The Peace Studies program is designed to strengthen a student’s ability to explore the multiple meanings of peace, the relationship between peace and conflict, and the role of peace on local and global levels. The program fosters the study of peace in its philosophical and religious dimensions, as an important aspect of international affairs, and as a vital part of social, economic, and environmental justice. Peace Studies focuses on the examination of peace and conflict through the lens of the humanities and the liberal arts. Housed within the Department of Religion (http://religion.columbian.gwu.edu/) in the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences, the Peace Studies program emphasizes the role of world religions in peace building and conflict resolution.

Visit the Peace Studies Program website (https://religion.columbian.gwu.edu/peace-studies-program/) for additional information.

UNDERGRADUATE

Bachelor’s program

- Bachelor of Arts with a major in peace studies (https://bulletin.gwu.edu/arts-sciences/peace-studies/ba-peace-studies/)

Minor

- Minor in peace studies (https://bulletin.gwu.edu/arts-sciences/peace-studies/minor-peace-studies/)

COURSES

Explanation of Course Numbers

- Courses in the 1000s are primarily introductory undergraduate courses
- Those in the 2000s to 4000s are upper-level undergraduate courses that also may be taken for graduate credit with permission and additional work assigned
- Those in the 6000s and 8000s are for master’s, doctoral, and professional-level students
- The 6000s are open to advanced undergraduate students with approval of the instructor and the dean or advising office

PSTD 1010. Introduction to Peace Studies and Conflict Resolution. 3 Credits.
Major thinkers and themes in the field of peace studies and conflict resolution. Focus on philosophical and religious foundations of peace and justice movements in the twentieth century. Examination of peace and conflict through an interdisciplinary lens and on personal, local, and international levels.

PSTD 1099. Variable Topics. 1-36 Credits.

PSTD 3099. Variable Topics. 1-12 Credits.

PSTD 3190. Capstone Seminar. 3 Credits.
Capstone seminar for peace studies majors and minors in their junior or senior year. Taken concurrently with a relevant internship or as part of a long-term research project to probe the relationship between peace studies and conflict resolution in practice and in theory. Offered in the fall semester only. Restricted to peace studies majors and minors.

PSTD 3191. Special Topics Peace Studies. 1-6 Credits.
Topics vary by semester. May be repeated for credit provided the topic differs. See department for more details.

PSTD 3999. Independent Study. 1-3 Credits.
Tutorial designed by an undergraduate student under the guidance of a faculty member to pursue an academic topic in the area of Peace Studies and Conflict Resolution outside available course offerings.

PSTD 5099. Variable Topics. 1-99 Credits.