The Butler University Seminar on Religion and World Civilization presents

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RELIGION

PEACEMAKING

CONFLICT

FOUR PUBLIC SEMINARS

Sept. 28 and Oct. 26, 2010
Jan. 26 and March 1, 2011

Seminars meet from 7 to 9 p.m. in Clowes Memorial Hall, on the campus of Butler University, 4600 Sunset Ave., Indianapolis, IN. Admission is free, but tickets are required and available at the Clowes box office and Ticketmaster®.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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The Seminar on Religion and World Civilization is a program of the Center for Faith and Vocation at Butler University, promoting understanding of interfaith and intercultural relations through the discussion of religious issues in global perspective.

The Center for Faith and Vocation gratefully acknowledges the financial support of Lilly Endowment Inc.
RELIGION AS PROMOTER OF PEACE, PERPETUATOR OF VIOLENCE

Tuesday, Sept. 28, 2010  |  Krannert Room of Clowes Memorial Hall

Throughout history and across national and theological boundaries, religion has both been a source of conflict and a resource for peace-building. We will lay a foundation for our year-long global exploration of the place of religion in conflict and peacemaking.

Speaker

Scott Appleby is a professor of history at the University of Notre Dame, where he also directs the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies. Appleby is the author of The Ambivalence of the Sacred: Religion, Violence and Reconciliation (2000).

Respondents

David M. Craig is an associate professor of religion at Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis and a specialist in religion ethics.

James Logan is an associate professor of religion at Earlham College in Richmond, Ind. He directs programs in African and African-American studies.

THE FUTURE OF ISLAM

Tuesday, Oct. 26, 2010  |  Main Auditorium of Clowes Memorial Hall

Since the events of Sept. 11, 2001, the theology, politics and diverse cultural manifestations of Islam have been scrutinized around the world. We will explore calls for moderate Islam to take a more prominent global role in news media, religious circles and academia.

Speaker

Reza Aslan is a scholar of religion and associate professor of creative writing at the University of California, Riverside. A member of the Council on Foreign Relations, he is the author of No God But God (2006) and Beyond Fundamentalism (2010).

Respondents

Sholeh Shahrokhi is an associate professor of anthropology at Butler University. A native of Iran, her scholarship focuses on youth and global conflict; gender, sexuality and globalization; and Iranian cinema.

Shariq Siddiqui is an attorney and director of the Muslim Alliance of Indiana. He grew up in England, Zambia, Saudi Arabia and Pakistan and came to the United States to study at the University of Indianapolis and Indiana University.

RELIGIOUS VIOLENCE: MYTH OR GLOBAL REALITY?

Wednesday, Jan. 26, 2011  |  Krannert Room of Clowes Memorial Hall

Conventional wisdom in the West suggests that religion is to blame for many of the world’s violent conflicts. We will examine this assumption by exploring western ideas about religion, secularism and power.

Speaker

William Cavanaugh is senior research professor a the Center for World Catholicism and Intercultural Theology at DePaul University. He is the author of The Myth of Religious Violence: Secular Ideology and the Roots of Modern Conflict (2009).

Respondents

Margaretha Geertsema is an assistant professor of journalism at Butler University. Her research draws on studies of globalization, sociology and gender.

Lawrence Gerstein is a professor of psychology at Ball State University and director of the Center for Peace and Conflict Studies at Ball State.

FAITH-BASED DEVELOPMENT WORK AND PEACEMAKING

Tuesday, March 1, 2011  |  Krannert Room of Clowes Memorial Hall

Motivated by theological conviction, religious groups worldwide provide food, healthcare, shelter, education and disaster relief. Many religious activists, diplomats, philanthropists and politicians see this work as peace work.

Speaker

Katherine Marshall is senior fellow at the Berkley Center for Religion, Peace and Public Affairs at Georgetown University. Marshall, who worked at the World Bank from 1972 to 2006, currently advises the World Bank on issues of faith and ethics. She is a graduate of Wellesley College, and Harvard and Princeton universities.

Respondents

Jay Howard is dean of the Butler University College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and a professor of sociology with interest in the sociology of religion.

James Morris served the United Nations as the executive director of the World Food Programme from 2002 to 2007. From 1973 through 1989 he served Lilly Endowment Inc. as director of community development, vice president and president. He is currently president of Pacers, Inc.