Peace and Justice Major (PJU) 1/2010

Mission

The purpose of the Peace and Justice Major is to prepare students for entry level positions in peace and social justice related governmental and non-governmental organizations. In addition, the major provides a foundation for students desiring graduate education in international relations, conflict resolution, and peace and justice studies.

The interdisciplinary course of study, grounded in the social sciences, explores root causes of violence, emphasizes nonviolent solutions to conflict and injustice, evaluates strategies for building communities at peace with justice, and explores reconciliation post conflict. The curriculum addresses peace and justice from the individual, group, and international levels and prepares graduates with conflict resolution and social organizing skills to be constructive agents of social change.

Required Core Courses – 60 credits

- 4 hrs. SOC 279b Nonviolent Social Change
- 4 hrs. PJU379c Interpersonal Negotiation & Mediation
- 4 hrs. SOC/SWK379b Global Ethnic Relations
- 4 hrs. SOC/POL/CRJ379c Causes Collective Violence: Terrorism, Genocide, War
- 4 hrs. PJU/POL379B Peace & Justice (Catholic Social Teaching)
- 4 hrs. SOC352 Research Methods
- 4 hrs. POL 360 International Politics
- 4 hrs. POL 379a War and Peace: International Law & Organization
- 4 hrs. PJU479 International Conflict Management: Diplomacy, Democratization, Development* or POL479
- 4 hrs. PJU497 Internship in Peace & Justice

Choose at least one of the following courses:

- 2-4 hrs. SOC 379a Poverty & Development Seminar: Onsite Guatemala
- 4 hrs. POL 279a Environmental Values & Policymaking

Required Correlatives*

- 4 hrs. SOC101 Intro to Sociology
- 4 hrs. POL101 Great Issues of Politics
- 4 hrs. MTH140 Intro to Statistics

Choose one of the following

- 4 hrs. THL201 Prophets of Israel
- 4 hrs. PHL 379a Principles of Justice
- 4 hrs. PHL 242 Applied Ethics
- 4 hrs. THL 203 The Gospels
- 4 hrs. THL235 Christian Morality

or

- 2 hrs. PHL150 Theories of Ethics
- 2 hrs. PHL242a Applied Ethics

Peace and Justice Minor: 20 credits

POL/PJU 379B Peace & Justice (Catholic Social Teaching) 4cr
PJU 379c Interpersonal Negotiation & Mediation. 4cr
SOC 279b Nonviolent Social Change 4cr
SOC 379c Causes of Collective Violence: Terrorism, Genocide, War 4cr
SOC 379b Global Ethnic Relations OR 4cr
POL 360 International Politics 4cr
Course Descriptions for Core Courses in the Peace & Justice Major

PJU 379 Interpersonal Negotiation and Mediation 4 credits
This course introduces basic and intermediate level skills useful for resolving interpersonal conflicts and reconciling relationships post trauma. Building on an understanding of conflict theory and communication, the course uses skills of active listening, problem-solving, and bargaining in family, work, and community-level conflicts. Emphasis will be placed on training through simulations and role-plays. There will be a review of existing theory and cases of social conflict resolution. Particular attention will be focused on the areas of interest-based negotiation, principled mediation and victim-offender reconciliation.

SOC 379c Causes of Collective Violence: Terrorism, Genocide, War 4 credits
This is an introduction to theories of conflict and war from the inter-group to the international level. Included are causes of terrorism, ethnic conflict and genocide, revolution, and interstate war. This includes an analysis of causes of conflict at four levels: individual, small group, the nation/state, and the international system. The course is interdisciplinary, drawing on theories from biology, psychology, sociology, economics, and political science. Case studies of contemporary conflicts are utilized to explain and test various theoretical perspectives and to examine the consequences of war.

PJU 479 International Conflict Management: Diplomacy, Democratization, Development 4 credits
Focuses on the non-violent management of conflict at the intra-state and international levels using state, regional, non-governmental and international actors. Particular attention is given to current areas of international conflict. The role of individuals, political leaders, economic and political systems, civil society organizations, and international institutions such as the United Nations are explored in relation to prevention of war and peace-building. The course explores conflict management strategies such as preventative diplomacy, arms control and disarmament, economic sanctions, international law, peacekeeping, sustainable economic development, democratization, conflict transformation, and reconciliation post conflict.
*Pre-requisite POL 360 International Relations or 361 International Law & Organization

SOC 279b Nonviolent Social Change credits
The course addresses the philosophical and religious foundations, theory, history, and practice of active nonviolence as a method of social change. The course will include study of some of the great nonviolent leaders such as Mahatma Gandhi, Dorothy Day, Helder Camara, and Martin Luther King Jr. Building on the nonviolent foundation, the course explores strategies for social organizing, designing campaigns for social change, fundraising, coalition building, recruiting, marketing ideas, media relations, and empowering grassroots leadership. The class will explore common elements of successful social change movements throughout history including labor, women’s, human rights, poor people’s, peace, and environmental.

SOC 379 Poverty and Development Seminar 2-4 credits
This is an international learning experience held in a developing or poor nation during the May or summer term. It is an opportunity to develop a first hand experience of poverty and development. The course will examine the causes, consequences, and solutions to third world poverty including: colonialism, economic globalization, unrestrained capitalism, political and economic policies, population growth, climate and geography, and culture. Particular attention will be given to issues of peace and justice in relation to poverty and development. Students will visit with organizations working on sustainable agriculture, health, micro loan programs and small business support, alternative technology, empowerment of women, and education for democracy. Students will travel in both urban and rural areas, meeting with non-profit organizations, and government officials. Spanish useful but not necessary when taught in Guatemala.

SOC/SWK 379: Global Ethnic Relations
The course seeks to empower students to become knowledgeable, caring, and active citizens in a diverse and often ethnically polarized world. The course examines multiple dimensions of global diversity (race, ethnicity, religion) and common responses to differences including prejudice, discrimination, segregation, colonization, genocide and positive alternatives such as assimilation and egalitarian pluralism. We will
examine ethnic relations in the U.S. and around the world through the lens of history. The course concludes with the ethical basis for seeking social justice via anti-discrimination work and strategies for dismantling discrimination and repairing strained ethnic divides at the individual, institutional, and societal levels. Students will have the opportunity to translate knowledge into action for social justice through a bridging cultures project. Prerequisites: Sophomore core seminar (279) or appropriate transfer status.