



**Social Justice and Peace Studies 2211G (270)**  
**KING'S AT RONDINE SEMINAR**  
**Fall/ Winter 2025-2026**

**Instructor:** P. Pirani  
**Email:** ppirani2@uwo.ca

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**Course Information**

**Calendar Description:**

The King's at Rondine Seminar is an interdisciplinary, international experiential learning course that takes place at the Rondine Centre for Peace, Arezzo, Italy. It begins in the winter term and includes travel in May. Topics include conflict resolution, peace-building, reconciliation, and global justice.

**Antirequisite(s):** Italian 3040A/B, Social Justice and Peace Studies 3211F/G.

**Prerequisite(s):** Completion of first-year courses, a minimum cumulative average of 60%, and permission of the Department.

**Extra Information:** 3 hours. Additional travel costs to be borne by student.

**Course Weight:** 0.50

**Breadth:** Category A

**Subject Code:** SOCLJUST

Notice: Unless you have either the requisites for this course (fulfilment of pre-requisites, no anti-requisite conflicts), or special permission from your Dean to enrol in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.



**SJPS 2211**

**King's at Rondine Seminar**

**Peace-building and Global Justice**

**King's University College**

**Winter 2026**

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**Instructor Information**

Dr. Pietro Pirani

Contact Information: [ppirani2@uwo.ca](mailto:ppirani2@uwo.ca)

Weekly Office Hours: By appointment, zoom or in person

**Course Description**

This course uses international travel and in-class discussions to examine the contributions of global civil society groups to social justice and human rights. Students will explore challenges of working outside formal state institutions to build peace in the context of violent conflict and to evaluate possibilities for transnational partnership for social justice. Additional costs, including travel, to be borne by students.

## **Course Overview**

*Course Overview.* This course examines the explosion of migration occurring around the world, with a specific focus on migration from North, Sub-Saharan Africa and the Middle East to Europe, and recipient states' reactions to migrants. The movement of peoples across national boundaries, seeking employment, better wages, higher standards of living, and away from persecution and violence, is transforming many western countries into multi-racial and multi-ethnic societies. In this course, we will analyse the causes and consequences of modern migration, the violence that erupts at the intersection between migration routes and national borders, and the response of humanitarian organisations and communities to migrants.

In addition to academic study, students will spend one month in residence in Arezzo, Italy at the Rondine Centre for Peace. Rondine is an education centre that brings together youth from conflict sites worldwide. Rondine participants live at the centre for one year while pursuing academic study in peace and conflict resolution and hosting events and seminars related to peace and global justice. While in Arezzo, students will engage in seminar activities with the Rondine community that will extend their theoretical and research knowledge through community-based learning and simulations. Students will also visit organisations working with recently arrived migrants in Rome and Arezzo.

*Note on travel:* SJPS 2211 is an international experiential learning course with additional costs associated with travel to Arezzo, Italy, in May 2025. The cost is approximately 3,050 Euros to participate in the program in Italy. For more information, please contact the instructor directly. Scholars and travel bursaries are available to King's students to help defray the costs of participating in this course.

## **Learning Objectives;**

- Understand the dynamics of conflict and its impacts on communities and youth
- Develop an understanding of the dynamics of protracted conflict and resistance to peace
- Critique ideologies, propaganda and historical narratives that sustain regional and cultural conflicts
- Synthesise research literature with lived experiences encountered among participants at Rondine.

## **Learning Outcomes:**

- Communicate with others across cultural differences;
- Analyse possibilities for common values where conflict de-escalation and peace-building can begin;
- Design strategies and activities to build peace among youth in the context of conflict;
- Understand the challenges humanitarian organisations face working with people, including refugees and migrants, who have been displaced by conflict.

*Course texts.* All books required for this course will be available on a two-hour reserve at the Cardinal Carter Library. Additional readings will be made available online as pdfs. **NOTE:** This course focuses on contemporary events that are unfolding at a rapid pace. The syllabus may change as the semester progresses if particular events relate to this course's topics and themes occur.

*Course Organization.* This course is taught in two segments: the first begins with pre-departure sessions at King's University College in the winter term of 2025. The second segment begins on May 5<sup>th</sup> through 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025, in Arezzo, Italy, at the Rondine Centre for Peace.

Assignments and evaluations for this course will be extended across both segments. Students will have completed approximately 30% of their course work for evaluation before international travel. As an experiential learning course, there is a high value placed on participation, observation and critical reflection. Students will take on a central role in the facilitation and organisation of seminars and simulations. The expectations and criteria for experience and participation evaluation will be presented in the first seminar meeting in May 2025.

### Student Evaluation

Assessment		Weighting	Due Date
In-Class Participation	<i>Pre-travel</i>	0%	
	<i>In-country</i>	30%	
<i>Critical Reflection</i>		70%	TBD in May
<b>Total</b>		<b>100%</b>	

### Learning Activities, Assignments

#### In-Class participation (30%)

SJPS 2211G is an international experiential learning course that begins and incorporates pre-travel learning assignments and activities with a one-month experiential learning course in Arezzo, Italy, at the Rondine Citta della Pace. This is a conflict and peace-building centre where youth from all over the world gather to learn about peace-building, conflict resolution, and de-escalation.

Students are required to take an active role in the class. This means completing the assigned readings for each class, attending class regularly and on time, and participating consistently in class discussions with quality contributions. It cannot be stressed enough that you are expected to come to class prepared to discuss the readings assigned for that session.

### **Research Project (70%)**

Instructions for the final project will be discussed and explained in class on May 5<sup>th</sup>.

Selected Reading List. Schedule for readings TBD.

Agbiboa, D. E. (2015). Youth as tactical agents of peace-building and development in the Sahel. *Journal of Peacebuilding & Development*, 10(3), 30-45.

Bangura, I. (2016). We Can't Eat Peace: Youth, Sustainable Livelihoods and the Peacebuilding Process in Sierra Leone. *Journal of Peacebuilding & Development*, 11(2), 37-50.

Berents, H., & McEvoy-Levy, S. (2015). Theorising youth and everyday peace (building). *Peacebuilding*, 3(2), 115-125.

Burke, M., Hsiang, S. M., & Miguel, E. (2015). Climate and conflict. *Annu. Rev. Econ.*, 7(1), 577-617.

Chenoweth, E., Stephan, M. J., & Stephan, M. (2011). *Why civil resistance works: The strategic logic of nonviolent conflict*. Columbia University Press.

Jacobsen, K. (2002). Livelihoods in conflict: the pursuit of livelihoods by refugees and the impact on the human security of host communities. *International migration*, 40(5), 95-123.

Lederach, A. J. (2020). Youth provoking peace: an intersectional approach to territorial peace-building in Colombia. *Peacebuilding*, 8(2), 198-217.

Liu, H., & Loveless, M. (2019). A virtual reality approach to pediatric conflict de-escalation and anger management. In *Proceedings of the Practice and Experience in Advanced Research Computing on Rise of the Machines (learning)* (pp. 1-5).

Mach, K. J., Kraan, C. M., Adger, W. N., Buhaug, H., Burke, M., Fearon, J. D., ... & von Uexkull, N. (2019). Climate as a risk factor for armed conflict. *Nature*, 571(7764), 193-197.

Pruitt, L. J. (2013). *Youth peace-building: Music, gender, and change*. New York: Suny Press.

Stephan, M. J., & Chenoweth, E. (2008). Why civil resistance works: The strategic logic of nonviolent conflict. *International security*, 33(1), 7-44.

Ticktin, M. (2006). Where ethics and politics meet. *American ethnologist*, 33(1), 33-49.

Ticktin, M. I. (2011). *Casualties of care*. In *Casualties of Care*. University of California Press.

Ticktin, M. (2017). A world without innocence. *American Ethnologist*, 44(4), 577-590.



**Faculty Office Hours:** Faculty office hours can be found on King's homepage under the menu heading Current Students (<https://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/courses-enrolment/>) and are also posted on the bulletin board across from the Administrative Assistants Office on the second floor of Dante Lenardon Hall.

**Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness:**

([https://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/academic\\_consideration\\_Sep24.pdf](https://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/academic_consideration_Sep24.pdf)).

Student Medical Certificate (SMC)

<https://registrar.uwo.ca/academics/pdfs/student-medical-certificate.pdf>

**Tests/Examinations:**

Students are responsible for seeking accommodation with appropriate documentation, prior to writing tests/examinations, if they are of the view that their performance may be affected by extenuating circumstances.

**Support Services:**

Students who are in emotional/mental health distress should refer to Mental Health@Western: <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

University Students Council provides many valuable support services for students (including the health insurance plan) <http://westernusc.ca/services/>.

Information about Counselling and Student Development, including Accessibility Services (formerly Services for Students with Disabilities) at King's is available at <https://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/student-affairs/>

For emotional/mental health assistance see: <https://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/student-affairs/personal-counselling/>

The website for Academic Services at King's University College is <https://www.kings.uwo.ca/about-kings/facts-and-information/administrative-departments/academic-deans-office/>

### **Statement on Use of Electronic Devices:**

Use of Electronic Devices:

You are not allowed to have a cell phone, or any other electronic device, with you during tests or examinations.

Use of Laptops in the Classroom:

King's University College at The University of Western Ontario acknowledges the integration of new

technologies and learning methods into the curriculum. The use of laptop computers can contribute to student engagement and effective learning. At the same time, King's recognises that instructors and students share jointly the responsibility to establish and maintain a respectful classroom environment conducive to learning.

The use of laptops by students during lectures, seminars, labs, etc., shall be for matters related to the course at hand only. Students found to be using laptops for purposes not directly related to the class may be subject to sanctions under the Student Code of Conduct. See <https://www.kings.uwo.ca/kings/assets/File/currentStudents/studentLife/conduct/student-code-of-conduct.pdf>

Inappropriate use of laptops [or smart phones] during lectures, seminars, labs, etc., creates a significant disruption. As a consequence, instructors may choose to limit the use of electronic devices in these settings. In addition, in order to provide a safe classroom environment, students are strongly advised to operate laptops with batteries rather than power cords."

### **Statement on Academic Offences:**

King's is committed to Academic Integrity. Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf)

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com <http://turnitin.uwo.ca/>. Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

### **Copyright re: Course Material**

Lectures and course materials, including power point presentations, tests, outlines, and similar materials are protected by copyright. Faculty Members are the exclusive owner of copyright in those materials they create. Students may take notes and make copies for their own use. Students may not allow others to reproduce or distribute lecture notes and course materials publicly (whether or not a fee is charged) without the express written consent of a Faculty Member. Similarly, students own copyright in their own original papers and exam essays. If a faculty member is interested in posting a student's answers or papers on the course web site, he/she should ask for the student's written permission. (Commercial use of Course material - <http://umd.edu/legal/commercial.html>)

### **Mailbox re Submission of Late Essays/Assignments ONLY:**

Only late essays/assignments not handed in at class may be dropped off in the drop box, located between the inner doors of the Cardinal Carter Library. Please inform your students that essays dropped into the mailbox will be picked-up twice per day: once in the morning (9:30 a.m.) and in the afternoon (4:00 p.m.). All essays dropped off after 4:00 p.m. on a Friday will be date-stamped the following Monday. Essays should be placed in an envelope addressed to the professor with the course code and student number clearly indicated.

### **Class Cancellations:**

All reported class cancellations are posted at: <http://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/outages-serviceinterruptions/>

**KING'S UNIVERSITY COLLEGE**  
**GENERAL COURSE POLICIES**  
**2025-2026**

## **1. Academic Accommodations, Consideration for Absences**

### **Academic Accommodation (Accessibility)**

Accessibility Services works to ensure that academic programs are accessible to all students, and supports students who may have a condition related to, but not limited to, vision, hearing, mobility, different ways of learning, mental health, chronic illnesses, chronic pain, autism spectrum disorder, ADD/ADHD, and temporary conditions (beyond short-term academic consideration). Accessibility Services provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive assessment. The accommodation policy can be found here [Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#). Information on Accessibility Services at King's can be found [here](#).

### **Academic Consideration for Student Absence**

If a student is unable to meet a course requirement due to substantial but temporary extenuating circumstances (medical or compassionate), they should follow the procedures below.

In some cases, where instructors have built flexibility into their assessments, this flexibility will already address consideration needs.

Requests for academic consideration should be directed to the Academic Advising Office of your faculty/college of registration. Requests must be made as soon as possible and no later than 48 hours after the missed assessment.

Friday Make-Up Exams may only be written with the instructor's consent.

As a rule, documentation is required for academic consideration. For academic consideration requests on medical grounds, the Student Medical Certificate is available at [https://www.kings.uwo.ca/kings/assets/File/currentStudents/courses\\_enrollment/exams and tests/SMC-Feb-2025.pdf](https://www.kings.uwo.ca/kings/assets/File/currentStudents/courses_enrollment/exams_and_tests/SMC-Feb-2025.pdf).

Students are permitted one academic consideration request without supporting documentation per term per course.

Instructors may designate one assessment per half-course weight as requiring formal supporting documentation. Please refer to the course outline for each course.

For further information, please see:

[https://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/academic\\_consideration\\_Sep24.pdf](https://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/academic_consideration_Sep24.pdf)

### **Absences from Final Examinations**

If you miss the Final Exam, contact the Academic Advising Office of your faculty/college of registration as soon as you are able to do so. They will assess your eligibility to write the Special Examination (the name given by the University to a makeup Final Exam).

You may also be eligible to write the Special Exam if you are in a “Multiple Exam Situation” (e.g., more than 2 exams in 23-hour period, or more than 3 exams in a 47-hour period).

If a student fails to write a scheduled Special Examination, the date of the next Special Examination (if granted) normally will be the scheduled date for the final exam the next time this course is offered. The maximum course load for that term will be reduced by the credit of the course(s) for which the final examination has been deferred. See the Academic Calendar for details (under Special Examinations).

### **Religious Accommodation**

Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give notice in writing to the instructor and Academic Advising Office if a course requirement will be affected by a religious holiday/observance. Notice must be given as early as possible, and no later than two weeks prior to an examination, and one week prior to a midterm test date. It is the responsibility of such students to inform themselves concerning the work done in classes from which they are absent and to take appropriate action.

## **2. Support Services**

Accessibility, Counselling and Student Development at King's University College:

<https://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/student-services/>

Students experiencing emotional or mental health distress can access services at King's University

College: <http://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/campus-services/student-supportservices/personal-counselling/>

Good2talk is a good online and phone 24/7 resource for students and is available in English, Mandarin, and French: <https://good2talk.ca>, 1-866-925-5454

MentalHealth@Western provides a complete list of options about how to obtain help:

[https://www.uwo.ca/health/mental\\_wellbeing/](https://www.uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/)

Academic Support Services at King's University College:

<https://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/academic-resources/>

### **GBSV Support:**

King's is committed to reducing incidents of gender-based and sexual violence and providing compassionate support to anyone who has gone through these traumatic events. If you have experienced sexual or gender-based violence (either recently or in the past), you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts at:

<https://www.kings.uwo.ca/about-kings/safe-campus/gender-and-sexual-violence/>

You can reach someone supports at Kings by emailing [Care@kings.uwo.ca](mailto:Care@kings.uwo.ca) or calling 519-930-4640 to reach a social worker who can offer help.

You can also reach Western's Gender-Based Violence & Survivor Support Case Manager by email or by calling 519-661-3568.

Further supports can be found on this website: <https://www.kings.uwo.ca/about-kings/safecampus/gender-and-sexual-violence/>

See also [https://www.uwo.ca/health/student\\_support/survivor\\_support/get-help.html](https://www.uwo.ca/health/student_support/survivor_support/get-help.html)

University Students' Council offers many valuable support services for students, including the health insurance plan: <http://westernusc.ca/services/>

### **3. Statement on Use of Electronic Devices**

Use of Electronic Devices: Unless explicitly stated otherwise, you are not allowed to have a cell phone, or any other electronic device, with you during tests or examinations. Unauthorized possession of such a device during a test or examination constitutes an academic offence.

Use of Laptops, Tablets, and Smartphones in the Classroom: King's University College at Western University acknowledges the integration of new technologies and learning methods into the curriculum. The use of electronic devices such as laptop computers, tablets, or smartphones can contribute to student engagement and effective learning. At the same time, King's recognizes that instructors and students share jointly the responsibility to establish and maintain a respectful classroom environment conducive to learning.

The use of electronic devices by students during lectures, seminars, labs, etc., shall be for matters related to the course at hand only. Students found to be using electronic devices for purposes not directly related to the class may be subject to sanctions under the Student Code of Conduct; see <https://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/student-affairs/code-of-student-conduct1/>

Inappropriate use of electronics (e.g., laptops, tablets, smartphones) during lectures, seminars, labs, etc., creates a significant disruption. As a consequence, instructors may choose to limit the use of electronic devices in these settings. In addition, in order to provide a safe classroom environment, students attending in-person class sessions are strongly advised to operate laptops with batteries rather than power cords.

### **4. Statement on Academic Offences**

King's is committed to academic integrity. Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, is posted at

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf)

It is expected that students will submit work that is truly their own, completed without external assistance (human or artificial) except as explicitly permitted by the course instructor. Check with you instructor on what tools, including generative AI (ChatGPT, translation tools, grammarchecking tools) are permitted in the course. Because a tool is permitted in one course, that does not mean it is permitted in other courses.

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system; see <https://elearningtoolkit.uwo.ca/tools/Originality Reports - TurnItIn.html>.

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

### **5. Copyright of Course Material**

Lectures and course materials, including PowerPoint presentations, tests, outlines, and similar materials are protected by copyright. Faculty members are the exclusive owner of copyright in those materials they create. Students may take notes and make copies for their own use. Students may not allow others to reproduce or distribute lecture notes and course materials publicly (whether or not a fee is charged) without the express written consent of a faculty member. Unauthorized sharing of class content is subject to academic discipline.

Similarly, students own copyright in their own original papers and exam essays. If a faculty member wishes to post a student's answers or papers on the course website, they should ask for the student's written permission.

### **6. Use of Recordings**

Participants in this course are not permitted to record the sessions, except where recording is an approved accommodation and/or the participant has the prior written permission of the instructor. Unauthorized recording and/or sharing of class content is subject to academic discipline.

### **7. Policy on Attendance**

Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course, will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course, after due warning has been given. On the recommendation of the department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course.