

Nonviolence Studies Undergraduate Certificate

Learn the strategies, tactics and tools to help resolve problems without violence in the nonviolence studies undergraduate certificate.

This program encompasses a broad range of concepts grounded in nonviolence as a philosophy and methodology guiding humanistic and democratic activities on all levels of human interactions. The courses focus on the advancement of peace building endeavors in every area of human engagement, including all kinds of human relationships, both personal and professional, as well as activities of social change-making and civic and political participation.

Careers

The skills learned in the nonviolence studies undergraduate certificate program can be applied to many careers, including:

- Crisis communication
- International diplomacy
- Psychology
- Anthropology
- Social work
- Education

Goals

To earn the Certificate in Nonviolence Studies (NVS), students will examine violence and nonviolence within a holistic context. Students will look at social justice issues as they relate to individuals, the community, and the world. Students will take a comprehensive and far-reaching view of issues as they exist within the context of the culture and the world that surrounds them—as they exist through time and within a continuum that includes the precursors that lead to actual physical violence. They will imagine ways to apply nonviolence methodology to achieve better “cultural and social health” similarly to the way “public health” officials apply a preventative, contextual model.

Upon completion of an undergraduate certificate in nonviolence studies, student will be able to demonstrate their understanding of:

- systems theory
- the differences between a mechanistic and organic worldview
- basic anthropological perspectives and concepts of holism
- history and theories of past and current nonviolence movements, including major writers
- their positionality in the social order and in what ways their life choices make a difference

their ability to apply:

- the concepts and methodologies of nonviolent resistance and direct action
- holistic thinking to human issues ranging from local to global
- the basic skills of conflict resolution, mediation, and arbitration

- critical thinking to real-world issues

Curriculum

Required (6 credits)

- **DAS 355 - Introduction to Nonviolence Studies (3 credits)**

The theory and practice of nonviolence as a method of social change and as a personal way of life. This class will engage students in the consideration of violence and nonviolence, from dynamics that occur within ourselves to those that affect the future of the Earth and its many life forms. Students will share with each other from their own lived experience and will learn from the writings of people who have practiced nonviolence in their lives and work.

Typically Offered

Fall, Spring (16-weeks, online)

UGE course

Yes

K-State 8

Ethical Reasoning and Responsibility

- **DAS 455 - Violence, Nonviolence and Social Change (3 credits)**

This course reviews historical and contemporary responses to violence around the world by studying ideas, strategies, organizational approaches, and societal impacts on nonviolence and social change. Emphasis is placed on historical antecedents to recent violence and nonviolence, and on the analysis of up-to-date resources as they relate to social change.

Typically Offered

Fall, Spring (8-weeks, online)

UGE course

No

K-State 8

Ethical Reasoning and Responsibility
Global Issues and Perspectives

OR

DAS 590 - Applied Nonviolence (3 credits)

The capstone experience for the Undergraduate Certificate in Nonviolence Studies, includes field placement in a campus or community organization in which student will have a skill- and-research-based experience in nonviolence-related social change project. Projects can be local, regional, national, or international in scope. Concurrently, students will engage in academic readings and class sessions that address feminist and nonviolent approaches to social change, program design, and participatory action research. This course will provide students with professional and academic skills that relate to employment and graduate work in diverse fields.

Typically Offered

Jan Intersession, May Intersession, Summer (3-weeks, online)

UGE course

No

K-State 8

Ethical Reasoning and Responsibility

Electives (9 credits)

- **DAS 555 – Global Conflict and Nonviolence Struggle (3 credits)**

This course explores nonviolence from a national and global perspective, with particular emphasis on emergent techniques and themes in nonviolence studies with particular emphasis on conflict resolution, peacekeeping and peacebuilding, and intersections of gender, race, class, ethnicity, and religion.

Typically Offered

Jan Intersession, May Intersession, Summer (3-weeks, online)

UGE course

No

K-State 8

Ethical Reasoning and Responsibility

- **DAS 575 – Peacebuilding through Literature (3 credits)**

This course explores peace and nonviolence philosophy as depicted across literary genres globally. Students will analyze various literary texts/selections like short stories, poems,

novels, journals, letters, autobiographies, etc., to understand the process of peacebuilding through literature.

Typically Offered

Fall, Spring, Summer (16-weeks, online)

UGE course

No

K-State 8

Ethical Reasoning and Responsibility

- **CNRES 531 - Core Conflict Resolution (3 credits)**

This course focuses on a set of core skills and strategies for managing and resolving disputes. It is designed to (1) help individuals deal with differences and address conflict on a personal level, and (2) provide detailed knowledge of a structured approach for third party conflict resolvers.

When Offered

Fall, Spring

UGE course

No

K-State 8

Ethical Reasoning and Responsibility
Social Sciences

- **CNRES 532 - Conflict Across Cultures and Contexts (3 credits)**

The course explores the cultural components of conflict by examining the dynamics of interpersonal beliefs and socialization, cross cultural conflict theory, and issues related to application in a variety of settings. This course is designed to be an exercise in critical thinking, cultural exploration, and self-reflection.

Requisites

Prerequisite: CCONRS or RCATS or instructor permission.

Typically Offered

Fall

UGE course

No

K-State 8

Global Issues and Perspectives
Social Sciences

- **CNRES 700 - Problems in Family Studies and Human Services (3 credits)**

Independent study on topics in conflict resolution and trauma studies.

Typically Offered

Fall, Spring, Summer

K-State 8

None

- **SOCIO 635 - Sociology of Human Trafficking (3 credits)**

The course explores a range of topics related to human trafficking, anti-trafficking institutions, and legislation in the context of globalization. Analysis of contemporary forms of slavery-like practices (forced labor, child trafficking, domestic servitude, and others), with primary focus on sex trafficking of women.

Credits: (3)

When Offered:

Summer

- Additional courses may be approved by the Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work.