

Justice and Peace Studies (JPST)

College of Arts and Sciences
Interdisciplinary Program

Toffolo (POLS) (director), Nelson-Pallmeyer (JPST), King (THEO), Landry (THEO), Montero (THEO), Schlabach (THEO), Smith (THEO), Andregg, Davidov, Klein, Nairn, Palackapilly, Tousignant

Justice and Peace studies is an interdisciplinary program designed to prepare students to be responsible critics of contemporary societies and effective agents for positive social transformation. Core courses for the major and minor, and the pattern of the program in general, make use of the four stages of the *Circle of Praxis*:

1. *Experience* (actual and vicarious) of poverty, injustice, violence and marginalization.
2. *Descriptive analysis*: Empirical study of the economic, political, social, and cultural realities of society, and the historical events that produce them.
3. *Normative analysis*: Moral judgment on existing societies; study of alternative possibilities; and analysis of the moral values at stake.
4. *Action possibilities*: Strategies and skills for transforming society from its present condition to a better condition.

The Justice and Peace Studies program is strongly interdisciplinary and interfaith. It promotes understanding and appreciation of widely diverse ideologies, cultures, and world views. Special attention is given to the rich tradition of Roman Catholic social thought in the context of pluralistic world societies.

Students graduating with a major in Justice and Peace Studies will understand how the circle of praxis works, as well as the role of each of its components (see above). They will also know how to use skills associated with each component. They will know the principles of active nonviolence, how it operates to promote social change, and several historical examples of its use. Students will also learn the techniques and uses of other methods of social change and how to judge when to use each method effectively. They will be able to engage in respectful dialogue with people who value and propose responses to violence and injustice that differ widely from their own. They will understand and be able to use conflict resolution skills in personal life and small groups, and they will understand how these techniques are used in inter-group and international conflicts. They will have developed the personal skills and confidence to work effectively in organizations committed to justice and peace.

While all core courses utilize all four steps of the circle of praxis, JPST 250 concentrates on experience and descriptive analysis, and THEO 305 concentrates on normative analysis. The others concentrate on action possibilities.

JPST 250 and THEO 305 require extensive student writing and discussion. One elective course, JPST 285, typically incorporates a service-learning, action research, or inquiry-based research component that connects the classroom setting to experiences in local, domestic or global communities.

Major in Justice and Peace Studies

JPST 250 Introduction to Justice and Peace Studies (4 credits)
JPST 280 Active Nonviolence (4 credits)
JPST 470 Conflict Resolution (4 credits)
JPST 472 Justice and Peace Senior Seminar (4 credits)
THEO 305 Theologies of Justice and Peace (4 credits)

Plus a significant experience:

Appropriate experience of poverty, injustice, violence, and/or marginalization. May be done for credit through 475-478 Experiential Learning.

It may also be done on a non-credit basis (*e.g.*, in the context of another course or through volunteer activities). Possibilities include a trip taken as part of JPST 285, Campus Ministry programs, and off-campus study through programs that expose students to poverty and oppression.

Examples of appropriate off-campus study programs include those run by: HECUA (*e.g.*, conflict resolution in Northern Ireland, poverty in the Twin Cities; development in Ecuador; environment in Guatemala; immigration in Norway); Augsburg's Center for Global Education (*e.g.*, in Cuernavaca Mexico); American University's Washington Semester (*e.g.*, on homelessness); and UMAIE. Campus Ministry programs include VISION trips during January term, spring break or summer sessions (to Guatemala, Appalachia, the border of Mexico, a Native American reservation, *etc.*), and VIA programs located in the Twin Cities (*e.g.*, working at a shelter, tutoring immigrant students, Catholic Worker house, *etc.*).

*Plus four additional credits in descriptive analysis**Appropriate courses include:*

ACST 200 Foundations of American Cultural Studies (4 credits)
BIOL 102 Conservation Biology (4 credits)
COMM 322 Intercultural Communication (4 credits)
COMM 340 Rhetoric of Race, Class, and Gender (4 credits)
COMM 350 Modern American Rhetoric (4 credits)
ECON 211 Current Economic Issues (4 credits)
ECON 337 Economics of the Public Sector (4 credits)
ECON 339 Labor Economics (4 credits)
ECON 345 Economics of Development and Growth (4 credits)

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ENTR 390 Diversity Issues in Entrepreneurship (4 credits)
ENVR 151 Humans and the Environment (4 credits)
ENVR 212 Social Dynamics and the Environment (4 credits)
GEOG 111 Human Geography (4 credits)
GEOG 113 World Geography (4 credits)
HIST 210 Modern Latin America, 1800 to the Present (4 credits)
HIST 368 History of Women in the United States (4 credits)
HIST 369 African American History (4 credits)
HIST 371 History of U.S. Foreign Policy (4 credits)
HIST 372 The United States and Vietnam (4 credits)
IDSC 462 Environmental Studies Twin Cities: Adapt Ecosystem Management (HECUA) (4 credits)
IDSC 467 City Arts: Field Seminar (HECUA) (4 credits)
IDSC 472 MUST Seminar: Field Studies in the Twin Cities (HECUA) (4 credits)
JOUR 305 Gender, Race and Mass Media (4 credits)
JOUR 402 Society, Culture and the Media (4 credits)
JOUR 404 Media Structure and Power (4 credits)
POLS 225 Introduction to World Politics (4 credits)
POLS 301 American Political Behavior (4 credits)
POLS 302 Women and Politics (4 credits)
POLS 314 Constitutional Rights and Liberties (4 credits)
POLS 326 International Law and Organizations (4 credits)
POLS 350 Comparative Politics of the New Europe (4 credits)
POLS 352 Third World Politics and Government (4 credits)
PSYC 121 Social Psychology (4 credits)
PSYC 151 Cross-Cultural Psychology (4 credits)
SOC 110 Social Problems (4 credits)
SOC 200 Introduction to Criminal Justice (4 credits)
SOC 251 Race and Ethnicity (4 credits)
SOC 254 Gender in Global Perspective (4 credits)
SOC 301 Cultural Anthropology (4 credits)
SOC 350 Social Inequality: Privilege & Power (4 credits)
SOC 351 Immigration, Fear and Hate (4 credits)
SOC 331 Cross-Cultural Perspectives on Religion (4 credits)
SOC 365 Social Psychology (4 credits)
SOWK 340 Human Behavior and the Social Environment (4 credits)

Plus four additional credits in normative analysis

Appropriate courses include:

BLAW 303 International Business Law (4 credits)
BLAW 351 Environmental Law (4 credits)
BLAW 352 Gender Issues and the Law (4 credits)
BUSN 201 Ethics and Practice: Foundations of Business (4 credits)
CATH 312 Catholic Social Thought (4 credits)
COMM 240 Persuasion (4 credits)
COMM 250 Argumentation and Advocacy (4 credits)
ENGL 217 Multicultural Literature (4 credits)
ENGL 218 Literature by Women: Critical History (4 credits)
ENGL 337 The Literature of Human Diversity (4 credits)
ENGL 341 Literature by Women: Critical Questions (4 credits)
ENVR 301 Environmental Ethics (4 credits)
IDSC 291 The Anatomy of Violence (4 credits)
IDSC 461 Environmental Studies Twin Cities: Social Dimensions of Environmental Change (HECUA) (4 credits)
IDSC 466 City Arts: Reading Seminar (HECUA) (4 credits)
IDSC 471 MUST Seminar: Research on Urban Issues (HECUA) (4 credits)
MUSC 222 The Theology of American Popular Music (4 credits)
PHIL 350 Advanced Ethical Theory (4 credits)
PHIL 353 Machiavelli, Hobbes, and Nietzsche (4 credits)
PHIL 357 Political Philosophy (4 credits)
POLS 275 Introduction to Political Thought (4 credits)
POLS 375 American Political Thought (4 credits)
THEO 306 Christian Faith and the Management Professions (4 credits)
THEO 325 The Catholic Social Traditions (4 credits)
THEO 334 Islam (4 credits)
THEO 337 Evil and the Suffering of God (4 credits)
THEO 361 Black Religious Experience (4 credits)

THEO 365 Prophetic Literature of the Old Testament (4 credits)

THEO 386 Topics in Systematic Theology (4 credits) (i.e., Church in Latin America; Catholic Worker Movement)

Note: Topic must be approved by the JPST director (e.g., Church in Latin America; Catholic Worker Movement; Christianity and Consumer Culture)

WMST 205 Foundations in Women's Studies (4 credits)

Plus an internship and seminar in the area of justice and peace studies. The internship may, but need not, carry credit:

JPST 473 Vocational Internship Seminar (0 credit)

Students are required to take this seminar during the semester they are doing an internship. At the core of this mini course is a reflective process designed to lead students to: a deeper understanding of the practical means of working for social change; an evaluation of their internship experience (both in terms of gaining a deeper understanding of their own vocation and a better understanding of the type of institutions they are working with); and applying these insights to future course work and career planning. Three 2-hour seminars, at the beginning, middle and end of the semester, provide opportunities for those engaged in individual placements to get peer support for their discernment process.

The internships themselves involve 7-10 hours a week of justice and peace work. Acceptable placements include work with a nonprofit or governmental group doing direct service; education for peace and justice; political action for peace and justice; and leadership positions in UST's Students for Justice and Peace (SJP). There is no objection to using an appropriate internship from another major (such as social work) to fulfill this requirement as long as the student is enrolled in JPST 473 during the semester of the internship.

Alternatively, the internship and seminar requirement may be fulfilled by participating in appropriate off-campus academic programs which have reflective internship components, such as the programs of HECUA and Augsburg's Center for Global Education. Students may also get credit for doing further research on, and analysis of, their internship experience by enrolling in JPST 475-478 Experiential Learning.

Plus:

Additional courses to be selected with the approval of the program director, to bring the total number of credits to 40 (36 for a double major). These courses may deal with any part of the circle of praxis. Students seeking further opportunities to learn the theories behind, or honing of, skills for action might consider:

ENTR 360 Creativity and Change (4 credits)

ENVR 351 Environmental Policy Formation (4 credits)

JOUR 311 Persuasion in Writing (4 credits)

JPST 285 Social Movements and Methods (4 credits)

SOWK 391 Social Policy for Social Change (4 credits)

Students majoring *only* in Justice and Peace Studies are strongly encouraged to take a "methods" course from a department that uses approaches relevant to the way they are choosing to complete the JPST major. The purpose of this recommendation is to strengthen abilities in data interpretation, manipulation and generation.

Possibilities include:

GEOG 221 Computer Skills in Geography (4 credits)

POLS 205 Introduction to the American Public Policy Process (4 credits)

SOCI 210 Research Methods in Sociology (4 credits)

SOC 220 Sociological Analysis (4 credits)

Minor in Justice and Peace Studies

JPST 250 Introduction to Justice and Peace Studies (4 credits)

JPST 280 Active Nonviolence (4 credits)

THEO 305 Theologies of Justice and Peace (4 credits)

Plus:

Eight additional credits to be selected with the approval of the program director. At least four of these credits must be outside the student's major department. Any of the courses listed for the major may be applied to the minor.

JPST 250 Introduction to Justice and Peace Studies (4 credits)

Major aspects of world and local conflict, theories of social science relating to conflict and violence, and various proposals for solutions. Among the aspects of conflict studied are cultural differences, scarcity of resources, economic and social structures, international trade, the arms race, corruption, oppression and war. Proposed solutions assessed include development, structural changes, world governance, multinational agencies, military power, civilian-based defense, active nonviolence for social change, conflict resolution, disarmament, cultural exchange, religious revival and prayer. These topics are considered in the light of theory, history, and literature. Students apply these concepts by investigating one country or geographic area in depth through a semester-long research project. Usually offered every semester. This course fulfills the Human Diversity requirement in the core curriculum.

JPST 295, 296 Topics (2 credits)

JPST 297, 298 Topics (4 credits)

The subject matter of these courses will vary from year to year, but will not duplicate existing courses. Descriptions of these courses are available at www.stthomas.edu/registrar/onlineschedule/.

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JPST 280 Active Nonviolence (4 credits)

Active nonviolence as a means for societal defense and social transformation analyzed through case studies of actual nonviolent movements, examining their political philosophy and how this philosophy is reflected in their methods and strategies. Examples of possible case studies include: Mahatma Gandhi's movement for a free India, Danish resistance to Nazi occupation, the struggle for interracial justice in the United State, an integrated Canada-to-Cuba peace-and-freedom walk, the campaign to close the U.S. Army School of the Americas (WHINSEC), fair trade movements, and the Honeywell Project. The course emphasizes the theory and active practice of nonviolence as well as oral histories of successful nonviolent movements. Usually offered every semester.

JPST 285 Social Movements (4 credits)

Our class will analyze social movements through the events that shape their struggles for justice. Historical survey and key theoretical concepts will provide context for examining the methods used to advance social change. The first half of the course will explore the U.S. Civil Rights Movement through primary documents, video and classroom analysis. The second half of the course will apply the lessons of historical movements to contemporary movements. We will explore local manifestations of global movements through immersion, service-learning projects, guest speakers, student research and final presentations.

JPST 470 Conflict Resolution (4 credits)

An introduction to issues surrounding conflict and the resolution of conflict in today's world focusing primarily on its contextual manifestation at the international, regional and intrastate levels. The course will explore important structural, social and psychological explanations of conflict. Attention will be given to ethnic and nationalist themes surrounding conflicts and their resolution at the intrastate and international levels. The course will examine how different types of intervention affect conflicts (the media, force, other types of third party intervention). Effective methods that foster an environment conducive to resolving or managing disputes will be studied. As part of this final task, the course will critically study how institutions such as power-sharing arrangements, federalism, and the rule of law figure into establishing a lasting basis for peaceful co-existence. Usually offered spring semester.

Note: Active nonviolence and conflict resolution focus on different stages of conflict. Active nonviolence is a sanction employed when conflict resolution has broken down; it is designed to move the parties toward conflict resolution. Active nonviolence also is employed when one or more of the parties to a conflict believe that conflict resolution is maintaining an unjust situation *i.e.*, peace without justice.

JPST 472 Justice and Peace Senior Seminar (4 credits)

This seminar brings together what students have learned throughout their justice and peace studies, activities, internships and service projects and applies it to a project of their own choice negotiated with the professor through a learning contract. In carrying out that project, students will pay attention to the four steps of the circle of praxis. Results of the project are shared with the other members of the seminar. In addition, common topics studied include basic statistics needed to understand, judge, and use statistics responsibly; writings of key theoreticians in justice and peace studies; and an introduction to a broad range of organizations working for the relief of suffering and for structural and social change. Usually offered spring semester.

JPST 473 Vocational Internship Seminar (0 credit)

Students are required to take this seminar during the semester they are doing an internship of 7-10 hrs/wk. The seminar meets three times (at the beginning, middle, and end of the semester), to provide opportunities for those engaged in individual placements to get peer support for their discernment process. At its core is a reflective process designed to lead students to: a deeper understanding of the practical means of working for social change; an evaluation of their internship experience (both in terms of gaining a deeper understanding of their own vocation and a better understanding of the type of institutions they are working with); and applying these insights to future course work and career planning.

JPST 475, 476 Experiential Learning (2 credits)

JPST 477, 478 Experiential Learning (4 credits)

See the description of these courses at the beginning of the "Curricula" section of this catalog.

JPST 483, 484 Seminar (2 credits)

JPST 485, 486 Seminar (4 credits)

See the description of these courses at the beginning of the "Curricula" section of this catalog.

JPST 487, 488 Topics (2 credits)

JPST 489, 490 Topics (4 credits)

The subject matter of these courses will vary from year to year, but will not duplicate existing courses. Descriptions of these courses are available at www.stthomas.edu/registrar/onlineschedule/.

JPST 491, 492 Research (2 credits)

JPST 493, 494 Research (4 credits)

See the description of these courses at the beginning of the "Curricula" section of this catalog.

JPST 495, 496 Individual Study (2 credits)

JPST 497, 498 Individual Study (4 credits)

See the description of these courses at the beginning of the "Curricula" section of this catalog.