



ORIGINAL COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE: January 2015  
 REVISED COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE: September 2026  
 COURSE TO BE REVIEWED (six years after UEC approval): February 2032  
 Course outline form version: 29/08/2024

## OFFICIAL UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE FORM

**Note: The University reserves the right to amend course outlines as needed without notice.**

<b>Course Code and Number:</b> PACS 100	<b>Number of Credits:</b> 3 <a href="#">Course credit policy (105)</a>												
<b>Course Full Title:</b> Introduction to Peace and Conflict Studies <b>Course Short Title:</b> Intro to Peace Studies													
<b>Faculty:</b> Faculty of Social Sciences	<b>Department/School:</b> Peace and Conflict Studies												
<b>Calendar Description:</b> Surveys the history, concepts, scholarship, and analytical framework of the multidisciplinary field of peace and conflict studies. Students are introduced to the underlying causes of structural and physical violence, and to numerous peacebuilding strategies.													
<b>Prerequisites (or NONE):</b>	None.												
<b>Corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):</b>	None.												
<b>Pre/corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):</b>	None.												
<b>Antirequisite Courses</b> <i>(Cannot be taken for additional credit.)</i> Former course code/number: Cross-listed with: Equivalent course(s): <i>(If offered in the previous five years, antirequisite course(s) will be included in the calendar description as a note that students with credit for the antirequisite course(s) cannot take this course for further credit.)</i>	<b>Course Details</b> Special Topics course: <b>No</b> <i>(If yes, the course will be offered under different letter designations representing different topics.)</i> Directed Study course: <b>No</b> <i>(See <a href="#">policy 207</a> for more information.)</i> Grading System: <b>Letter grades</b> Delivery Mode: <b>May be offered in multiple delivery modes</b> Expected frequency: <b>Annually</b> Maximum enrolment (for information only): <b>36</b>												
<b>Typical Structure of Instructional Hours</b> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">Lecture/seminar</td> <td style="width: 20%; text-align: center;">45</td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>Total hours</b></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>45</b></td> </tr> </table>	Lecture/seminar	45									<b>Total hours</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)</b> PLAR cannot be awarded for this course because:
Lecture/seminar	45												
<b>Total hours</b>	<b>45</b>												
<b>Scheduled Laboratory Hours</b> Labs to be scheduled independent of lecture hours: <b>No</b>	<b>Transfer Credit</b> <i>(See <a href="#">bctransferguide.ca</a>.)</i> Transfer credit already exists: <b>Yes</b> Submit outline for (re)articulation: <b>No</b> <i>(If yes, fill in <a href="#">transfer credit form</a>.)</i>												
<b>Department approval</b>	<b>Date of meeting:</b> October 13, 2025												
<b>Faculty Council approval</b>	<b>Date of meeting:</b> November 7, 2025												
<b>Undergraduate Education Committee (UEC) approval</b>	<b>Date of meeting:</b> February 27, 2026												

**Learning Outcomes** *(These should contribute to students' ability to meet program outcomes and thus Institutional Learning Outcomes.)*

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Define the key terms and concepts in the field of peace and conflict studies.
2. Describe the causes of violence in the personal realm, structural realm, and global realm.
3. Articulate differing viewpoints in conflict and peacebuilding scenarios.
4. Identify various violent and non-violent strategies to effect change in conflict scenarios.
5. Consider the significance of international law, human rights, control of resources, and culture in peacebuilding.
6. Identify contemporary applications of peacebuilding methods in various global contexts.

**Recommended Evaluation Methods and Weighting** *(Evaluation should align to learning outcomes.)*

Project:	30%	Assignments:	50%	Quizzes/tests/midterm:	20%
	%		%		%

**Details:**

**Final project:** Students work on a project over the term that focuses on one of the course themes, including a conflict analysis component and a proposed peacebuilding section (30%). This project is submitted at the end of the course.

**Assignments:** For each class session students write a one-page reflection on the class themes. Students also write two short essays during the course, each two pages in length (40%). Students are assessed on their presence, activity, and participation in classroom sessions and discussions (10%).

**Midterm:** At mid-term, students write a test on the course's central concepts, themes and definitions (20%).

**NOTE: The following sections may vary by instructor. Please see course syllabus available from the instructor.**

**Typical Instructional Methods** *(Guest lecturers, presentations, online instruction, field trips, etc.)*

The format of this course will include lectures, in-class discussions, viewing films, student presentations, and guest speakers.

**Texts and Resource Materials** *(Include online resources and Indigenous knowledge sources. [Open Educational Resources](#) (OER) should be included whenever possible. If more space is required, use the [Supplemental Texts and Resource Materials form](#).)*

Type	Author or description	Title and publication/access details	Year
1. Book	Houston Wood	Invitation to Peace Studies (ebook UFV library)	2016
2. Article	Daniel Wahl	Valuing Traditional Ecological Knowledge and Indigenous Wisdom and Indigenous Wisdom (open access)	2016
3. Book	Melissa K. Nelson and Dan Shilling, eds.	Traditional Ecological Knowledge: Learning from Indigenous Practices for Environmental Sustainability (ebook UFV library)	2021
4. Book	Tripathi and Richter, eds.	The Rowman and Littlefield Handbook of Peace and Conflict Studies: Perspectives from the Global South (open access)	2026
5.			

**Required Additional Supplies and Materials** *(Software, hardware, tools, specialized clothing, etc.)***Typical Course Content and Topics:**

- What is peace and conflict studies?
- Theories of violence and peace
- Trauma and trauma-informed practices
- Self and nonviolent communication
- Self, family, and community
- Conflict transformation
- Strategic peacebuilding
- Nonviolence, human rights, and social justice
- Indigenous peace ecology
- Restorative practices
- Reconciliation
- Religion and ideology
- Nonviolent strategies