

PEACE STUDIES AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

What is it?

Peace education is a rapidly growing multidisciplinary field, informed by a vision of a global civil society based on nonviolence and ethical values that include mutual respect, tolerance, principles of social justice and democracy, socioeconomic wellbeing, and sustainable management of natural resources. The minor in Peace Studies and Social Justice will help students **develop the skills needed to become the next generation of peace scholars and activists** and empower them to be leaders in designing and developing strategies to reduce violence, promote non-violence, and build a more peaceful and just society.



Why do it?

This minor will introduce students to the broad principles of peace studies and social justice to **build a foundational understanding of the causes and consequences of violence and strategies for peacefully managing conflict**. It will address how social justice, peace, and violence are intertwined and manifested in the real world; why they matter; and what gives rise to them.

Who is it for?

Students from **all majors who are drawn to existing minors in peace studies or diversity and community engagement** should consider this Pathways minor.

Pathways Core Concepts

- 1a - Advanced Discourse
- 2 - Critical Thinking in the Humanities
- 3 - Reasoning in the Social Sciences
- 4 - Reasoning in the Natural Sciences
- 5 - Quantitative and Computational Thinking
- 7 - Critical Analysis of Identity and Equity in the United States

Pathways Integrative Concepts

Ethical Reasoning
Intercultural and Global Awareness

*At least three of these core concepts will be completed, but concepts will vary depending on elective choices.

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Requirements

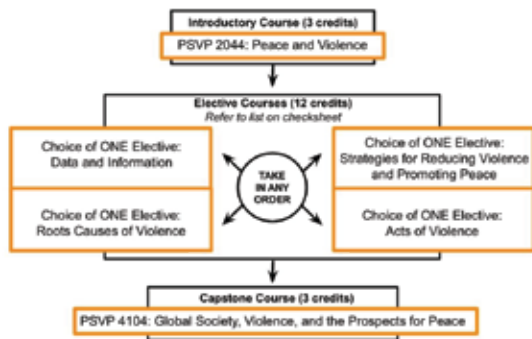
This 18-credit hour minor in Peace Studies and Social Justice includes a 3 hour required introductory course focused on the root causes of violence and strategies of promoting peace, 12 hours of elective courses from 4 categories designed to build on student's understanding of the root causes of violence, the triggers of violence, and the strategies for remediating violence, and a 3 hour required integrative capstone course.

Required courses

PSVP 2044: Peace and Violence
 PSVP 4104: Global Society, Violence, and the Prospects for Peace

Elective courses

Students select 12 credit hours of elective courses from either the local issues or the global issues track. Topics range from peace economics and cyber criminology to writing and social justice, ethical theory and social movements. At least 3 credits must be outside the student's major. At least 9 credits must be at the 3000 level or above. For a complete list of elective courses, consult the checksheet at <https://registrar.vt.edu/graduation-multi-brief/index1.html>.



- Learn to comprehend complex interconnections and dynamics between cultural ideologies, social institutions, social settings, physical environments, and violence. strategies for addressing the problem of violence from both a policy standpoint and in terms of how ordinary people may exercise agency to implement solutions.

- Build skills many employers desire, including strong reasoning and problem-solving abilities, communication, conflict-management, and organizational.

- Apply to future careers focused on preventing war and helping other people have a better quality of life.

www.pathways.prov.vt.edu/minors

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