilities Act**
Any student who may need an accommodation based on the potential impact of a disability should contact the Learning Resource Center at 410-225-2416, in Bunting 458, to establish eligibility and coordinate reasonable accommodations.

**Environmental Health and Safety (EHS)**
It is the responsibility of faculty and students to follow health and safety guidelines relevant to their individual activities, processes, and to review MICA's Emergency Action Plan and attend EHS training. It is each faculty member's responsibility to coordinate with the EHS Office to ensure that all risks associated with their class activities are identified and to assure that their respective classroom procedures mirror the EHS and Academic Department guidelines. Each of these policies and procedures must be followed by all students and faculty. Most importantly, faculty are to act in accordance with all safety compliance, state and federal, as employees of this college and are expected to act as examples of how to create art in a way to minimize risk, and reduce harm to themselves and the environment. Faculty must identify and require appropriate personal protective equipment for each art making process, for each student, in all of their classes, when applicable. Students are required to purchase personal protection equipment appropriate for their major. Those students who do not have the proper personal protection equipment will not be permitted to attend class until safe measures and personal protection are in place.

**Plagiarism**
Each discipline within the arts has specific and appropriate means for students to cite or acknowledge sources and the ideas and material of others used in their own work. Students have the responsibility to become familiar with such processes and to carefully follow their use in developing original work.

**Policy**
MICA will not tolerate plagiarism, which is defined as claiming authorship of, or using someone else's ideas or work without proper acknowledgment. Without proper attribution, a student may NOT replicate another's work, paraphrase another's ideas, or appropriate images in a manner that violates the specific rules against plagiarism in the student's department. In addition, students may not submit the same work for credit in more than one course without the explicit approval of the all of the instructors of the courses involved.

**Consequences**
When an instructor has evidence that a student has plagiarized work submitted for
course credit, the instructor will confront the student and impose penalties that may include failing the course. In the case of a serious violation or repeated infractions from the same student, the instructor will report the infractions to the department chair. Depending on the circumstances of the case, the department chair may then report the student to the Office of Academic Affairs, which may choose to impose further penalties, including suspension or expulsion.