

Stefanie Kendall is leading a reading group for James Madison students that focuses on the role of schools in conflict zones. The group will meet during the spring semester to discuss the ways in which schools can act as a civic centers, offering students structure during (and in the wake of) wars and conflict. The group will also discuss the role of teachers in managing crisis and building peace. Particular attention will be given to cases that examine teaching and community in Israel and Northern Ireland. Selected readings will draw from political science, teacher education, non-governmental organization reports, and sociology. Connections to areas of social deprivation will also be discussed, and literature on urban education will be shared also. This is an opportunity to build a library of literature that covers the foundations and technical aspects of teaching and learning, and reconstruction of community in contexts of protracted social conflict.