

What is Peace and Conflict Studies? (PACS)

Peace Studies explores how and why humans use violence to resolve conflicts, and imagines social systems that are more likely to lead to cooperation and peace. In a culture where war is the central metaphor for life, Peace Studies considers the value of nonviolent social change and the role of reconciliation and forgiveness in moving people beyond violence.

Why choose the Baker Institute for Peace and Conflict Studies at Juniata College?

Our department—Juniata is one of approximately 100 colleges and universities in the United States offering an academic program in Peace and Conflict Studies and one of the few select academic institutions where students can take a full major in the field. The Peace and Conflict Studies Program helps students to organize a Liberal Arts education around a specific issue: *"War and Deep Rooted Conflict as Human Problems."* Students have an opportunity to explore the root causes of violence at all levels of human interaction seeking to understand human potential for waging protracted lethal conflict and for creating lasting peace.

The Institute approaches peace not as the opposite of, or even the absence of conflict, but rather as a social process whereby conflict is nurtured and managed so as to be a creative rather than a destructive force in the human community.

Our program has an interdisciplinary focus. In addition to courses taught by the core faculty, members of nine other departments teach courses for us. These departments are: *Anthropology, Business, Communications, History, Physics, Political*

Science, Psychology, Religion and World Languages. Nearly one-third of the faculty at Juniata has participated in the Peace and Conflict Studies Program. The Program is made up of twenty eight courses and is one of a few undergraduate programs with a strong non-departmental emphasis in the area of Conflict Resolution and Mediation.

The opportunities that we provide

- Study abroad opportunities—You could go to any of 39 locations in 19 countries with whom Juniata College has study abroad agreements. Magee College at the University of Ulster in Northern Ireland; The Louvain Institute for Ireland in Europe located in Brussels, Belgium; and Szombathely (som ball ta), Hungary are particularly good for advancing your peace studies. We have an exciting 3:2 program with University of Ulster where you spend two years at Magee College and three years at Juniata and complete both a bachelor's degree and masters in Peace Studies.
- World Affairs Lecture Series—We have hosted many guest speakers in topics of disarmament, human

rights, development, middle-east conflicts, child soldiers, Conscientious Objection, Afghanistan issues, conflict intervention, negotiation, and non-violence. Our speakers come into the classroom as well as giving large, public addresses, allowing for more intimate discussions with these world experts in Peace and Conflict Studies.

- Conference Travel—1. Peace & Justice Studies Association 2. On Earth Peace Assembly 3. United Nations Association of the United States of America New York City.
- Funding—Peace students have funds available to them to assist with research related to their Senior Thesis. In the past, students have done research in New Zealand, The Sudan, Northern Ireland and the Galapagos Islands.
- PAX-O—our student group, open to any student with an interest in PACS, is filled with people like you. In the past two years, they have: Adopted a Landmine, worked to establish the use of shade grown coffee on our campus and co-sponsored a campaign to increase voter activity. They have traveled to Washington, DC to protest US government activities in Iraq and Georgia to protest the School of Americas (formally renamed the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation in 2001). This is just a sampling of the activism of our students. In a time of shrinking budgets, PAX-O's funding from student government has steadily increased.

Juniata College

- We are a liberal arts college with small sized classes. Students are strongly encouraged to speak in class. Your professors will know your name.
- You will meet students from other countries. Currently, we have students from 31 countries including Afghanistan, China, Ecuador, Egypt, England, France, Germany, Ghana, and Iraq (just starting the alphabet)
- You can easily customize your Program of Emphasis to reflect **your** interests. For example, one can combine PACS with environmental sciences, politics, English, psychology, business, religion, sociology, communications, Spanish and so on.

What can you do with a degree in PACS?

Peace Studies students at Juniata have gone on to graduate school in *Law, Counseling, History, Ministry, International Relations, Conflict Resolution and Peace & Conflict Studies*. We even have a dentist. Students who do not go directly on to graduate school have taken a variety of positions in government, business, education, and advocacy organizations. For example, Juniata graduates have served in the following positions: *Director of Iowa Peace Network; Director of Thomas Merton Center; Director of the Campaign Against Media Violence*. Graduates have also worked as congressional aides and in lobby organizations such as *Bread for the World*.