Course Catalog

Field-based programs in more than 40 countries worldwide
Serbia, Bosnia, and Kosovo

Peace and Conflict Studies in the Balkans

Gain firsthand knowledge of peacebuilding, reconciliation, and the struggle for human rights.

Coursework

Lecturers are drawn from academic institutions such as the Faculty of Media and Communications at Singidunum University in Belgrade, University of Belgrade, Islamic Faculty in Sarajevo, the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies, University of Sarajevo, University of Pristina, and local organizations such as the Center for Peacebuilding in Sanski Most (Bosnia-Herzegovina); the Youth Initiative for Human Rights in Serbia, Bosnia, and Kosovo; and FOL in Priština (Kosovo).

The Breakup of Yugoslavia and the Wars of the 1990s

PEAC 3000 / 3 credits / 45 class hours

An interdisciplinary course conducted in English with required readings and relevant educational excursions. The course introduces students to the important theoretical frameworks needed to examine the breakup of Yugoslavia, the successor states that were created during its dissolution, and the conflicts of the 1990s.

The course gives an introduction to the first kingdom of Yugoslavs and the creation of the Socialist Federalist Republic of Yugoslavia after World War II, and then examines the debates among scholars as to the reasons for the breakup of Yugoslavia. Students consider the rise of ethno-nationalism in the 1990s and the transition from socialism that overlapped with processes of war and conflict.

Peace and Conflict Studies in Serbia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, and Kosovo

PEAC 3005 / 3 credits / 45 class hours

An interdisciplinary course conducted in English with required readings and relevant educational excursions. The course examines the aftermath of conflict and current efforts for post-conflict transformation in the Balkans.

Course topics typically include:

- **Serbia after Milošević**: Introduction to Serbia in the 1990s: the legacies of war crimes, NATO bombing, sanctions, and hyperinflation; political and social change in Serbia after the fall of Milošević; civil society and political activism; transitional justice and dealing with the past; responsibility as a political category; LGBT and queer activism in Belgrade.

- **Bosnia-Herzegovina Post-Dayton**: Postwar politics in Bosnia-Herzegovina (BiH); the legacy of war crimes and ethnic cleansing; the challenges of peacebuilding, justice, and reconciliation; role of the international community in postwar BiH; Islam in Bosnia and Southeast Europe.

- **Kosovo: A Look from Serbia and from Kosovo**: Serbian and Albanian points of view of Kosovo after the war; majority-minority relations in Kosovo; the role of international intervention in Kosovo following the NATO bombing and today; Kosovo’s declaration of independence: challenges of state building.

- **Peace and Conflict: Theory and Practice in the Balkans**: Comparative analysis, synthesis, and discussion; analyzing the presence of the Yugoslav past in the post-Yugoslav successor states; memory and denial; role of the international community; EU accession and enlargement processes.

- **Educational Excursions**: The program incorporates educational excursions within Serbia and to Bosnia-Herzegovina and Kosovo, allowing students to witness the effects of conflict and its aftermath in different settings in the region. Excursion sites may include Novi Sad, Sarajevo, Banja Luka, Sanski Most, Mostar, Srebrenica, Priština, Gracanica, and Prizren.

- **Intensive Language Study: Serbian I–III**: SERB 1000–3000 / 3 credits / 45 class hours

- **Research Methods and Ethics**: ANTH 3500 / 3 credits / 45 class hours

- **Possible Internships**: Students may have the opportunity to pursue internships that allow them to take on more active roles in the issues they are researching. Sample internships: Dahi Theatre in Belgrade, Center for Peacebuilding in Sanski Most, youth initiative for human rights, Kosovo 2.0 Magazin.
Ireland

Transformation of Social and Political Conflict

Explore the changing face of conflict studies through immersion in the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland.

Coursework

Irish Social and Political Movements
PEAC 3000 / 4 credits / 60 credit hours
An interdisciplinary course with required readings and educational excursions that examines issues of social inequality and exclusion in two distinct political and social realities, the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland, both of which are undergoing social and political transition.

Course topics typically include:
- **The Roots of Conflict**: a comprehensive historical overview illustrating the movements from colonization to independence and tracing the development of social and political violence in Northern Ireland.
- **Identity Politics and Conflict Resolution**: causes, effects, and escalation of conflict; political solutions for a divided society; formation of a peace process.
- **Structural Violence and the State**: conflict rooted in socioeconomic divisions and exclusion: the impact of inequality; violence in inner-city areas; immigration, refugee, and diversity initiatives.
- **Cultural Identity and Place**: the interplay of history, ideology, mythology, and religion in shaping cultural identity is explored critically through art, theater, film, literature, song, and storytelling.

**Theory and Practice of Conflict Transformation**
PEAC 3005 / 4 credits / 60 class hours
An interdisciplinary course with required readings and educational excursions in both the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland. Questions, models, and theories of conflict transformation are presented and discussed in an academic context and explored through activities and group work. Themes explored in seminars include the dynamics of conflict; nonviolence; gender and conflict; transitional justice; truth recovery; principles of conflict transformation; and skills in communication, negotiation, and mediation. These topics are explored in workshops presented by leading practitioners in Belfast and at the Glencree and Corrymeela Reconciliation Centres.

Case Study Approach to Conflict Studies:
The program takes a case study approach to understanding conflict, which generates an understanding of the dynamics of conflict and of sustainable peacebuilding through listening to personal stories and shared life experiences.

**Northern Ireland**: During the three-week unit in Northern Ireland, students reexamine course themes in a post-conflict context. Students meet with academics, politicians, community activists, and former combatants; they visit rural and urban locations from Armagh to Belfast to Derry/Londonderry. Students witness the legacy of violence through listening to individual stories and experience the challenges of truth recovery and of establishing “normal” politics in a divided society.

**Environmental Conflict**: A one-week stay in a remote coastal area of Mayo provides an opportunity to understand the ethos of a rural community currently threatened by the development of an oil refinery. The study focuses on challenges arising from opposing approaches to development and the efforts of local groups to mobilize opposition.

**Social Justice**: Immersion in the Joycean inner-city area of Dublin provides an opportunity to understand an urban community and current issues of social justice from the perspective of local residents and activists.

Research Methods and Ethics
ANTH 3500 / 4 credits / 60 class hours
A course in the concepts of learning from field experience and across cultures. Students learn appropriate methodologies that prepare them to do primary research and to undertake an Independent Study Project. Material includes cross-cultural adaptation and skills building; project selection and refinement; appropriate methodologies; field study ethics and the World Learning/SIT Human Subjects Review Policy; developing contacts and finding resources; developing skills in observation and interviewing; gathering, organizing, and communicating data; and maintaining a work journal.

**Independent Study Project**
ISPR 3000 / 4 credits / 120 class hours
Conducted in Dublin, Belfast, Derry, or another approved location appropriate to the project.

Sample topic areas: urban regeneration in inner-city Dublin; truth recovery in Northern Ireland; the Corrib Gas dispute; the role of museums in memorializing the past.

For the most up-to-date information on this program, including photos, video, and course syllabi, visit us online at www.sit.edu/IER.
Nicaragua

Revolution, Transformation, and Civil Society

Explore Central American social movements and their impact in the region. Examine current challenges to democracy and civil society in Nicaragua and El Salvador.

Coursework

Resources utilized in the delivery of course content include civil society leaders, academics, the Centro de Estudios Internacionales, and the Universidad Centroamericana.

Beyond Revolution: Encountering Globalization
LACB 3000 / 3 credits / 45 class hours
An interdisciplinary course conducted in Spanish with required readings and relevant educational excursions. The course examines the short- and long-term impacts of recent Central American revolutionary movements from the social, political, and cultural contexts of contemporary Nicaragua. Particular emphasis is placed on the impact of globalization and the influence from the economic powers of the North and the emerging global South. Students hear from Nicaraguans who seek to confront the challenges of globalization by promoting alternatives through socially responsible ventures.

Identity and Social Transformation in Nicaragua
LACB 3005 / 3 credits / 45 class hours
An interdisciplinary course conducted in Spanish with required readings and relevant educational excursions. The course covers a wide range of paradigms that construct Nicaraguan identities and examines ethnicity, political identity, immigration, and transnational identity. Social transformations regarding the women’s movement and the emerging sexual diversity movement, together with the role of youth as change agents, are also explored. Students witness firsthand how Nicaraguans are working to transform and construct their identities as Nicaraguans though social organizing and civic engagement within the global context.

Course topics typically include:

Rural Nicaragua: Post-Conflict Challenges and Opportunities
Grassroots reconciliation efforts; agricultural diversification—challenging the model of agro-export agriculture; subsistence living and rural poverty.

Caribbean Coast: Culture and Identity
Indigenous rights; Caribbean Coast history; aspirations and frustrations of autonomy; Creole and Garifuna culture; community health and resource management.

El Salvador: A Comparative Lens
El Salvador’s civil war; the role of the United States; the Truth Commission and reconciliation; challenges to the Frente Marti de Liberacion Nacional (FMLN) government; community-based initiatives; migration.

Educational Excursions
The program includes three in-depth field trips. The first, in the rural northern area of Nicaragua, focuses on rural development and includes a rural stay in Matagalpa. The second is an excursion to El Salvador, where students learn about Salvadoran history and civil society and have opportunities to meet and discuss issues with citizens from a wide range of backgrounds. Students also travel to Bluefields and the Pearl Lagoon basin in the Caribbean Coast and meet with representatives of coastal communities to discuss issues of identity, autonomy, and indigenous rights.

Intensive Language Study: Spanish for the Social Sciences
SPAN 2000–3500 / 3 credits / 45 class hours
Emphasis on speaking, reading, and writing skills through classroom and field instruction. Based on in-country evaluation, including oral proficiency testing, students are placed in small, intensive classes, with further language practice during homestays, lectures, and field visits.

Research Methods and Ethics
ANTH 3500 / 3 credits / 45 class hours
A course in social science research methodologies and an introduction to research ethics. Includes the concepts of learning across cultures and from field experience. Serves as an introduction to the Independent Study Project.

Program Duration Fall/Spring 15 weeks
Credits 16
Program Base Managua
Language Study Spanish
Homestay Managua, 7 weeks
Rural Visits/Homestays Agricultural cooperative in Matagalpa; El Salvador, 1 week
Other Accommodations Hostels, private homes, or small hotels
Independent Study Project 4 weeks
Prerequisites Three recent semesters of college-level Spanish or equivalent and the ability to follow coursework in Spanish, as assessed by SIT.

For the most up-to-date information on this program, including photos, video, and course syllabi, visit us online at www.sit.edu/NUR.
Rwanda

Post-Genocide Restoration and Peacebuilding

Examine the causes of the 1994 genocide and Rwanda's ongoing efforts in fostering peace, unity, and reconciliation among its people.

Coursework

National and Ethnic Identity
AFRS 3000 / 3 credits / 45 class hours
The National and Ethnic Identity course explores precolonial, colonial, and postcolonial processes of national and ethnic identity construction and reconstruction, with the aim of understanding the dynamics that led to, and were unleashed by, the 1994 genocide in Rwanda. An excursion to the Acholi subregion in northern Uganda provides a comparative perspective on the role of ethnicity and nation building in conflict generation. Course lecturers include leading Rwandan academics, government officials, community leaders, and professionals working in the areas of justice and development. Relevant documents, readings, and group discussions complement scheduled lectures. The course devotes additional time to psychological orientation and extended debriefings to process site visits and field experiences, given their emotional impact.

Course topics typically include: Construction of Hutuness and Tutsiness in precolonial and postcolonial Rwanda and its consequences; the global and regional dynamics that led to the genocide; psychosocial dimensions of genocide perpetration; social and political dimensions of conflict; background and contemporary circumstances of war and post-conflict transformation in Rwanda through a comparative regional analysis.

Post-Genocide Restoration and Peacebuilding
PEAC 3000 / 3 credits / 45 class hours
This course examines the significant progress in conflict transformation in Rwanda following the genocide. Rwanda's post-genocide period is used to illustrate insights and perspectives on international development. Post-genocide restoration work in the areas of health, education, transitional justice, reconciliation, and peacebuilding are critically examined. Lecturers are drawn from institutions such as the National University of Rwanda, Center for Conflict Management, the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, the National Unity and Reconciliation Commission, and several civil society organizations in Rwanda and Uganda.

Course topics typically include: Development policy and reconstruction in post-genocide Rwanda; economic disparities and the challenges of sustainable reconciliation; the national economic plan; development initiatives in education; the contribution of regional and international organizations to the development of Rwanda and the Great Lakes Region; the promise and limits of nongovernmental organizations; post-genocide institutional, cultural, and educational mechanisms to promote justice and foster reconciliation; the function and objectives of the gacaca court system; the International Criminal Tribunal of Rwanda; mechanisms of collective memory and genocide denial; issues of reconciliation, reintegration, justice, and peacebuilding in Uganda.

Intensive Language Study: Kinyarwanda
KINY 1000 / 3 credits / 45 class hours
Emphasis on introductory speaking and comprehension skills through classroom and field instruction. Formal instruction is augmented by language practice with host families during the homestay.

Research Methods and Ethics
ANTH 3500 / 3 credits / 45 class hours
A course in the concepts of learning across cultures and from field experience. Introduction to the Independent Study Project. Material includes cross-cultural adaptation and skills building; project selection and refinement; appropriate methodologies; field study ethics and the World Learning/SIT Human Subjects Review Policy; developing contacts and finding resources; developing skills in observation and interviewing; gathering, organizing, and communicating data.

Independent Study Project
ISPR 3000 / 4 credits / 120 class hours
Conducted in Rwanda in an approved location appropriate to the project. Sample topic areas: unity, justice, and reconciliation; development and reconstruction; refugees and displaced people in the Great Lakes Region; approaches to nation building; transnational conflicts and their impacts on the economic and social development of a country; language and identity issues surrounding collective memory and memorials; democracy and freedom of speech in post-genocide environments.

For the most up-to-date information on this program, including photos, video, and course syllabi, visit us online at www.sit.edu/RWR.
Coursework

Social and Political Transformation Seminar
AFRS 3000 / 8 credits / 120 class hours
An interdisciplinary course conducted in English with required readings and relevant educational and field excursions. Students examine the historical background of South Africa’s apartheid system; the factors that contributed to the dismantling of that system; visions for post-apartheid South Africa; and the political, economic, cultural, and social structures of a “new” South Africa in transition. Lecturers are specialists in their areas and are drawn from the University of KwaZulu-Natal as well as a range of non-governmental organizations, including the Abahlali Shack Dwellers Movement; a restorative justice prison program called Phoenix Zululand; the Union of Refugee Women; and ACCORD, a conflict-resolution agency with programs across the African continent.

Seminar topics typically include:

**Political, Economic, and Social Landscape**
This module provides a frame of reference for the examination of social and political transformation in South Africa. Topics include South African political economy; unemployment and poverty; housing; civil society; gender; education in South Africa.

**Development: Theory and Practice**
Overview of approaches to development and contemporary South African development policy; the informal sector; rural and agricultural development; service delivery; gender and development; HIV/AIDS; skills development.

**Reconciliation: Opportunities and Challenges**
Peacebuilding; the Truth and Reconciliation Commission; the concepts of ubuntu; violence and ethnicity; discrimination and xenophobia; race, class, and ethnicity; South Africa’s role in conflict resolution and peacekeeping; processes of healing the legacies of apartheid.

**Educational Excursions**
The program includes field visits to Johannesburg, the South Coast of KwaZulu-Natal with a beach walk into the Eastern Cape, rural KwaZulu-Natal, the neighboring kingdom of Swaziland or the enclave kingdom of Lesotho, and the Umfolozi-Hluhluwe Game Reserve. Excursions give students the opportunity to explore South Africa’s socioeconomic complexity, diversity, and natural beauty, together with its regional significance, in greater depth.

**Introductory Language Study: Zulu**
ZULU 1000 / 2 credits / 30 class hours
The emphasis is on beginning speaking and comprehension skills through classroom and field instruction, complemented by discussions of Zulu history and culture.

**Field Study Seminar**
ANTH 3500 / 2 credits / 30 class hours
A course in the concepts of learning across cultures and from field experience. Introduction to the Independent Study Project. Material includes cross-cultural adaptation and skills building; project selection and refinement; appropriate methodologies; field study ethics and the World Learning/SIT Human Subjects Review Policy; developing contacts and finding resources; developing skills in observation and interviewing; gathering, organizing, and communicating data; and maintaining a field journal.

**Independent Study Project**
ISPR 3000 / 4 credits / 120 class hours
Conducted in Durban or in another approved location appropriate to the project. Students may choose to undertake either an Independent Study Project or an internship with an affiliate organization working in social and/or political transformation. Sample topic areas: AIDS in South Africa; peace efforts in KwaZulu-Natal; democracy as seen by South Africans; education policy reform and implementation; the prison system in South Africa; prenatal and primary healthcare; independent churches and religion; trade unions and their alliance with the African National Congress; township jazz and political resistance; land reform; Zulu traditional healing and Western medicine; Afrikaner identity.

Please note: This program will have credit distribution and/or other curriculum changes beginning in the fall 2013 semester. Please visit www.sit.edu/SFD for details.
Uganda

Post-Conflict Transformation

Examine the human cost of conflict in northern Uganda and the ways local communities are fostering peace, economic development, and sustainable reconciliation.

Coursework

Contextualizing Conflict in Northern Uganda
AFRS 3000 / 3 credits / 45 class hours
This multidisciplinary course explores the social, political, economic, cultural, linguistic, and ecological issues underlying conflict in Uganda. Students examine national and ethnic identity in Uganda and the role of these constructions in conflict. The course takes a regional approach to conflict in the Great Lakes basin, including an excursion to Rwanda for a comparative view of post-genocide transformation.

Course topics typically include: Colonial legacies and origins of conflict in Uganda; political and international dimensions of conflict in northern Uganda; pre-genocide identity politics; post-genocide politics in Rwanda; post-conflict/genocide state building in Uganda and Rwanda; international dimensions of conflict in Uganda and Rwanda; group and ethnic identity as causes of conflict; refugees, resettlement, and relocation due to conflict; economic and social impacts of large-scale conflicts; local and international media coverage and global understanding.

Post-Conflict Transformation
PEAC 3000 / 3 credits / 45 class hours
This multidisciplinary course is designed to introduce students to the contemporary dynamics of post-conflict transformation and peacebuilding in Uganda. Areas of focus include internally displaced peoples (IDPs), refugees, institutional and cultural processes of peace restoration, and community building. The course provides a regional comparative approach to post-conflict transformation, including an excursion to Rwanda to contrast the post-genocide environments of Kigali and Gulu.

Course topics typically include: Conflict analysis, assessment, mapping, and prevention; stages of conflict and genocide; the role of the International Criminal Court and tribunals; local and national justice; forgiveness and reconciliation; reintegration of former child soldiers in Uganda; post-conflict education and training programs; conflict memories, memorials, and outreach programs.

Lecturers for both courses include leading Ugandan academics and professionals working in post-conflict transformation, justice, and development.

Educational Excursions
Includes field visits to former IDP camps in northern Uganda, refugee camps, museums, sites of collective memory, genocide memorials, and community building and transitional justice organizations. The excursion to Rwanda provides students with the opportunity to study pre-genocide politics and post-genocide restoration and peacebuilding in a comparative context and to learn about post-conflict transformation in the broader Great Lakes region.

Intensive Language Study: Acholi
ACHO 1000 / 3 credits / 45 class hours
Emphasis on introductory speaking, practical usage, and comprehension skills through classroom and field instruction. Formal instruction is augmented by language practice with host families during the homestay.

Research Methods and Ethics
ANTH 3500 / 3 credits / 45 class hours
A course in the concepts of learning across cultures and from field experience. Introduction to the Independent Study Project. Material includes cross-cultural adaptation and skills building; project selection and refinement; appropriate methodologies; field study ethics and the World Learning/SIT Human Subjects Review Policy; developing contacts and finding resources; developing skills in observation and interviewing; and gathering, organizing, and communicating data.

Independent Study Project
ISPR 3000 / 4 credits / 120 class hours
Conducted in Gulu or another approved location in Uganda appropriate to the project.

Sample topic areas: peace camp curricula; local perspectives on peace negotiations; print and radio coverage of conflict; economic dimensions of conflict; traditional justice systems; challenges of post-conflict reconstruction; gender and conflict; the politics of conflict memory; counseling and psychosocial support in post-conflict environments.

With approval from the academic director, students may design their projects as a practicum or service-learning project with a community organization or nongovernmental organization.

Sample internship sites: Human Rights Focus, Caritas, Invisible Children, and the Acholi Cultural Institution (Ker Kwaro Acholi).
Uganda and Rwanda

Peace and Conflict Studies in the Lake Victoria Basin

Examine the root causes of conflict and analyze measures to foster resettlement and reconciliation in Uganda and Rwanda.

This program explores the social, political, and psychosocial processes that have shaped the emergence of conflict in the Lake Victoria Basin. Students also examine the measures that have been taken toward conflict prevention and mitigation, reconciliation, and resettlement in the region. The genocide in Rwanda and the conflict driven by Joseph Kony and the Lord’s Resistance Army in northern Uganda serve as primary case studies.

The program takes students to carefully selected field sites, including rural villages, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), and genocide memorials. Lectures from university faculty, local government officials, and NGO managers, together with assigned readings, complement site visits. Reflection sessions, led by the academic director, help students to contextualize and analyze the material they encounter inside and outside the classroom.

PROGRAM DURATION: 6 weeks (mid-June to late July)

PROGRAM BASE: Gulu, Uganda, and Kigali, Rwanda

HOMESTAYS: Gulu, 2 weeks; Kigali, 2 weeks. (Please visit the website for details on other accommodations during the program.)

PREREQUISITES: While there are no prerequisites for the program, students will benefit from a background in peace and conflict resolution, social justice, human rights, and/or African history and politics. Psychological stability and emotional maturity are required in order for students to cope with the emotional content and intensity of the course material.

COURSEWORK

PEAC 3000: Peace and Conflict Seminar
6 credits / 90 class hours

For the most up-to-date information on this program, including photos, video, and course syllabi, visit us online at www.sit.edu/UGP.
COMING SOON!

**Jordan: Health and Community Development**

Study health policies and practices in Jordan. Examine the health status of the country’s unique population groups including refugees and desert and Bedouin tribes. Explore the links between poverty, health risks, and social development. Learn about the impact and economics of alternative medical treatment in Jordan.

Visit the SIT website for more information.

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