

Master of Arts Peace and Conflict Studies (PACS)

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Chair – University of Manitoba – Dr. Adam Muller, professor; Chair - The University of Winnipeg – Dr. Eliakim M. Sibanda, professor; Associate Chair, Professor: Dr. Sean Byrne; Associate Professors: Dr. J. Senehi, Dr. M. Flaherty.

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This joint Master of Arts in Peace and Conflict Studies - offered by the University of Winnipeg in cooperation with the University of Manitoba - encompasses analysis of social conflicts including the structural roots of social divisions and inequalities, as well as strategies for transforming conflict and promoting social justice. The program uses holistic and interdisciplinary approaches to prepare students to pursue independent research and practice in local, national and global and conflict dynamics and issues. The degree is offered with either a thesis option or a comprehensive examination. Students completing the Joint MA in Peace and Conflict Studies will receive a joint parchment, and may choose to participate in convocation at either of the two universities.

Options in the Program of Study

Thesis Option

A minimum of 18 credit hours of coursework, including:

- a. 12 credit hours in Core courses,
- b. 3 credit hours in research methods,
- c. 3 credit hours in an elective, and
- d. A thesis.

Course and Comprehensive Option

A minimum of 30 credit hours of coursework, including:

- a. 12 credit hours in Core courses,
- b. 3 credit hours in Practicum,
- c. 3 credit hours in research methods,
- d. 12 credit hours in electives, and
- e. A comprehensive examination.

Core Courses

GPCS 7010	Interpersonal Communication, Problem-Solving, and Trust-Building
GPCS 7020	Theories of Conflict and Conflict Resolution
GPCS 7110	International Human Rights and Human Security
GPCS 7120	Peacebuilding and Social Justice

Elective Courses

GPCS 7126	Ethnic Conflict Analysis and Resolution
GPCS 7128	Storytelling: Identity, Power, and Transformation
GPCS 7122	Dispute Systems Design
GPCS 7124	Gender, Conflict and Peacemaking
GPCS 7240	Indigenous Approaches to Peacemaking
GPCS 7250	Restorative and Social Justice
GPCS 7260	Peace Education
GPCS 7300	Special Topics
GPCS 7400	Special Topics: Directed Reading in Peace and Conflict Studies
GPCS 7500	Practicum

Admission requirements

Students must normally possess:

- a. A high academic standing in previous university work with a minimum grade point average of 3.0 or the equivalent based on the last 60 credit hours or two full years or equivalent of university study;
- b. A four-year honours or four-year baccalaureate degree, in:
 - 1) Peace and conflict studies, conflict analysis and resolution, conflict transformation, or peace studies; or
 - 2) A related discipline or profession, such as social work, education, or sociology, among others. In this instance, as part of their program requirements, applicants may be required to take additional courses;
- c. Proficiency in the English language at levels required by the Faculty of Graduate Studies.
- d. **Application Deadline: December 1 for enrollment in September**
http://umanitoba.ca/colleges/st_pauls/mauro_centre/peace_conflict/maprogram/apply.html

Course Descriptions

GPCS-7010(3) Interpersonal Communication, Problem-Solving and Trust-Building Examines role of language and communication where theoretical and practice perspectives are fundamental to the field of conflict analysis and resolution/peace studies. Power, gender, culture in communication and conflict; theories, practical skills for problem-solving, and trust-building are explored in diverse milieus.

GPCS-7020(3) Theories of Conflict and Conflict Resolution Provides an overview of the theoretical foundations of conflict analysis and resolution examining macro and micro theories regarding the causes of conflicts and approaches to their resolution. Conflicts are complex on multiple interlocking planes. The course focuses on theory and the implications of these theories for practice.

GPCS-7110(3) International Human Rights and Human Security Examines the shift in focus from state security to people. Human security is a bridge between the inter-related fields of development, human rights and conflict resolution. The course explores how these efforts at exploring the human condition can best be understood and applied.

GPCS-7120(3) Peace-building and Social Justice Examines the role of peace-building in short term crisis intervention and longer term conflict transformation processes. Social justice is addressed at the systems level as it impacts the achievement of sustainable reconciliation. Crisis management in conflict settings, the root causes of conflict and its prevention are explored.

GPCS-7122(3) Dispute Systems Design Examines the role of conflict resolution within organizations and diverse settings (workplace, schools, communities, multiparty conflicts, international conflicts). The course focuses on analyzing how conflict is built into organizational structures and systems, and redesigning the system to produce effective human centred relations.

GPCS-7124(3) Gender, Conflict and Peacemaking Examines the role of gender in conflict and peacemaking in areas of armed conflict. Women tend to be impacted and respond to conflict in ways different from men. The course explores the theoretical and practical contributions women activists, peace researchers and educators have made toward understanding the role of gender.

GPCS-7126(3) Ethnic Conflict Analysis and Resolution Examines theories of ethnic conflict and the intervention methods used by states, international organizations and conflict resolution and peace practitioners to analyze, manage and resolve ethnic conflicts. Case studies are used to explain conflict analysis and resolution and peace-building.

GPCS-7128(3) Storytelling: Identity, Power and Transformation Examines the role of narrative and storytelling in conflict resolution, theory, research and practice. The relationship between language and power and destructive or constructive relationships is explored. The use of storytelling-based projects as a means of peacebuilding and community building are explored.

GPCS-7240(3) Indigenous Approaches to Peacemaking Examines indigenous models of peace-building from community level to national level. Emphasis is placed on restorative processes fundamental to cohesive relationships with others. This is achieved through ceremony, empathy,

compassion, conflict resolution and restoration part of the peace-building models of Indigenous peoples.

GPCS-7250(3) Restorative and Social Justice Examines the principles of restorative justice, the theoretical foundations of the restorative justice movement, and the development of new restorative justice programs. Restorative justice healing, re-integration and reconciliation are explored in a variety of contexts, including colonized and postcolonial indigenous communities.

GPCS-7260(3) Peace Education Examines the role of peace education as students seek to make sense of complicated and perilous events in their society. The course provides students with a background in the area of social justice, peace studies and conflict resolution.

GPCS-7300(3) Special Topics A theme will be chosen from the interests and availability of faculty. Topics might include: "Terrorism", "Young People Affected by Violence", "Critical & Emancipatory Peacebuilding" among others.

GPCS-7400(3) Special Topics: Directed Readings in Peace and Conflict Studies This course is designed for MA students in Peace and Conflict Studies. Course requirements including readings and assignments will be selected and developed by the Professor in conjunction with the students' interests.

GPCS-7500(3) Practicum Students develop awareness of theoretical knowledge, practice skills and abilities necessary for intervention in community, group and organizational conflicts at a practicum site. Students integrate theory and experiential learning into practice to analyze the conflict, during the intervention, and post intervention reflection.