

PEACE STUDIES MINOR

Faculty

Coordinator: Tansa G. Massoud

There are more than 160 higher learning institutions offering Peace Studies programs in the United States and more than 500 colleges around the world. The United States government gave official recognition to the field of Peace Studies in 1984, when it established the U.S. Institute of Peace. In 1987, the Peace Studies Association, a professional academic body, was established. In addition, the field is represented by the Consortium on Peace Research, Education, and Development (COPRED). There are at least six scholarly journals devoted to Peace Studies.

Peace Studies is an interdisciplinary field of study housed primarily in the social sciences. Other labels for Peace Studies include “peace and conflict studies,” “peace and justice studies,” and “conflict analysis and resolution.” Peace Studies explores the causes and nature of human conflict from the interpersonal to the global level. Historically, Peace Studies programs concentrated on “negative peace” or absence of war. Today, more attention is devoted to the concept of “positive peace” promoting social, political, and economic justice. A partial list of topics under Peace Studies includes: violence, war, ethnic conflict, conflict management, conflict resolution, peacemaking, law, human rights, values, justice, environment, racism, sexism, and nonviolence. Normatively, the goal of Peace Studies is to promote a more just and peaceful world.

The Peace Studies minor selects courses related to this topic from a variety of departments and programs, including: anthropology, biology, East Asian Studies, economics, English, environmental studies, geography, history, international relations, philosophy, political science, psychology, religion, sociology, and women’s & gender studies.

The Peace Studies minor allows students to group a number of courses to advance their interest in conflict, violence, justice, and peace. A Peace Studies concentration will enrich students’ understanding of their respective majors and prove useful to careers or graduate studies in a variety of fields, including: journalism, education, media, politics, public policy, law, business, domestic and international organizations, and international relations.

The Peace Studies minor will consist of five courses: one core course and four electives. No more than two courses can be taken in the same department/program.

Select one of the following core courses: ¹

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IREL 255	International Law
PHIL 233	The Philosophy of Peace and Nonviolence
POLS 280	War
POLS 281	Peace Studies: Conflict Resolution
SOCI 251	Violence and Society

Select four of the following electives: ¹

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ANBE 266	Animal Behavior
ANTH 235	Modern Africa
BIOL 266	Animal Behavior
EAST 226	East Asian Politics
EAST 234	China Since 1800
EAST 248	International Relations in East Asia
EAST 255	Modern Japanese History
EAST 269	Chinese Politics
EAST 382	U.S.-China Relations
ECON 204	Intermediate Political Economy
ECON 235	African Economic Development
ECON 236	Gender, Race and Poverty
ENLS 221	Introduction to African American Literature
ENLS 228	Gender and Sexuality in America
ENST 205	Green Utopias
ENST 255	Environmental Injustice
GEOG 113	Human Impact on Environment
GEOG 209	Economic Geography
GEOG 210	Urban Condition
GEOG 211	Political Geography
GEOG 236	Third World Development

HIST 220	American Civil War and Reconstruction
HIST 223	Twentieth-century African-American History
HIST 239	Contemporary Europe, 1890-1995
HIST 290	Europe Imperialism and Colonialism
HIST 292	Making Contemporary Africa: 'Early Modern' to the 'Post-Modern' World - 1400 to the Present
HIST 311	U.S. History since 1865
IREL 225	Chinese Politics
IREL 226	East Asian Politics
IREL 283	East Asian International Relations
LAMS 150	Latin America: An Introduction
LAMS 297	Colonial Latin America
PHIL 228	Contemporary Ethical Theory
PHIL 229	Philosophy and Race
PHIL 276	Philosophy of Revolution
POLS 120	Comparative Politics
POLS 170	International Politics
POLS 211	Third World Politics
POLS 219	Latin American Politics
POLS 224	Government and Politics of the Middle East
POLS 225	Chinese Politics
POLS 226	East Asian Politics
POLS 238	Women and Politics
POLS 259	Philosophy of Race
POLS 271	American Foreign Policy
POLS 272	U.S. National Security Policy
POLS 275	Global Governance
POLS 283	East Asian International Relations
POLS 285	The International Relations of Latin America in the 21st Century
POLS 287	U.S. Foreign Policy and the Middle East
POLS 289	The Arab-Israeli Conflict
POLS 382	U.S.-China Relations
PSYC 209	Social Psychology
PSYC 233	Black Psychology
PSYC 266	Animal Behavior
PSYC 306	Trauma Psychology
RELI 200	Buddhism
RELI 201	Islam
RELI 202	Hinduism
RELI 207	Holocaust: Event and Reception
RELI 226	Environmental Ethics
RELI 234	Issues of Religion and Culture
RELI 280	Religion and Constitutional Law
RELI 281	Religion and American Politics
SOCI 213	Race in Historical and Comparative Perspectives
SOCI 234	Criminology
SOCI 243	Sociology of Race and Ethnicity
SOCI 309	How Holocausts Happen
WMST 150	Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies
WMST 238	Women and Politics

¹ Students may propose to include another relevant course to count for the core or elective by consulting with and obtaining approval from the coordinator of the minor. Students also may manage to have an internship or field work related to the minor count for credit.