

**OSTS Lecture, Fall, 2024, 1st term  
September 23rd - October 28th**

**Course B “Just Wars”: A Brief History of a Lure and a Trap (Zoom Class)**

Lecturer Reverend Maxime Allard, OP

Descriptor

These lectures will present briefly propositions concerning "just" war theories as people seem to need them to justify violence, killings, destructions, etc. It is an important topic today as different types of wars are raging... and peace seems to be a distant dream and ideal. (45 words)

Outline

Week 1:

a) Revisiting two clichés:

- there is a « just war » theory
- it would be rooted in Augustine’s and Aquinas’s texts

b) Historical contextual elements on justice, war and decision making, self-defense

and R2P

Weeks 2 and 3:

Reading Aquinas

Week 4:

A lure ?

A trap ?

Week 5:

What of this idea in the current contexts?

- political (a disappearing Westphalian world and a new international world order)
- economic (globalization and economic « wars ») military (new ways of combat and new « rights »)
- ethical (human aid, right to protect)
- religious (divided Churches and religions on this ‘theory’)

Bio

Maxime Allard, OP is a Catholic priest in the Dominican Order and past president of the Dominican College in Ottawa, where he continues to teach. He is a long-time lecturer and supporter of the OSTs.