INTERDISCIPLINARY MINOR IN PEACE AND JUSTICE STUDIES

Director: Erin Robinson, PhD

The Department also supports the interdisciplinary minor in Peace and Justice Studies. Students can benefit from both the global and local focus while pursuing studies of human rights and social justice. Our “Justice in Action” approach helps students apply social science and humanities perspectives to address our world’s most pressing social concerns. For more information please see the Peace and Studies website. (http://www.canisius.edu/sociology/courses/peace-justice-studies.html)

The minor in Peace and Justice Studies is intended to further the mission of the College by preparing students for their role as leaders in the local and global community. Students pursuing this track of the Minor will develop skills, knowledge, and perspective to pursue “Justice in Action.” The program’s focus is on the religious, social science, and humanities perspectives needed to address peace and justice topics.

Components of the Minor and Advisement Notes

This minor requires that students complete 6 courses and a capstone (described in the Curriculum).

**Required Courses:** It is recommended that the two required major courses be taken towards the beginning of a student’s academic career; however, these courses are not intended to serve as prerequisites for the rest of the program.

**Major Electives:** Students must choose a methods course if one is not required by their major department. If students choose an additional religious studies course, they must choose a course from a perspective different from the selection in the foundation course, i.e.: Elective should be focused on a non-Christian perspective if they choose RST 340 Moral Issues Today, and vice versa. It is recommended that students take a modern foreign language.

**Major Capstone Course:** A senior level capstone course will be required of all students. This seminar-style course will be taught by faculty involved in the program and will address all three aspects of Ignatian Pedagogy: experience, reflection, and action. The requirement for the Capstone Course will be a Capstone Immersion Experience. It will require students to:

- Collectively identify a Peace and Justice issue in the local or global community
- Through a group initiative, develop an action plan to assist the organization and community in its efforts to resolve the issue
- All students will be working with the same organization, as this will be a team approach to their service experience. Students will spend the majority of their course time in the field gaining direct experience with the community. Other course time will be devoted to group discussion and reflection with appropriate academic readings.

**Maintaining an Electronic Portfolio:** In the majority of courses completed for this program, students will be required to do a course assignment on an issue of peace and justice in today’s world. Through the Desire2Learn (D2L) portfolio tool, students will maintain a multi-year electronic portfolio of these assignments to enhance their learning. Students should maintain a collection of 7-10 assignments that reflect their progress in the program.

### Curriculum

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SOC 273</td>
<td>Social Movements and Social Change</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RST 340</td>
<td>Moral Issues Today</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or RST 220</td>
<td>Introduction to Eastern Religions</td>
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**Elective Courses**

Skills: Select one from the following list

- ANT 351 Qualitative Research Methods
- HSV 303 Research Methods in the Social Sciences
- COM 201 Oral Communication
- COM 204 Interpersonal Communication
- COM 302 Small Group Communication
- ECO 311 Metropolitan Economic Development and GIS
- PSY 329 Leadership and Motivation

Local: Select one from the following list

- SOC 111 Contemporary Social Problems
- SOC 340 Sociology of the City
- HIS 382 New York State History

Global: Select one from the following list

- ANT 122 Sociocultural Anthropology
- RST 341 Catholic Social Ethics: Theological Perspectives
- SOC 342 Social Research Methods
- RST 342 Theological Ethics and Environmental Justice

**Total Credits**

18