Request for an Interdisciplinary Minor in Peace and Conflict Studies

SECTION I
The Request

We request the creation of a new interdisciplinary minor in peace and conflict studies. Faculty from 15 different departments representing 5 colleges have collaborated on the creation of this new minor which will take advantage of existing resources and provide an new educational program that is timely, important, and appealing to both undergraduate students and faculty. The minor will introduce students to peace and conflict studies from an interdisciplinary perspective, and will provide them with an opportunity to focus on one specific area of interest within the broad array of issues related to peace and conflict studies. The minor will be housed in the College of Humanities. Initially, the Department of Communication, which offers an undergraduate sequence in conflict resolution, will hold primary responsibility for advising and other administrative procedures. The Department of Philosophy will provide additional support as needed.

The Peace and Conflict Studies minor will prepare students to understand the dynamics of peace and conflict and to contribute to the creation of more just and peaceable conditions in the world. Courses focus on the understanding of conflict, the history of peace efforts, conflict resolution, human rights, and social patterns that have contributed to peace and conflict across the globe. The goal of the Peace and Conflict Studies Minor is to facilitate the discovery of ways to eradicate violence and work toward peace. Through critical analysis and interdisciplinary methods much can be learned about the causes of conflict and conditions of peace at all levels upon which the discipline of peace studies has focused---ranging from personal, through societal, to global. This knowledge can assist future generations to put into practice just and sustainable principles locally and globally. Since a large part of peacemaking involves the appreciation of human diversity, all menus include courses that focus on non-western culture, religion, gender, race and ethnic relations, and class structure and relations. Students are encouraged to include at least one of these courses in their minor. Students in the minor also will have an opportunity to enroll in a one-credit film/lecture seminar.

The curriculum of the minor is structured to achieve flexibility while ensuring thematic breadth and depth of content coverage. Students will take a total of 18 credits (no more than 9 in a single department) according to the following guidelines[1]:

1. choose an introductory course from a menu of introductory options;
2. form a concentration by selecting three courses from a menu of upper division courses;
3. and elect two elective courses, which can be drawn from any of the menus. One of the electives must be a designated capstone course.

[1] See attachment for tables summarizing the proposed tracks and each menu of course options.

The administration of the minor is also structured to achieve flexibility while ensuring clarity, continuity, and quality of the educational experience. The following administrative structures have been put into place:

1. Primary advising will occur in the Department of Communication. New funds have been made available through the College of Humanities to supplement the regular advising staff in the Department of Communication in order to address the demand expected by this new minor. The staff person assigned to the advising function of this minor will meet with students as they enter the minor, keep track of their progress through the minor, and work with any course substitutions suggested or requested by individual students.

2. An Advisory Committee has been identified. The Peace & Conflict Studies Minor will be governed by a Peace & Conflict Studies Advisory Committee (committee) made up of faculty members from contributing departments and appointed by the Dean of the College of Humanities. Suggested size of the Advisory Committee is 7-10 members. A coordinator will be selected from the members of that committee. Coordinator selection is a joint responsibility of the College of Humanities and the committee. The committee will be responsible for maintaining program quality. Suggested tenure on the committee is four years.

   Specific responsibilities include:
   1. meet mid-way through both fall and spring semesters;
   2. conduct a brief program review on an annual basis;
   3. review new undergraduate classes submitted for possible inclusion AT LEAST on an annual basis (may be reviewed more often to accommodate special topics);
   4. conduct a full program review every four years;
   5. include a review of all current classes for retention as part of the full program review;
   6. consider whether to retain the existing coordinator or appoint a new coordinator as part of the full program review.

Faculty members who wish to submit a class for inclusion in the Peace & Conflict Studies Minor (minor) should provide the committee with the following materials at least two weeks prior to the committee's review meeting:

1. syllabus for the proposed class, including prerequisites, readings, assignments, and schedule;
2. memo from the instructor indicating (a) how the class relates to the vision articulated for the minor, and (b) which of the five themes (*social interaction, human rights, diversity, social activism, global interaction*) the class contributes most directly to (may be more than one);
3. memo from relevant department/program chair indicating support for including the class in the minor;
4. expectations for class scheduling (when will the class be taught, how many students will the class accommodate, etc.).

Capstone course. Tarla Rai Peterson (communication) and Leslie Francis (philosophy) will be responsible for the capstone course for the minor. The capstone will be offered spring semester 2005, if enrollment for the minor justifies that offering. The capstone will be a seminar bringing together theories explaining conflict, ethical views about the justification of conflict and of methods of responding to it, and methods of conflict resolution.

SECTON II
Need

The need for this minor is almost too self evident. Our daily lives have been increasingly implicated with violence in small and large ways. Domestic violence is on the rise. Elementary and high schools are too often places where violent rather than discursive means to conflict resolution are practiced in the hallways, cafeterias, and playgrounds. Countries have always gone to war, and will continue to do so, but our understanding of the reasons and the ways to engage or avoid war are becoming inadequate. Institutions of higher education, and the University of Utah in particular, have an obligation to provide a way to examine these issues responsibly and educate our students more broadly in peace and conflict.

Peace and conflict are complex issues, associated with multiple factors, which have been addressed by many disciplines. Many single departments offer insight into this complexity but by virtue of disciplinary boundaries, these offerings cannot help but be partial and fragmented. A more complete assessment and nuanced understanding is by definition multi-disciplinary in nature. Put very simply, there is no other way to responsibly study the issues of peace and conflict than to design an educational experience that is in purpose and structure interdisciplinary.

Because there is a clear and definable need to study peace and conflict at the University of Utah and because the study of peace and conflict issues and tools for responding to those issues are interdisciplinary, the students who complete this minor will:

1. Analyze the etiology and dynamics of current peace and conflict issues from multiple perspectives, drawn from several disciplines. This analysis should include a critique of current policies, collectively held perspectives, and behaviors associated with the issue.
2. Suggest alternative approaches and interventions, drawn from multiple perspectives that might be applied towards current peace and conflict issues. For example, approaches to viewing the War on Terrorism might be drawn from Philosophy, Sociology, Anthropology, or Economics. Similarly, interventions might be drawn from Social Work, Communication, or Political science.
3. Synthesize the approaches to peace and conflict studies that are presented in different disciplines. Ultimately, students formulate unique personal approach to dealing with peace and conflict that builds upon their experiences in the classes taken in the minor.

SECTION III
Institutional Impact

Because this minor involves no new courses and no new program development, it requires no new funds. Instead, this is a minor that is created by the organization of existing resources and the

collaboration of units currently on the campus. While no new funds will be required, it is expected that an increase in SCH might be observed. The peace and conflict minor, because it is unique, timely, and important, could attract some new students to the University of Utah.

SECTION IV
Finances

No new funds are needed and no additional resources will be required. This request is one that merely requires organization and institutionalization. Faculty resources already exist in each of the collaborating departments and administrative support is evident from college involvement.

Signature Page

Institution Submitting Proposal:	University of Utah
College, School, or Division affected:	College of Humanities
Department(s) or Area(s) affected:	Communication
Change in Description:	Interdisciplinary Minor in Peace & Conflict Studies
Proposed beginning date:	Fall 2004

Institutional Signatures (as required):

Department Chair(s)

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Ann L. Darling, Department of Communication

Dean(s) or Division Chair

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Robert Newman, College of Humanities

Chief Academic Officer

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ATTACHMENT

Structure of Peace & Conflict Studies Minor

Complete 1 course from this list (3 credits)
*See *Linking Introductory Courses to Thematic Areas* for recommendations on which courses are most appropriate for a given theme.

Anthropology 1101	Culture and Human Experience
Communication 1270	Analysis of Argument
Economics 1060	Pol Economy of Race, Ethnicity, Class and Gender
Ethnic Studies 2020	Social & Psych Aspects of the African Amer Exper
Geography 1400	Humans in an Uncertain World
History 1040	World Civilization to 1500
History 1050	World Civilization Since 1500
History 2100	Nazi Germany and the Holocaust
Language and Literature 2700	Holocaust Literature
Naval Science 2110	Evolution of Warfare
Philosophy 2500	Current Moral Issues
Philosophy 2600	World Religions
Social Work 2300	Social Welfare as an Institution
Sociology 1020	Current Social Problems in America
Theatre 1760	American Political Theatre

Complete 3 courses from one of the following 5 themes (9 credits)
**See *Linking Upper Division Courses to Thematic Areas* for recommendations on which courses are most appropriate for a given theme.

Social Interaction	Focus on intrapersonal, interpersonal, and family relations
Human Rights	Focus on religion, ethics, and justice
Diversity	Focus on culture, race, and gender
Social Activism	Focus on new social movements and civil disobedience
Global Interaction	Focus on economic and political disputes related to warfare and violence

Complete 2 elective courses selected from the entire list (6 credits).

Total credits—18
****Students will take no more than 9 credits (3 courses) in any single discipline.

Linking Introductory Courses to Thematic Areas

Theme	Select One Course			
Social Interaction	Comm1270; Analysis of Argument	Philosophy 2500; Current Moral Issues	Social Work 2300; Social Welfare as an Institution	Anthro 1101; Culture and Human Experience
Human Rights	Philosophy 2500; Current Moral Issues	Comm1270; Analysis of Argument	Social Work 2300; Social Welfare as an Institution	Sociology 1020; Current Social Problems in America
Diversity	Lang & Lit 2700; Holocaust Lit.	Ethnic Studies 2020; Social & Psych Aspects of the African Amer Experience	Anthro 1101; Culture and Human Experience	Econ 1060; Pol Economy of Race, Ethnicity, Class and Gender
Social Activism	Lang & Lit 2700; Holocaust Lit.	Comm 1270 Analysis of Argument	Philosophy 2600; World Religions	Theatre 1760; American Political Theatre
Global Interaction	Philosophy 2600; World Religions	Geog 1400; Humans in an Uncertain World	Naval Science 2110; Evolution of Warfare	Anthro 1101; Culture and Human Experience

Linking Upper Division Courses to Thematic Areas

Social Interaction	**Select 3 Courses**	
Anthropology	4181	Family Power and Society
Communication	3330	Negotiation and Interviewing
	5130	Communication and Emotion
	5270	Theories of Argument
Educational Psych	5965	Managing Anger
	5965	Meditation and Stress
Ethnic Studies	3290	Ethnic Minority Families
FCS	3180	Home, School, and Community Relations
	3240	Ecology of Family Belief Systems
	3270	Parent-Child Relationships
	3290	Ethnic Minority Families
	3430	Intro to Family Policy
	3650	Community Psychology and Environment
	5230	Adolescent Dev in the Family
	5280	Divorce and Remarriage
	5360	Family Law
	5370	Family Violence
	5380	Family Problems
History	4095	Body & State In Modern Britain
	4630	History of Sexuality
Honors	3214	Conflict
Linguistics	3460	Language in Society
Management	3680	Human Behavior in Organizations
	4860	Mgt. Org Conflict
Philosophy	3500	Ethics
Psychology	3400	Abnormal Behavior
	3420	Environment and Behavior
	3650	Community Psychology and Environment
Social Work	3101	Hum Behavior and Social Envir I
	3102	Hum Behavior and Social Envir II
	3201	Comm in the Helping Process
Sociology	3437	Aggression, Conflict and Violence
	3560	Deviant Behavior and Social Control
	3561	Criminology
	3562	Juvenile Delinquency
Theatre	3210	Tai-Chi Yoga Movements

Human Rights	**Select 3 Courses**	
Anthropology	4141	Ethnicity and Nationalism
Communication	5270	Theories of Argument
	5300	Mass Communication Law
	5320	Freedom of Expression
	5340	Communication and Law
	5350	Ethical Practices of Communication
	5360	Environmental Communication
Economics	5140	Discrimination in the Labor Market
	5180	Poverty and Inequity
Ethnic Studies	3180	American Indian Land, Water and Resources
	3420	American Racism
	4560	Chicana/o Civil Rights Movement
FCS	5360	Family Law
	5610	Gender, Law, Class and Community
Honors	3214	Conflict
Management	4860	Mgt. Organizational Conflict
Philosophy	3500	Ethics
Philosophy	3530	Environmental Ethics
	3700	Political Philosophy
	3710	Philosophy of Law
	5700	Advanced Political Philosophy
Political Science	3000	Liberalism and Critics
	3250	Gender, Ethics and Public Policy
	5320	Public Policy Theories and Applications
	5620	U.S. National Security Policy
Sociology	3341	Social Inequality
	3564	Courts and Corrections
Urban Planning	5340	Public/Private Interests in Land Development
	5350	Public Lands and Environmental Policy
History	4105	Christian Traditions in Practice
	4790	American Religions

Diversity	**Select 3 Courses**	
Anthropology	4141	Ethnicity and Nationalism
Communication	3070	Communication and Gender
	3420	Performance and Culture
	5150	Conflict, Cultural Studies and Dialogues
	5450	Communication and Culture
	5540	Media and Ethnicity
	5620	International Communication
Economics	5170	Feminist Economics
Ethnic Studies	3180	American Indian Land, Water and Resources
	3190	Racial and Ethnic Politics
	3290	Ethnic Minority Families
	3400	Intercultural Communication
	3420	American Racism
	3450	Intergroup Relations
	3520	Asian Pacific American Contemporary Issues
	4560	Chicana/o Civil Rights Movement
	4600	Asian Pacific American History
FCS	3290	Ethnic Minority Families
	5360	Family Law
	5390	Gender & Minorities Across the Lifespan
	5610	Gender, Law, Class and Community
Gender Studies	3690	Gender and Contemporary Issues
Honors	3214	Conflict
Linguistics	3470	Language and Culture
Management	5810	Mg. Diversity through Communication
Philosophy	3700	Political Philosophy
	5700	Advanced Political Philosophy
Political Science	3490	Religion and Politics in Comparative Perspective
	3250	Gender, Ethics and Public Policy
	3340	Diversity in the Workplace
	5440	Nationalism and Ethnic Conflict
Psychology	5280	Culture and Diversity
Social Work	3900	Dialogues of Spiritual Diversity
Sociology	3341	Social Inequality
	3365	Ethnic Minorities
	3380	Race, Class, and Gender
	3564	Native Americans in Modern Society
Theatre	3000	Grappling w/diversity & Multiculturalism thru Art
	3001	Eastern Theatre
History	4280	Sex & Gender in Early Modern Europe
	4310	Gender & Power in Latin America
	4600	Women in America to 1870
	4610	Women in America Since 1870
	4670	History of Native American Peoples
	4690	African American History 1619-1890
	4700	African American History Since 1890
	4710	The Concept of Race in America

Social Activism	**Select 3 Courses**	
Anthropology	4182	Anthropology of Power
Communication	3330	Negotiation and Interviewing
	3490	Communication & Public Issues
	5200	Persuasion and Political Communication
	5270	Theories of Argument
	5320	Freedom of Expression
	5360	Environmental Communication
	5540	Media and Ethnicity
Economics	5120	Labor Law & Collective Bargaining
	5170	Feminist Economics
English	5060	Contemporary Propaganda
Ethnic Studies	3190	Racial and Ethnic Politics
	3450	Intergroup Relations
	3520	Asian Pacific American Contemporary Issues
	4560	Chicana/o Civil Rights Movement
FCS	5730	Community Development & Enviro. Change
Honors	3214	Conflict
Linguistics	3470	Language and Culture
Philosophy	3530	Environmental Ethics
Psychology	3650	Community Psychology and Environment
Social Work	3201	Comm in the Helping Process
Sociology	3422	Collective Behavior and Social Movements
	3431	Social Change
	3437	Aggression, Conflict and Violence
	3446	Political Sociology
Theatre	3000	Grappling w/Diversity & Multiculturalism thru Art
	5630	Drama as Service Learning
Urban Planning	5350	Public Lands and Environmental Policy
	5370	System Dynamics and Environmental Policy
History	4370	History of American Social Movements
	4380	Environmental History of the United States

Global Interaction	**Select 3 Courses**	
Anthropology	4138	Anthropology of Violence and Nonviolence
	4141	Ethnicity and Nationalism
	4182	Anthropology of Power
Communication	3190	Intercultural Communication
	5620	International Communication
Economics	5120	Labor Law & Collective Bargaining
	5140	Discrimination in the Labor Market
	5180	Poverty and Inequity
English	5060	Contemporary Propaganda
Ethnic Studies	3190	Racial and Ethnic Politics
	3400	Intercultural Communication
Geography	3420	Political Geography
	3440	Economic Geography
Honors	3214	Conflict
Linguistics	3470	Language and Culture
Philosophy	3500	Ethics
	3530	Environmental Ethics
	3700	Political Philosophy
	3710	Philosophy of Law
	5700	Advanced Political Philosophy
Political Science	3420	Islam and Politics
	3490	Religion and Politics in Comparative Perspective
	3620	United Nations
	3800	Issues in International Politics
	5440	Nationalism and Ethnic Conflict
	5450	Political Violence and Terrorism
	5670	US National Security Policy
Sociology	3437	Aggression, Conflict and Violence
Theatre	3000	Grappling w/diversity & Multiculturalism thru Art
	3001	Eastern Theatre
History	3020	Age of Alexander
	3210	Age of Total War
	3710	The American Revolution
	4320	America at War
	4420	The Crusades
	4430	The Middle East: Nation States
	4750	US Foreign Relations: Colonial Era to 1898
	4760	US Foreign Relations: Twentieth Century
	4321	America at War 1898 to 1991
	4520	American Wars/Asian Revolutions
	4765	Vietnam War
	4770	Warfare in the Modern World