SCHOOL OF PEACE AND CONFLICT STUDIES

College of Arts and Sciences
School of Peace and Conflict Studies
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Undergraduate Programs

• Peace and Conflict Studies - B.A.

Minors

• Environment, Peace and Justice
• Peace and Conflict Studies

Graduate Programs

• Peace and Conflict Studies - M.A.

School of Peace and Conflict Studies Faculty

• Arai, Tatsushi (2019), Associate Professor, Ph.D., George Mason University, 2005
• Bleak, Jacquelyn K. (2014), Associate Lecturer, M.S., George Mason University, 2012
• Cooper, Neil (2019), Professor
• Cunningham, Karen D. (1990), Professor, J.D., Washington and Lee University, 1986
• Hancock, Landon E. (2006), Professor, Ph.D., George Mason University, 2003
• Hsiao, Elaine C. (2021), Assistant Professor
• Koopman, Sara (2017), Associate Professor, Ph.D., University of British Columbia, 2012
• Merryman, Molly B. (1996), Associate Professor, Ph.D., Bowling Green State University, 2007
• Nickels, Ashley E. (2016), Associate Professor, Ph.D., Rutgers University, 2016
• Solomon, Johanna A. (2017), Assistant Professor, Ph.D., University of California, Irvine, 2015

Peace and Conflict Studies (PACS)

PACS 11001 INTRODUCTION TO CONFLICT MANAGEMENT (DIVD) (KSS) 3 Credit Hours
Introduces key elements of conflict management theory and peacebuilding practice such as conflict styles, active listening, assertion, collaborative problem solving, principled negotiation, mediation and nonviolent conflict intervention. These are essential “life skills” useful in personal, social and professional contexts. Includes conflict communication skills development and practice.
Prerequisite: None.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Attributes: Diversity Domestic, Kent Core Social Sciences, Transfer Module Social Sciences

PACS 30000 MAY 4 1970 AND ITS AFTERMATH 3 Credit Hours
(Cross-listed with POL 30000) Study of the events of the 1960s in the US leading up to May 4, 1970 when the Ohio National Guard killed and wounded KSU students protesting the US war in Vietnam and Cambodia. Topics are considered within their cultural, historical, social and political contexts. Also examines the aftermath of May 4th, including the controversy over constructing the Gym Annex on the May 4th site, the legal trials, the role of commemorations and memorials and the politics of remembering May 4, 1970.
Prerequisite: None.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Attributes: Diversity Domestic, Kent Core Social Sciences, Transfer Module Social Sciences

PACS 31002 GENDER, POWER AND CONFLICT 3 Credit Hours
Examines gender roles and power imbalances in interpersonal relationships, group settings, and on the structural level and the various manifestations of violence that may result, considering some of the ways in which these imbalances are developed, maintained and constructively addressed and potentially redressed.
Prerequisite: None.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PACS 31003 NONVIOLENCE: THEORY AND PRACTICE 3 Credit Hours
Social conflicts can be intensified and waged in a constructive manner through nonviolent action. Examines how nonviolent action methods bring about social and political change. Explores the theory and philosophy underlying strategies of nonviolent action. Utilizes a wide variety of historical and contemporary case examples of nonviolent struggles from across the globe.
Prerequisite: None.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PACS 31010 CONFLICT THEORY 3 Credit Hours
Explores the theoretical foundations of conflict and conflict management to provide a greater understanding of the nature, sources and dynamics of various types of conflict, the special challenges faced in addressing those conflicts, and the theory underlying various approaches to conflict management and resolution.
Prerequisite: PACS 11001.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
PACS 32020  STRATEGIC PLANNING  3 Credit Hours
Provides training in the principles and tactics of strategic planning for individuals, organizations, agencies and institutions. Students learn to apply the principles of conflict management to strategic planning, including assessing the current environment, developing goals and objectives and establishing a timeline for acting on a strategic plan.
Prerequisite: None.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PACS 32030  INTERNATIONAL CONFLICT RESOLUTION (DIVG)  3 Credit Hours
Examines causes, expressions and consequences of international conflicts, exploring mechanisms of their prevention, management and resolution. Includes the appearance and development of these conflicts and early warning, negotiation, and peacekeeping and peacebuilding. Covers international and civil wars and topics such as international terrorism.
Prerequisite: None.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Attributes: Diversity Global

PACS 32040  CROSS-CULTURAL CONFLICT MANAGEMENT (DIVG)  3 Credit Hours
Examines cultural components of conflicts in diverse, multi-cultural settings with special emphases on the nature and sources of cross-cultural conflicts, conflict escalation and de-escalation, and the roles of power disparities. Students examine their own cultural assumptions in order to better understand the multiple effects that cultural dynamics have in conflicts. Case analyses will include conflict resolution techniques respectful of the cultural values of the parties in conflict.
Prerequisite: None.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Attributes: Diversity Global

PACS 33030  CONFLICT IN THE WORKPLACE  3 Credit Hours
Explores the causes, impact and dynamics of conflict in the workplace. Issues explored include personality conflict, incivility, ethics, teams, management style, diversity, legal issues, alternative dispute resolution, union environments and workplace violence.
Prerequisite: None.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PACS 34010  CAREER PATHWAYS IN PEACE AND CONFLICT STUDIES  3 Credit Hours
So what does one do with a major or minor in peace and conflict studies? How does one find a job or internship in the field? This course encourages students to explore and critically examine how the skills and knowledge learned in Peace and Conflict Studies courses can be utilized and applied in real-world settings. Students will interact with alumni and professionals working in a variety of careers that utilize conflict management and related skills. They will learn how to do professional networking, create a career plan, develop job search strategies, and learn how to market their skills and knowledge. Students will complete the course with a career plan, a detailed identification and exploration of options, or another career-related project.
Prerequisite: None.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PACS 35050  ENVIRONMENTAL CONFLICT RESOLUTION  3 Credit Hours
Examines causes, expressions and consequences of international conflicts, such as land use disputes and resource conflicts, and conflict resolution theory and processes applicable to environmental disputes, especially biodiversity conservation and natural resource conflicts. Students learn about environmental conflict analysis, multistakeholder environmental dispute resolution, dialogue processes, conflict-sensitivity, and environmental cooperation among others. Case studies of environmental conflicts and participatory simulations are used.
Prerequisite: None.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PACS 35092  INTERNSHIP IN PEACE AND CONFLICT STUDIES (ELR)  1-9 Credit Hours
(Repeatable for credit) Students work as interns with an organization, group, or business, utilizing and enhancing their skills in conflict management and applied peace studies. Three hours of internship is required for the Applied Peace and Conflict Studies major and is an elective for the Applied Peace and Conflict Studies minor.
Prerequisite: Completion of two upper-division PACS courses; and junior standing and; special approval.
Schedule Type: Practical Experience
Contact Hours: 3-27 other
Grade Mode: Standard Letter/IP
Attributes: Experiential Learning Requirement

PACS 35095  SPECIAL TOPICS IN PEACE AND CONFLICT STUDIES  3 Credit Hours
(Repeatable for credit) Designed to provide an in-depth examination of topics and issues of interest to faculty and students. Specific topics are announced in the Schedule of Classes and on the School of Peace and Conflict Studies web site.
Prerequisite: None.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
PACS 36096  INDIVIDUAL INVESTIGATION IN PEACE AND CONFLICT STUDIES  3 Credit Hours
(Repeatable for credit) Individualized program of study and literature review in area of particular interest to the student.
Prerequisite: Two upper-division PACS courses; and junior standing; and special approval.
Schedule Type: Individual Investigation
Contact Hours: 3 other
Grade Mode: Standard Letter-IP

PACS 40089  INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE: PEACE AND CONFLICT STUDIES (DIVG) (ELR)  1-4 Credit Hours
(Repeatable for credit) (Slashed with PACS 50089) A Kent State faculty-led study abroad experience in peace and conflict studies that provides students with learning through experiential activities and site visits outside the United States.
Prerequisite: None.
Schedule Type: International Experience
Contact Hours: 1-4 other
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Attributes: Diversity Global, Experiential Learning Requirement

PACS 40090  STUDY AWAY: PEACE AND CONFLICT STUDIES (ELR)  1-4 Credit Hours
(Repeatable for credit) (Slashed with PACS 50090) A Kent State faculty-led study away experience in peace and conflict studies that provides students with learning experiences within the United States outside of Kent State University.
Prerequisite: None.
Schedule Type: Study Away
Contact Hours: 1-4 other
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Attributes: Experiential Learning Requirement

PACS 41010  RECONCILIATION VERSUS REVENGE: TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE (DIVG) (WIC)  3 Credit Hours
"Transitional justice" refers to civil and political processes used to move from violence and tyranny to peace and democracy. War crimes tribunals, truth and reconciliation commissions, apologies, forgiveness, reparations and memorials are examined.
Prerequisite: One Peace and Conflict Studies (PACS) upper-division (30000 or 40000 level) course; and junior standing.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Attributes: Diversity Global, Writing Intensive Course

PACS 44040  NEGOTIATION  3 Credit Hours
(Slashed with PACS 54040) Effective negotiation skills are essential for success in both our professional and personal lives. This course explores in an engaging and interactive way negotiation theories, strategies and techniques. Students will enhance their negotiation skills by learning to plan for an effective negotiation, to elicit information effectively, to build relationships, to improve their communication and persuasive abilities and to deal with a variety of situations and circumstances. There will be several opportunities to practice negotiation skills in class, to experiment with different approaches, and to develop the skills and confidence to be able to negotiate effectively and constructively.
Prerequisite: None.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PACS 45060  ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE  3 Credit Hours
(Slashed with PACS 55060) This course traces the linking of environment and social justice movements, initially in the U.S. and then internationally, to cover a range of issues that now fall under the banner of environmental justice. It includes theories of justice and environmental protection; issues and critiques of social injustices in environmental movements, including NIMBY ("not in my backyard"); climate justice and mainstream conservation; and case studies demonstrating the need and means to promote just conservation and sustainable development in a politically and economically divided world. Students learn collaborative, non-violent, decolonial approaches to environmental justice action, dialogues and policymaking.
Prerequisite: None.
Schedule Type: Workshop
Contact Hours: 1-6 other
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory

PACS 45091  VARIABLE TOPIC WORKSHOP IN PEACE AND CONFLICT STUDIES  1-6 Credit Hours
(Repeatable for credit) Variable topic offered as need arises. Specific topics will be announced in the Schedule of Classes and on the School of Peace and Conflict Studies website.
Prerequisite: Special approval.
Schedule Type: Workshop
Contact Hours: 1-6 other
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PACS 48080  MEDIATION: THEORY AND TRAINING  3 Credit Hours
(Slashed with PACS 58080) Provides training in mediation skills, principles and methods in an interactive way. Students examine the historical development of mediation and the uses of mediation in various contexts including family, business, labor-management, civic, community, and workplace disputes.
Prerequisite: PACS 11001.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PACS 49091  VARIABLE CONTENT SEMINAR IN PEACE AND CONFLICT STUDIES  1-3 Credit Hours
(Slashed with PACS 59091) (Repeatable for maximum of 3 credit hours) Seminar devoted to detailed study of various topics in the field of peace and conflict studies. Specific topics are announced in schedule of classes and on the School of Peace and Conflict Studies website.
Prerequisite: Junior standing.
Schedule Type: Seminar
Contact Hours: 1-3 other
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
PACS 50089  INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE: PEACE AND CONFLICT STUDIES  1-4 Credit Hours
(Repeatable for credit) (Slashed with PACS 40089) A Kent State faculty-led study abroad experience in peace and conflict studies that provides students with learning through experiential activities and site visits outside the United States.
Prerequisite: Graduate standing.
Schedule Type: International Experience
Contact Hours: 1-4 other
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PACS 50090  STUDY AWAY: PEACE AND CONFLICT STUDIES  1-4 Credit Hours
(Repeatable for credit) (Slashed with PACS 40090) A Kent State faculty-led study away experience in peace and conflict studies that provides students with learning experiences within the United States outside of Kent State University.
Prerequisite: Graduate standing.
Schedule Type: Study Away
Contact Hours: 1-4 other
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PACS 54040  NEGOTIATION  3 Credit Hours
(Slashed with PACS 44040) Effective negotiation skills are essential for success in both our professional and personal lives. This course explores in an engaging and interactive way negotiation theories, strategies and techniques. Students will enhance their negotiation skills by learning to plan for an effective negotiation, to elicit information effectively, to build relationships, to improve their communication and persuasive abilities and to deal with a variety of situations and circumstances. There will be several opportunities to practice negotiation skills in class, to experiment with different approaches, and to develop the skills and confidence to be able to negotiate effectively and constructively.
Prerequisite: Graduate standing.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PACS 55060  ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE  3 Credit Hours
(Slashed with PACS 45060) This course traces the linkage of environment and social justice movements, initially in the U.S. and then internationally, to cover a range of issues that now fall under the banner of environmental justice. It includes theories of justice and environmental protection; issues and critiques of social injustices in environmental movements, including NIMBY (“not in my backyard”), climate justice and mainstream conservation; and case studies demonstrating the need and means to promote just conservation and sustainable development in a politically and economically divided world. Students learn collaborative, non-violent, decolonial approaches to environmental justice action, dialogues and policymaking.
Prerequisite: Graduate standing.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PACS 58080  MEDIATION: THEORY AND TRAINING  3 Credit Hours
(Slashed with PACS 48080) Provides training in mediation skills, principles and methods through cooperative, participatory, interactive, skills-building pedagogies. Students examine the historical development of mediation and the uses of mediation in various contexts including family, business, labor-management, civil, community, and workplace disputes.
Prerequisite: Graduate Standing.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PACS 59091  VARIABLE CONTENT SEMINAR IN PEACE AND CONFLICT STUDIES  1-3 Credit Hours
(Slashed with PACS 49091) (Repeatable for maximum of 3 credit hours) Seminar devoted to detailed study of various topics in the field of peace and conflict studies. Specific topics are announced in schedule of classes and on the School of Peace and Conflict Studies website.
Prerequisite: Graduate standing.
Schedule Type: Seminar
Contact Hours: 1-3 other
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PACS 60000  FOUNDATIONS OF CONFLICT ANALYSIS AND MANAGEMENT  3 Credit Hours
(Cross-listed with POL 60901) (Slashed with POL 70901) Covers the historical development of the conflict analysis and management field; conflict theories; the dynamics by which conflicts escalate, stalemate and de-escalate; and theories of conflict intervention, resolution and transformation.
Prerequisite: Graduate standing.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PACS 60001  ADVANCED NEGOTIATION  3 Credit Hours
Conflict and negotiation are normal and unavoidable parts of life. This course goes beyond basic negation concepts like principled negotiation, focusing on topics including the psychology of negotiation, power, international relations, technology and other advanced topics. We cover issues of information asymmetry; power; ethics; and multi-party, iterative and collaborative negotiations. We use research in negotiation and research on prior case studies to illustrate topics. This course is highly interactive, focusing on experiential learning and education. Evaluation of performance includes experiential exams, reflection papers and written understanding and analysis of real-world negotiations. Simulations and games are used in class frequently to illustrate concepts.
Prerequisite: Graduate standing.
Schedule Type: Seminar
Contact Hours: 3 other
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
PACS 60002  ADVANCED MEDIATION  3 Credit Hours
This course provides students with a conceptual understanding of mediation as well as practical mediation skills. It enables them to work as intermediaries who can assist conflict parties to reflect on the sources and dynamics of their conflict; develop mutually acceptable solutions and foster constructive, sustainable relationships. The course starts with essential concepts and skills for mediating small-scale interpersonal conflicts. It then addresses more complex inter-group, multiparty conflicts as well as deep-rooted structural conflicts. Through class discussions on readings and simulation exercises, students tackle questions such as how to work on conflicts in which there are many competing issues, goals and priorities involved; how to mediate enduring, intractable conflicts over identity, value and social structure; and how to respond to serious ethical dilemmas and power asymmetry. To meet these challenges, students not only critique the popularized framework of interest-based principled negotiation/mediation, but also develop holistic, creative third-party contributions to systemic social change.
Prerequisite: PACS 60000; and PACS 60001; and graduate standing.
Schedule Type: Seminar
Contact Hours: 3 other
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PACS 60003  COMMUNITY-BASED CONFLICT TRANSFORMATION  3 Credit Hours
This course is designed to expand your knowledge of and practice competency in group and community level dynamics and peacebuilding techniques, giving you the skills and knowledge to turn divisive situations into strengthened and connected communities. The course begins by introducing theories of group processes, engagement and peace building. It then focuses on using case studies and experiential learning to master the skills and understand the applications of group and community peace building techniques. Case studies range across the areas of education, democracy, leadership, restorative justice, community conflict resolution and institutional change. Examples of topics include: theories of group process, engagement, participation, efficacy, dynamics and contact; community conflict resolution process such as inter-group dialogue and race dialogue; institutional change and strategic planning including evaluation and intervention for institutions, facilitation, stakeholder identification, planning, best practices and consensus decision making, ground rules, fishbowls and debriefs; and democracy and restorative justice practices including deliberative democracy, circle process and alternatives to violence project (AVP). The final course project involves students in applying these skills in partnership with a local community organization, group or neighborhood to address a community need or conflict. This class is taught in a flipped format.
Prerequisite: Graduate standing.
Corequisite: PACS 60000.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PACS 60004  ORGANIZATIONAL CONFLICT AND COOPERATION  3 Credit Hours
This course examines organizational conflict, cooperation and partnership. Whether volunteering with a community-based organization, managing a team in a highly bureaucratized institution, joining a student group or organizing a coalition, navigating organizational dynamics (culture) and building and managing collaborations and partnerships are challenging tasks that require understanding differences, coping with power relations and transforming conflicts. In this class, we explore types of organizational interactions, nature and source of organizational conflict, organizational culture and collaboration, power dynamics, decision making and problem-solving in organizations.
Prerequisite: Graduate standing.
Pre/corequisite: PACS 60000.
Schedule Type: Seminar
Contact Hours: 3 other
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PACS 60005  PEACE, CONFLICT AND DEVELOPMENT: LOCAL-GLOBAL DYNAMICS  3 Credit Hours
This course explores the relationships between peace, conflict and development. It covers key concepts, theories and approaches to understanding and addressing the nexus between peace, conflict and development. Students critically review relevant theoretical and policy literature and apply them to real-world case studies as part of participatory skill-building exercises. The course starts with an overview of essential development theories, models and actors in development practice. It examines relevant scholarly and policy debates on conflict-development links; the political economy of conflict and (uneven) development; relevant security issues (e.g., small arms proliferation, disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR), security sector reform (SSR)); the relationships between natural resources, livelihoods and conflict; the roles of gender and youth in conflict and development; measures of effective development in conflict-affected societies; and development alternatives, as well as emerging critical debates on alternatives to development.
Prerequisite: Graduate standing.
Corequisite: PACS 60000.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
PACS 60006 POST-CONFLICT PEACEBUILDING  3 Credit Hours
Over the course of the past decade, peacebuilding has become the concept du jour of not only the field of conflict resolution and peace studies, but of the larger fields of international relations, development studies, transitional justice and a host of other subfields and portions of area studies. This is partly due to the fact that peacebuilding has become somewhat of a monster, enveloping and consuming different approaches to conflict resolution, international relations and development studies; to the point that almost any activity addressing those involved or suffering from conflicts can be included under its umbrella. However, given that the concept was originally coined to help address the tasks necessary to implement peace, this class largely, though not wholly, focuses on post-conflict peacebuilding and how different actors at different levels have roles to play in achieving sustainable peace in communities, regions and within states. We examine the concepts that make up peacebuilding, the manners in which peacebuilding efforts have been implemented by actors at multiple levels and the problems associated with dominant approaches to the topic.
Prerequisite: PACS 6000; and graduate standing.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PACS 60007 PRAXIS IN CONFLICT-SENSITIVE DEVELOPMENT  3 Credit Hours
This course enables students to build the practical skills necessary to advance socially responsible and sustainable development across conflict-affected societies and regions. A key concept explored throughout the course is conflict sensitivity - a sustained, iterative process of analyzing social conflict as a context of development work; understanding the interactions between the context and the development intervention; and making use of the understanding to maximize positive program impacts and minimize negative impacts. Students apply a range of theories to skill-building exercises in order to learn how to practice conflict-sensitive development. Through these experiential exercises, students think through the entirety of the development program cycle - from needs assessment to proposal development, fundraising, program implementation, capacity building, report writing, monitoring and evaluation and project phase-out. In each of these steps, students examine how to practice cultural sensitivity, stakeholder inclusion, local ownership and sustainability in a context-specific, adaptive manner. Case studies highlight essential themes selected from the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), a United Nations-sponsored list of 17 development goals such as poverty alleviation, food security, health, education, gender equity and climate change action. The course also opens dialogue on how to go beyond the conventional framework of conflict-sensitivity to realize conflict-transformative development.
Prerequisite: PACS 6000; and graduate standing.
Pre/corequisite: PACS 60005.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PACS 60009 LEADERSHIP FOR PEACEFUL CHANGE  3 Credit Hours
This course introduces a series of group discussions and experiential learning exercises designed to enable students to critically reflect on the lessons from their preceding coursework, gain additional practitioner skills and prepare for a career in the field. The experiential learning exercises include a multi-stakeholder simulation in which student teams make use of their skills to examine and address the complexity of real-world challenges. The themes explored throughout the seminar are: (1) collaborative, inclusive and ethical leadership capable of empowering people and groups to realize peaceful social change, (2) crisis management of unexpected events and security challenges, (3) integrative thinking to draw upon diverse theories, methods and skills, (4) the ability to develop theory-informed practices and advance theories derived from practical experiences to demonstrate adaptive leadership, and (5) illustrative examples of, perspectives on and planning for career development, life-work balance and self-care, all of which are essential for building successful careers in the field.
Prerequisite: PACS 6000; and graduate standing.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PACS 60020 IDENTITY DRIVEN CONFLICTS  3 Credit Hours
(Cross-listed with POL 60903)(Slashed with POL 70903) Explores the roles played by ethnicity, race, religion, culture and other elements of identity in the generation, resolution and conduct of conflicts within and between groups. Physical and symbolic markers of difference are examined in order to understand both why groups differentiate themselves from one another and how mechanisms such as skin color, religious affiliation, ethnic background or cultural traditions can provide the impetus for conflict or the grounds for resolution.
Prerequisite: Graduate standing.
Pre/corequisite: PACS 60000.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PACS 60021 POWER, CONFLICT AND THE POLITICS OF GENDER  3 Credit Hours
(Cross-listed with POL 60902)(Slashed with POL 70902) Examines power disparities and gender as sources of conflict in multiple arenas—including family, community, workplace and the political sphere. The intersections of gender and power in the generation and resolution of social conflicts are examined. Emphases is placed on empowerment strategies and tactics used to transform gendered conflicts and redress power imbalances.
Prerequisite: Graduate standing.
Pre/corequisite: PACS 60000.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
PACS 60022  SOCIAL MOVEMENTS AND NONVIOLENT CONFLICTS  3 Credit Hours
(Cross-listed with POL 60904)(Slashed with POL 70904) The waging and escalating of conflicts by social movements through nonviolent actions frequently shifts conflicts from one stage to another while also contributing to conflict transformation and to substantive social and political changes. Course focuses on social movement theories and practices, and on the complicated dynamics of nonviolent action campaigns waged by social movements.
Prerequisite: Graduate standing.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PACS 60023  PEACE PSYCHOLOGY  3 Credit Hours
This course provides students with an introduction to the concepts of peace psychology and how these concepts relate to wider themes in the peace and conflict studies field, including positive and negative peace, conflict resolution and reconciliation. During the course, students investigate the micro-level psychological foundations for peace and conflict (e.g., power and emotions) and group and national level dynamics. In each class, a variety of psychological approaches, from neuroscience to political psychology, are discussed. This course is highly interactive, focusing on experiential learning and education. This means students should be prepared to participate in discussions, simulations and presentations. Collaborative work and case studies help students develop their ability to apply and assess peace psychology theories. Students also have opportunities to personalize the course content and assignments to support their learning and research interests.
Prerequisite: Graduate standing.
Schedule Type: Seminar
Contact Hours: 3 other
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PACS 60024  VISUAL METHODS FOR PEACE AND CHANGE  3 Credit Hours
Visual methods are critically important in making and understanding democratic peaceful change. This course explores three intersecting bodies of knowledge: methods and practices in visual studies, global approaches to film as a means of social change, and theories and approaches to peace and conflict studies. A focus is on interdisciplinary scholarly methods for understanding visual materials.
Prerequisite: Graduate standing.
Schedule Type: Seminar
Contact Hours: 3 other
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PACS 60040  FACILITATION AND TRAINING: DESIGN AND PRACTICE  3 Credit Hours
This course is designed to teach fundamental practices of peace building in group settings. This includes learning how to facilitate meetings; set agendas; de-escalate and facilitate group level conversations; run trainings in conflict management and build other practical, hands-on skills. All skills in this course are transferrable across a variety of careers and situations. This course incorporates experiential learning both inside and outside the classroom, with students taking the lead in facilitating class discussions and joining in community projects.
Prerequisite: Graduate standing.
Schedule Type: Seminar
Contact Hours: 3 other
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PACS 60041  PEACE EDUCATION  3 Credit Hours
This class explores the interdisciplinary concepts, theories and practices that provide a global overview of peace education. The course offers an overview of the history, scholarship and practices of peace education, addressing a variety of international structures, organizations and individuals engaged in its practice. A range of concerns are investigated, including war; genocide; climate change; economic disparities and the marginalization of minorities based upon race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, religious affiliation, culture and other categories of difference. Theories of positive peace, conflict resolution, restorative justice, liberation pedagogy and experiential education are also introduced.
Prerequisite: Graduate standing.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PACS 60042  PUBLIC SECTOR CONFLICT TRANSFORMATION  3 Credit Hours
This course examines the many ways that conflict and decision-making are made in the public sector. Some methods of public interaction and decision-making are familiar and well-studied. Others are less so, despite their increasing use in a variety of policy domains and other circumstances. Such is the case with conflict resolution, which is now broadly used across the United States and internationally on multiple levels and by multiple groups with differing aims. This course explores the varied applications in public policy of conflict resolution principles, including negotiated rule making, public sector dispute resolution, mediation, collaborative problem solving, democratic governance, community-based planning and consensus building.
Prerequisite: Graduate standing.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PACS 60070  CONFLICT TRANSFORMATION AND RECONCILIATION  3 Credit Hours
(Cross-listed with POL 60507)(Slashed with POL 70507) Over the past 30 years, many states and societies have negotiated complicated transitions from authoritarianism, widespread human rights violations and intractable civil conflict towards various degrees of justice, truth-telling, reconciliation and democracy. Some have done it well and some have not; policy certainly matters in this politically potent arena. For example, political memory and accountability may be swept under the public rug—doing so may, or may not, trip up an experiment in democracy. Alternatively, truth-telling and justice may, or may not, be a springboard for reconciliation, healing and citizen empowerment. In this course, we focus on the policies and mechanisms used to constructively confront impunity and come to terms with past horrors. We analyze various international institutions like war crimes tribunals and truth commissions and various local mechanisms like Rwanda’s Gacaca courts. We also study the differing roles of reparations paid to victims for past injustices, amnesties granted to former government officials, immunity being traded for truth-telling about the past and the impacts of commemoration and memorialization.
Prerequisite: Graduate standing.
Pre/corequisite: PACS 60000.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
PACS 60071  SOCIETY TECHNOLOGY AND SECURITY  3 Credit Hours
This course engages with current debates on the relationship between society, technology, peace and security, focusing particularly on military and dual-use technologies. The course begins by analyzing the literature on how technology shapes societies and how societies shape technology. This includes consideration of the way societies influence the emergence and application of particular technologies and the way understandings of military technological categories (e.g., pariah weapons, precision weapons) have been socially constructed. The module then examines how states and societies have responded to the policy and governance challenges presented by the development and trade in established weapons categories. This includes analysis of the history of disarmament initiatives, movements and agreements as well as the new field of ‘humanitarian disarmament’. It also includes examination of recent initiatives aimed at limiting weapons proliferation and armed violence in conflict-ridden societies. The remainder of the course is devoted to exploring the legal, normative and policy debates over the use of modern and emerging technologies. This includes examination of the governance implications of new developments in fields such as biotechnology, nanotechnology, cyber-warfare and drones.
Prerequisite: Graduate standing.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PACS 60072  ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE AND CONFLICT  3 Credit Hours
This course examines the varied theoretical and policy challenges involved in addressing the intersection between changes in the environment; the governance and sustainability of natural resources and ecosystems; and the prevention, management and resolution of conflict. It traces the history and development of environmental security and environmental peacebuilding, building a solid foundation in key theories, terminology and concepts, such as the relationship between natural resources and conflict (including scarcity vs. abundance, access and governance); the redefinition of security and securitization of the environment; slow- vs. sudden-onset climate change and displacement; and environmental cooperation in peacekeeping, peacemaking, peacebuilding and contemporary conflict resolution. Students have a working knowledge of important international laws and policies governing the protection of the environment in relation to armed conflict and engage in critical discussions at the intersection of conflict issues and trends in environmental change, such as green militarization and small arms proliferation, environmental crimes and surveillance, fortress conservation and conservation conflicts, the role of gender and youth, human rights and environmental defenders, climate justice and conflict-sensitive climate adaptation. Students apply the knowledge and skills developed in the course to the development of environmental security assessments, peace and conflict impact assessments and foresight analyses.
Prerequisite: Graduate standing.
Schedule Type: Lecture
Contact Hours: 3 lecture
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PACS 60099  INTERVENTION DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION IN PEACE AND CONFLICT STUDIES  6 Credit Hours
This course provides students with an experiential opportunity to integrate theoretical and classroom work with conflict analysis and intervention work in a variety of real-world projects. Each session provides students the opportunity to work on a project where they will engage in intervention design, planning and research and practice implementation activities under faculty guidance.
Prerequisite: PACS 60000 and PACS 60001; and graduate standing; and special approval.
Corequisite: PACS 60009.
Schedule Type: Project or Capstone
Contact Hours: 6 other
Grade Mode: Standard Letter

PACS 60192  INTERNSHIP IN PEACE AND CONFLICT STUDIES  3-6 Credit Hours
(Repeatable for credit) Students work as interns with an organization, group or business, utilizing and enhancing their skills in applied peace studies. The student also typically provides a journal of the experience, as well as a written analysis comparing the practice of the internship to an example of recent scholarship in the field.
Prerequisite: PACS 60000 and PACS 60001; and graduate standing; and special approval.
Corequisite: PACS 60009.
Schedule Type: Practical Experience
Contact Hours: 9-18 other
Grade Mode: Standard Letter-IP

PACS 60199  THESIS I  2-6 Credit Hours
(Repeatable for credit) Thesis students must register for a total of 6 credit hours, 2 to 6 in a single semester, distributed over several semesters if desired.
Prerequisite: Graduate standing.
Pre/corequisite: PACS 60001 and POL 60010.
Schedule Type: Masters Thesis
Contact Hours: 6-18 other
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory-IP

PACS 60299  THESIS II  2 Credit Hours
(Repeatable for credit) Thesis II students must continue registration each semester until all degree requirements are met.
Prerequisite: PACS 60199; and graduate standing.
Schedule Type: Masters Thesis
Contact Hours: 6 other
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory-IP