This course will examine some of the connections between religion and the tradition of principled nonviolence. We will trace the history of nonviolence movements in the U.S. from colonial times to the present, with special attention to the influence of Christian theology and the teachings of Gandhi. We will also study a classic critique of nonviolence offered by the Christian theologian Reinhold Niebuhr. Although we will give some attention to practices and tactics of nonviolence, the emphasis will be on the intellectual traditions, the logical arguments for nonviolence, and the historical contexts in which those ideas arose.

REQUIRED READINGS:
Staughton & Alice LYND, eds., Nonviolence in America
Ira CHERNUS, American Nonviolence: The History of an Idea
Mahatma GANDHI, The Essential Writings of Mahatma Gandhi, ed. Raghavan Iyer
These readings are available at the LEFTHAND BOOKSTORE, 1200 Pearl Street; just east of Broadway, south side of mall, lower level. They are usually open 10:00 AM - 9:00 PM Monday through Saturday and noon - 6:00 PM Sunday. Call 443-8252 to make sure they are open. The books were not ordered through the CU Bookstore.
The books are also on reserve in Norlin Library.
Other READINGS are available online, linked from the online version of this syllabus at:
http://spot.colorado.edu/~chernus/Courses/4800/index.html

OFFICE HOURS:
I will have office hours Monday and Wednesday, 12:30 - 1:30, or by appointment
office: HUMN 284; phone: 492-6169; email: chernus@colorado.edu
If you need any special accommodations to enhance your learning in this course, I would be glad to discuss that with you.

SCHEDULE OF READING ASSIGNMENTS:
Aug. 25: CHERNUS: Introduction
Aug. 27: CHERNUS: Chapter 1, “The Anabaptists”
Aug. 30: CHERNUS: Chapter 2, “The Quakers”
Sept. 1: LYND: xi-xvii, 1, 2 (Assignments in LYND are by Document number; roman numerals refer to the Introduction)
Sept. 8: CHERNUS: Chapter 4, “Henry David Thoreau”; LYND: 5

Sept. 10: CHERNUS: Chapter 5, “Anarchists”; LYND: xxi-xxiii, 7 - 9

Sept. 13: CHERNUS: pp. 75 - 82; LYND: xxiv-xxv, 13, 14


Sept. 17: LYND: xv-xxviii, 15 - 18

Sept. 20: FIRST EXAM DUE IN CLASS

Sept. 22: CHERNUS: pp. 91 – 99; GANDHI: 136, 142, 143 (Assignments in Gandhi are by Selection number. There is a glossary in the GANDHI book to help you with terms. There is a more detailed glossary at http://www.mkgandhi-sarvodaya.org/glossary.htm) Please watch the film Gandhi as soon as you can.

Sept. 24: GANDHI: 137, 140, 141, 144-147, 61, 65, 70, 75-83, 104, 123, 125, 126


Sept. 29: GANDHI: 157, 161-176

Oct. 1: CHERNUS: pp. 103 – 110; GANDHI: 186-194

Oct. 4: GANDHI: 195-209, 213, 219, 35, 37, 40, 48

Oct. 6: GANDHI: 223-239

Oct. 8: GANDHI: 240 - 264

Oct. 11: CHERNUS: pp. 111 – 116; READINGS: Selections from Niebuhr, Moral Man and Immoral Society, Section 1

Oct. 13: READINGS: Selections from Niebuhr, Moral Man and Immoral Society, Section 2

Oct. 15: CHERNUS: pp. 116 - 119; READINGS: Summary Of Moral Man And Immoral Society Chapter 3; Selections from Niebuhr, Moral Man and Immoral Society, Section 3

Oct. 18: READINGS: Selections from Niebuhr, Moral Man and Immoral Society, Section 4

Oct. 20: READINGS: Selections from Niebuhr, Moral Man and Immoral Society, Section 5

Oct. 22: NO CLASS

Oct. 25: CHERNUS: pp. 119 - 122; READINGS: Selections from Niebuhr, Moral Man and Immoral Society, Section 6

Oct. 27: READINGS: Selections from Niebuhr, Moral Man and Immoral Society, Section 7; CHERNUS: pp. 122 - 126
EVALUATION:
Your grade will be based on:
1. Participation in class discussion.
2. Three take-home essay exams. The first two exams are due in class on Sept. 20 and Nov. 1. The third exam is a take-home final exam, due Dec. 13. The questions will be distributed well in advance. There will be no in-class exams in this course.

Each student is also expected to present two brief (1 page) reflection papers, to be presented in class. These will not be graded. Each paper will discuss one of the daily reading assignments. You are not to summarize the day's reading. You are to identify one question arising from the reading that you think is interesting for class discussion. State the question clearly, then give your answer and your reasons for your answer in a logical argument. (A sign-up sheet will be circulated in class for presentations.)