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CERTIFICATE IN PEACEBUILDING

Behavioral Science Department

The Peacebuilding Certificate prepares students to transform conflict from a negative experience into a positive and constructive situation. Students learn the basic skills of how to understand a situation and develop an appropriate strategy that takes into account the values, beliefs, and goals of all those involved in a conflict situation. They also are encouraged to explore what *peace* means and what social values and systems support peace. To prepare students the certificate includes both intellectual understanding of the bases for conflict, justice, and peace as well as practical skills they can apply in their future work. Part of the skill learning also happens outside the classroom through required participation in community service. The certificate is intentionally interdisciplinary, grounded in the liberal arts disciplines, and flexible enough to recognize the various interests and specializations of students who may wish to add this to their educational portfolio.

Nineteen credits are required for the certificate. Required courses include:

- THY 345s Biblical Perspectives on Justice (2) **OR** THY 346s The Social Gospel (2) **OR** THY 248 Current Moral Issues [SYN101 (4 credits) is a prerequisite for Theology courses and counts toward the certificate];
- SOC 220h Introduction to Conflict Transformation (3);
- BES 250 Conflict Resolution Skills: Mediation (1).

To receive the certificate students must maintain at least a 2.5 GPA in the courses counted toward its completion. Completion of 30 hours of community service at approved site.

Additional courses:

Area 1: Cultural and Social Understanding

At least **one** course from the following: ANT 324h Comparative Minority Relations (4); ANT 340 Border Crossings: Immigrants, Refugees, and Tourists (4); COM 235sb Intercultural Communication (4); GEO 310h World Regional Geography (4); HIS 280h Middle East History and Culture (4); IST 200 Introduction to International Studies (2); PSY 337 Cognitive Psychology (4); SOC 336h Comparative Societies (3); SYM110 Leadership for Social Justice (3); THY 317s World Religions (4)

Area 2: Social Issues

At least **one** course from the following: BIO 220em Contemporary Environmental Issues (2); JUS 106 Crime and Justice in America (3); PHI 330s Contemporary Issues in Ethics (2-4); PHI 334 Technology and Human Values (4); POS 326 Modern Political Issues (3); PSY 315 Psychology of Peace (3); SOC 205 Social Problems (3); SOC 240 Global Conflicts (4); THY 345s Biblical Perspectives on Justice (2) (*if not taken for required course*); THY 346s The Social Gospel (2) (*if not taken for required course*); THY 348s Current Moral Issues (4)

Area 3: Advanced Skills

BES 350 Conflict Resolution Skills Topics

Students may elect, and are encouraged to take additional CR skills classes in completion of the certificate

Additional requirements:

- At least 30 hours of community service (can use service from any course or set up a placement outside of a course as long as the site is relevant to peace/justice issues). Placement and documentation must be arranged through the college Service Learning Coordinator.
- Students are strongly encouraged (but not required) to pursue study of a foreign language and participate in a study abroad opportunity.

For more details contact Lynne Woehrle, woehrlel@mtmary.edu, Associate Professor in Behavioral Science/Sociology.