

**September 16, 2011**

**“Winning the War on War”  
Author Joshua Goldstein to speak at Olympia library**

Joshua Goldstein, an international relations professor and author of “[Winning the War on War: The Decline of Armed Conflict Worldwide](#),” will discuss his new book at the [Olympia Timberland Library](#) on Friday, September 23 from 7 to 8:15 p.m. The presentation will take place after closing. Books will be available for purchase.

Goldstein’s premise: It is a myth that wars are increasing and becoming more brutal, when the fact is that the decade since 9/11 has been the most peaceful worldwide in the past century. No national armies are fighting each other in the world today.

Winning the War on War argues that despite the headlines, armed conflict is decreasing. Fewer wars are starting, more are ending, and those that remain are smaller and more localized than in past years. The book includes stories of people achieving peace in the world’s wars as well as observations such as:

- Wars worldwide in the past decade killed half the annual total of the 1990s, a third of the Cold War, and a hundredth of World War II.
- Nuclear weapons are down by three-quarters from Cold War levels.
- No national armies are still fighting each other; all today’s wars are civil wars.

Goldstein reasons that recognizing which strategies have worked to reduce conflict in the recent past can help us know which ones to employ and support in the future.

Goldstein is a professor at the School of International Service at American University, winner of the International Studies Association “Book of the Decade” award, among others, and a research scholar at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. His website is <http://joshuagoldstein.com>. The website for the book is <http://winningthewaronwar.com>.

The Olympia Timberland Library is at 313 8th Avenue SE, Olympia. For more information, please call the library at (360) 352-0595 or go to [www.TRL.org](http://www.TRL.org).

