

# **I Ain't Marching Anymore: Songs of War and Peace**

**Dr. Stephen Richer**  
(with the collaboration of Janine Smith)  
Carleton University, Fall 2019

## **Course Objectives**

The aim of the course is to examine some key songs and singer/song-writers associated with the major wars of the past 250 years or so – the American Revolution, The American Civil War, WWI, WWII, and the Vietnam War. Among the musicians to be discussed are Pete Seeger, Bob Dylan, Joan Baez, Buffy Sainte-Marie, Phil Ochs, Eric Bogle, Neil Young and Arlo Guthrie. Our focus will be on how the biographies of such key personalities interact with social context to produce songs related to war and peace.

## **Week I - Introduction**

**Professor and Student Introductions**

**Protest Song Quiz**

**Discussion of Course Outline**

**Conceptual Sketch**

**Sources Used**

**Student Participation**

**“The Ballad of Chevy Chase” - The Oldest Known War/Peace Song?**

**Just and Unjust Wars**

**War, Anti-War and Peace Songs**

**Protest Songs: Anti-War and Peace Songs**

**Types of Protest Songs**

## **Week II - War Songs**

**National Anthems: The U.S., France and Cuba**

**A Contrast: Canada, Switzerland and Australia**  
Waltzing Matilda

## **The American Revolution**

Johnny Has Gone For a Soldier  
Free America

## **The American Civil War**

We Are Coming Father Abraham  
The Battle Hymn of the Republic  
Dixie  
When Johnny Comes Marching Home Again

Two Protest Song Exceptions: Two Brothers and Down by the Riverside

## **World War I**

## **World War II**

Lili Marlene  
Don't Sit Under the Apple Tree  
We'll Meet Again

## **The Story of the Almanacs**

### **Week III - Anti-War and Peace Songs: Part I**

## **Anti-Nuclear Songs**

Old Man Atom - Vern Partlow  
Strangest Dream - Ed McCurdy  
Morning Dew - Bonnie Dobson

## **Camp Naivelt and Canadian Protest Music**

## **Background to the Vietnam War: The U.S. in the Fifties**

Popular Culture and Conformity  
Political Conservatism and Conformity  
The Countercultural Reaction

## **The Vietnam War as an Unjust War**

## **Canada's Role in the Vietnam War**

## **Vietnam War Timetable**

## **Where Have all the Flowers Gone - Pete Seeger**

### **Week IV - Anti-War and Peace Songs: Part II**

## **Universal Soldier - Buffy Sainte-Marie**

## **With God on our Side - Bob Dylan**

**I'm Fixin to Die Rag - Country Joe McDonald**

**The Story of Phil Ochs**

Draft Dodger Rag

I Ain't Marching Anymore

The War is Over

**Two Contrasting Songs: Bring 'Em Home by Pete Seeger and The Ballad of the Green Berets by Robin Moore and Barry Sadler**

**Alice's Restarurant - Arlo Guthrie**

**Waist Deep in the Big Muddy - Pete Seeger**

### **Week V - Anti-War and Peace Songs: Part III**

**Two Contrasting Songs: Give Peace a Chance by John Lennon and Okie From Muskogee by Roy Edward Burris and Merle Haggard**

**Imagine - John Lennon**

**The Story of Neil Young**

Ohio

**The Story of Eric Bogle**

And the Band Played Waltzing Matilda

**Born in the USA – Bruce Springsteen**

### **Week VI - Tightening Some Loose Ends**

**The Conceptual Sketch Revisited**

Social Context - Historical Events

Social Context - Cultural Definition of Just and Unjust Wars

Social Context - Culture/Resource Distribution Contradictions

Down in Mississippi by J.B. Lenoir

Backlash Blues by Nina Simone

Biography – Race, Ethnicity and Class

**Anti-War and Peace Songs of Today**

Last to Die - Bruce Springsteen

**The Dixie Chicks**

**Do Protest Songs Make a Difference?**