April 10, 2019

Dear Vice-Provost Smith:

I write as director of the Undergraduate International Studies Program (UISP) to make a request on a small matter. In conjunction with the Peace Studies coordinator (a joint UISP/Mershon Center employee), we propose a renaming of the current “Peace Studies” minor (UISP), to become “International Conflict and Peace Studies.” While this is a comparatively small change, we nevertheless feel that it will clarify the content of the minor for prospective students in important ways. Indeed, we believe it more accurately reflects the intellectual content of the existing minor and its requirements, which are themselves not affected by this name change. Our rationale for the change rests on the following basis as well:

1. The minor was perhaps inappropriately named in the first place. Peace-building is necessarily linked to discussions of the causes of international conflict, and indeed a large portion of the courses available for “Peace Studies” minors is devoted to the foundations of conflict—be they inequality, racial and ethnic conflict, social mobilization, or failures of conflict-containing institutions. In this sense, the name change—to emphasize both conflict and its amelioration—is a more honest way to present the minor to students.

2. Feedback from students in core courses has suggested that the name “Peace Studies” may have unintended connotations that deter students from both the minor and some of the courses within it. Anecdotal evidence suggests that this has produced gender imbalances in the core classes as well as the minor as a whole, however unfounded these connotations may be.

3. The peace studies minor is operated in conjunction with the Peace Studies coordinator hired in coordination with the Mershon Center. We have recently hired a fantastic new coordinator, and she teaches three key courses in the minor. Her specific skill sets and emphases are different, however, from the preceding
coordinator and the name change will facilitate the future inclusion of new courses focusing on both conflict and peace that she will be developing for the minor (and likely other tracks within International Studies).

4. The name change will more squarely tie the minor to the Mershon Center’s ‘International Security Studies’ focus, and is consistent with the long-time connection between the minor and the center.

I have attached both the existing and potential updated advising sheet, as well as a letter of concurrence from the Department of Political Science. Per the curriculum manual, I am hopeful that this small change constitutes an update to the minor rather than a wholesale revision.

Please let me know if this meets with your approval, and, of course, we would be delighted to provide any additional information that you require.

Best Regards,

Marcus J. Kurtz
Professor of Political Science and
Director of International Studies
Undergraduate International Studies Program

33 Townshend Hall
1185 Neil Avenue
Columbus, OH 43210
614-292-9657;  http://internationalstudies.osu.edu

The minor program in Peace Studies focuses on the theory and practice of peace studies on both a national and global scale. Students who successfully complete this minor will be able to develop a systematic framework for understanding this values-driven and multidisciplinary applied discipline. 12 Credit Hours.

NOTE: The Honors version of any course included here also is eligible to be counted toward the minor.

**Required Foundational Course** (3 Credit Hours)
INTSTDS 2800 – Introduction to Peace Studies (3)

**Elective Courses** (9 Credit Hours)
Choose 2 courses from one group and 1 course from the other. At least 2 of the 3 chosen courses must be at the 4000-level or above.

1. **Theory**
   AGCOMM 5150: Communication for Change and Development (3)
   COMM 3330: Communication and Conflict Management (3)
   INTSTDS 4802: Problems and Prospects for Peace (3)
   INTSTDS 5800: International Law (3)
   POLITSC 3460: Global Justice (3)
   POLITSC 4282: The Politics of Income Inequality (3)
   POLITSC 4330: Global Governance (3)
   POLITSC 4455: Human Rights (3)
   SOC 3463: Social Stratification: Race, Class and Gender (3)
   SOC 4666: Power and Society (3)

2. **Applied**
   INTSTDS 4801: Multilateral Diplomacy: A Model United Nations (3)
   INTSTDS 4803: Intervening for Peace: Peacekeeping and Collective Security (3)
   INTSTDS 4804: Applied Peace Studies I: Nonviolence Theory (3)
   INTSTDS 4805: Applied Peace Studies II: Nonviolence Practice (3)
   INTSTDS 5191: Student Intern Program in International Studies (3)
   POLITSC 4320: Strategies of War and Peace (3)
   POLITSC 4331: The UN System (3)
   PUBAFRS 2150: Introduction to Nonprofit Organizations (3)
   PUBAFRS 3140: Nonprofit Governance and Management (3)
   SOC 4606: Social Movements and Collective Behavior (3)

**Peace Studies Minor Program Guidelines**

**Required for graduation** No.

**Credit hours required** Minimum of 12. 1000 level courses shall not be counted toward the minor.

**Transfer and EM credit hours allowed** A student is permitted to count up to 6 total hours of transfer credit and/or credit by examination.

**Overlap with the GE** A student is permitted to overlap up to 6 credit hours between the GE and the minor.

**Overlap with the major and additional minors**
- The minor must be in a different subject than the major.
- The minor must contain a minimum of 12 hours distinct from the major and/or additional minor(s)

**Grades required**
- Minimum C- for a course to be counted toward the minor.
- Minimum 2.00 cumulative point-hour ratio required for the minor.
- Course work graded Pass/Non-Pass cannot count toward the minor.
- No more than 3 credit hours of coursework graded Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory may count toward the minor.

**X93 credits** No more than 3 credit hours.

**Approval required** Minor coursework must be approved by an International Studies advisor.

**Filing the minor program form** The minor program form must be filed at least by the time the graduation application is submitted to the college.

**Changing the minor** Once the minor program is filed in the college office, any changes must be approved by an International Studies advisor.

*NOTE:* The Peace Studies minor is not open to students with the International Relations & Diplomacy specializations of the International Studies major.
The minor program in International Conflict and Peace Studies focuses on the theory and practice of peace studies on both a national and global scale. Students who successfully complete this minor will be able to develop a systematic framework for understanding this values-driven and multidisciplinary applied discipline. 12 Credit Hours.

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**X193 credits** No more than 3 credit hours.

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**NOTE:**
The International Conflict and Peace Studies minor is not open to students with the International Relations & Diplomacy specialization of the International Studies major.
From: Herrmann, Richard <herrmann.1@osu.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 2:56 PM
To: Kurtz, Marcus <kurtz.61@polisci.osu.edu>
Subject: Re: Concurrence Request - UISP

Dear Marcus,

The Department of Political Science concurs with this name change.

Sincerely,

Rick

On Apr 2, 2019, at 2:11 PM, Kurtz, Marcus <kurtz.61@polisci.osu.edu> wrote:

Dear Rick,

I’m writing to ask you concurrence in a minor matter. The International Studies Program is renaming its undergraduate minor in “Peace Studies.” We would like to change the formal title to “International Conflict and Peace Studies.” The course content, etc. is not affected by this change – it is being done to more accurately reflect the content of the minor and align the program more closely with our resources at the Mershon Center. Is this acceptable to Political Science?

Best Regards,

Marcus.

Marcus J. Kurtz, Professor
Department of Political Science
Ohio State University
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website