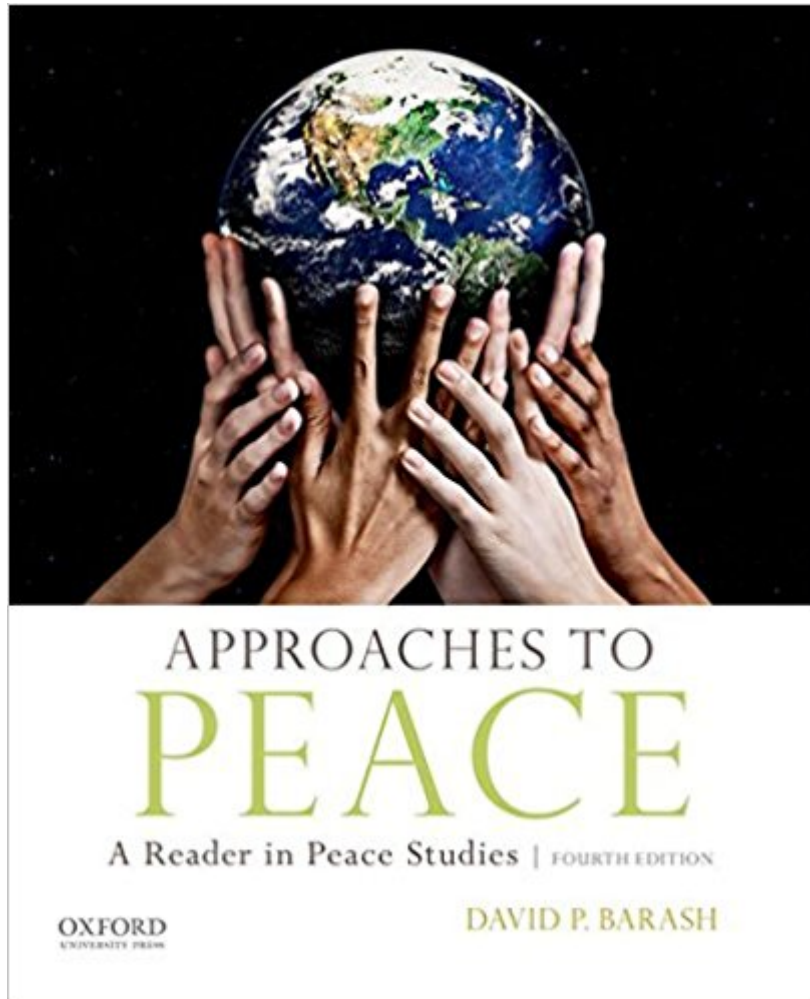




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Approaches To Peace



Synopsis

Approaches to Peace: A Reader in Peace Studies, Fourth Edition, provides a unique and interdisciplinary sampling of key articles focusing on the diverse facets of peace and conflict studies. Featuring both classic and contemporary work, it enables students to read highly influential articles while also introducing them to the most current perspectives in the field. Timeless classics from Leo Tolstoy, Martin Luther King, Jr., Gandhi, and Henry David Thoreau are included alongside contemporary pieces by illustrious contributors including Noam Chomsky, bell hooks, Vandana Shiva, and Pope Francis.

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Customer Reviews

"Approaches to Peace does an excellent job of framing excerpts from major works in peace studies. This technique helps instructors show their students why texts from previous historical periods remain relevant in the present day. Barash's introductions and editorial comments can be read as free-standing essays; they do an impressive job of explaining the major theories and concepts."--Mark Frezzo, University of Mississippi
"Approaches to Peace is very readable and offers comprehensive coverage of key themes. I think that it is one of the best readers."--Paula Rayman, University of Massachusetts, Lowell

David P. Barash is Professor of Psychology at the University of Washington. He is the author of more than thirty books, including *Out of Eden* (OUP, 2016), *Buddhist Biology* (OUP, 2013), and *Homo Mysterious* (OUP, 2012).

A useful collection of multiple perspectives. As a springboard into authors I would not have otherwise known, this text is useful. As a comprehensive account of approaches to peace studies in a practical sense, it falls short. As an introduction to possibilities at a theoretical level, it succeeds.

This updated edition of Barash's book is well worth the reasonable price (as textbooks go). I will be teaching a university course from it beginning next week (upper level undergrad political science) and am very pleased with the broad range of essays and other materials. I trust it will stimulate discussion. Barash pulls together materials from many disciplines, which makes this even more valuable - and from many eras. Using this reader in combination with another on war, this will provide some excellent background and foundation to students who are interested in approaching both of these issues intellectually. Barash has brought together materials both thoughtfully and provocatively - not an easy balance to achieve. The essays are generally "just the right length", too - important when one wants to cover a certain amount of material in 15-16 weeks! The book is fairly priced, and beautifully printed/produced; that counts for a lot at a time when some companies are putting out books on flimsy paper with poor cover stock - and charging \$75 and up for them (recent experience with one of those -- NEVER AGAIN!) I consider this book a "keeper"; it will remain on my shelf as an excellent survey of a great deal of the most important literature on Peace and the various approaches from which it can be viewed and studied.

I've used David Barash's Approaches to Peace several times in my college classes on peace and justice. This is unusual in itself, because I rarely use anthologies, preferring instead to go straight to the original sources themselves. I like Barash's approach, though, because it tries to be inclusive as possible. The anthology begins by looking at the definitions and possible causes of war, moves on to analyses of how to prevent war (negative peace), then to considerations of how to create structures of justice that eliminate the necessary conditions for war (positive peace). The rest of the book is devoted to readings that discuss nonviolence, religious pacifism, and historical peace movements. All of these general categories are exactly what one would want in a "peace studies" text. The problem is that the readings included in each category aren't always the best (or at least aren't the ones I would've selected). The single best two sets of readings are in the chapters on positive peace and nonviolence. The single worst (and I do mean *worst*!) set of readings are when Barash deals with religious pacifism (it's as if he feels uncomfortable in this arena). In the section on peace movements, Vaclav Havel's essay is the single best piece, but one wonders why it (and perhaps the

entire chapter) doesn't serve as the prologue to the anthology. Still, no anthology perfectly pleases everyone. Barash's is the best one out there I've discovered. Perhaps some changes will be made in a second edition. Regardless, I highly recommend this book.

Approaches to Peace consist some of the best historical peace lectures and examples set by worldwide prominent peace leaders, writers, and activists who have had shown considerable love and compassion toward the equality of human being. I highly recommend this book to anyone who is interested in peace studies. This would be a valuable guide and experience.

book came in perfect condition

Read portions of this book. A bit 'dry', but otherwise a nice book to learn about the perspective of others.

For Class

Semi interesting, better than anticipated. Required textbook for class. Best textbook purchased for this class. Wouldn't have read it on my own.

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