

Peace and Conflict Studies

Introduction

Peace and conflict studies is an interdisciplinary major that studies the nature of conflict and violence, the possibilities of social change, and the means for resolving and transforming conflict nonviolently. The major draws on Guilford's Quaker heritage by seeking the roots of situations of injustice and oppression, exploring nonviolent social change, emphasizing each individual's search for truth within different levels of community, and focusing on practical problem-solving. Peace and conflict studies melds two related fields of study, conflict resolution and peace studies, in a complimentary, creative interaction. It encourages an interdisciplinary, holistic relationship between personal and social change, structured modes of conflict resolution and creative nonviolent activism, careful analysis of structural violence and exploration of spiritual foundations for peaceable living and action.

According to "Guide to Careers, Internships and Graduate Education in Peace Studies," published by the Five College Program in Peace and World Security Studies (available in the Career Development, Internships, and Service Learning Career Library in the "Internships" section), a "peacemaking career" denotes "those activities and career paths that are directly related to the pursuit of peace, social and economic justice, ecological balance, human rights, and democratic political participation at the local, national, and global levels." While majors may choose to pursue a career that fits this description, they would also be well prepared to follow any career path that is usually associated with a degree in the humanities or social sciences, such as law, management, journalism, government, teaching, research, and nonprofit organizations. Through the selection of their mandatory, second disciplinary major, students can further tailor their studies to their specific career goals.

[Guilford Catalog Information](#)

Related Career Titles for Peace and Conflict Studies Majors

(Due to the interdisciplinary nature of this major, the career options for its graduates are wide and varied. This is by no means a comprehensive list; it is simply a starting place for ideas.)

Attorney	International Relations Specialist
Clergy	Labor Relations Specialist
Consultant	Legislative Advocate
Editor	Paralegal
Intelligence Specialist	Political Campaign Manager
Journalist	Political Representative
Lobbyist	Public Relations Officer
Non-Profit Administrator	Teacher
Professor	Writer
Publisher	Administrative Assistant
Social Worker	Research Assistant
Teacher	Mediator
University Official	Peace Corps Volunteer
Accountant	Legislative Assistant
District Attorney	Legislative Correspondent
Foreign Correspondent	Government Administrator
Foreign Service Officer	Management Trainee

Related Major Skills

- ✧ Understanding of how one ought to live in an increasingly violent world
- ✧ Knowledge of mediation/conflict resolution techniques
- ✧ Oral and written communication
- ✧ Analytical problem solving
- ✧ Ability to relate effectively to people
- ✧ Tolerance of different points of view and lifestyles
- ✧ Flexibility and adaptability
- ✧ Negotiation
- ✧ Appreciation of different cultures
- ✧ Altruistic desire to make change happen
- ✧ Commitment
- ✧ Knowledge of underlying principles of pacifism

Related Web Sites

Job Listings/Job Search

Action Without Borders <http://www.idealists.org/>
USA Jobs.gov <http://www.usajobs.opm.gov/>
PAWSS Careers and Internships Guide (links to job listings) <http://pawss.hampshire.edu/students/careers/>
United Nations Office of Human Resources Management <http://www.un.org/Depts/OHRM/index.html>
MonsterTrak <http://www.monstertrak.com/>

Career Planning and Information

Student Pugwash USA—Career Resources <http://www.spusa.org/publications/>
Career Opportunities in Peace and Conflict Resolution <http://www.sais-jhu.edu/careerservices/Students&Alumni/profiles/Peace.html>
Peace Studies/Conflict Resolution Graduate Schools http://www.gradschools.com/listings/menus/peace_menu.html
Peace Studies Career Opportunities <http://www.brad.ac.uk/acad/peace/undergrad/ugprogramme.htm - careers>

Organizations and Associations

United States Institute of Peace <http://www.usip.org/>
International Peace Research Institute, Oslo <http://www.prio.no/>
American Friends Service Committee <http://www.afsc.org/default.htm>
Training for Change <http://www.trainingforchange.org/>
The International Journal of Humanities and Peace <http://members.tripod.com/~Tetworld/ijhp1.html>
Peace and Conflict Home on the Web <http://csf.colorado.edu/peace/>
Center for International Security and Cooperation at Stanford University <http://cisac.stanford.edu/>
PRAXIS <http://www.ssw.upenn.edu/~restes/praxis.html>
University of Bradford Department of Peace Studies (largest peace studies department in the world)
<http://www.brad.ac.uk/acad/peace/>
Peace Science Society International <http://pss.la.psu.edu/>

Miscellaneous Information

Peace and Conflict Studies Internet Resources <http://www.emu.edu/library/peace.html>
Resources for Peace <http://members.aol.com/rasphila/peace.html>
Nonviolence Web <http://www.nonviolence.org/>
Peace Studies Resources <http://www.academicinfo.net/peace/html>
Peace and Justice Studies Research Resources <http://www.iona.edu/library/resins/peace.htm>