

Updated Peace and Conflict courses offered at the Department of Political Science, Pontificia
Universidad Javeriana, from June 2018

Courses:

Name	Level	Credit	Given semester	Lang .
The Colombian Armed Conflict	Fourth or fifth year.	3	Each semester	54 hours (3 hours per week)
Post-conflict and Reconciliation	Fourth or fifth year.	3	Each semester	54 hours (3 hours per week)
Contemporary Armed Conflicts	Fourth or fifth year.	3	Each semester	54 hours (3 hours per week)
Comparative Peace Processes	Fourth or fifth year.	3	Each semester	54 hours (3 hours per week)
Prevention of violence	Fourth or fifth year.	3	Each semester	54 hours (3 hours per week)
Genocides of the 20th century	Offered in English. Students can take this course at any point during their studies	2	Each semester	36 hours (2 hours per week)
Consensus Building	7 semester	3	Each semester	54 hours (3 hours per week)
Peace and Conflict in Columbia	4 semester	3	Each semester	54 hours (3 hours per week)
Qualitative Research in Political Science	3 semester	3	Each semester	54 hours (3 hours per week)
Statistics for the Social Sciences	4 semester	3	Each semester	54 hours (3 hours per week)
Quantitative Research for the Social Sciences	5 semester (Students must have taken qualitative research and statistics)	3	Each semester	54 hours (3 hours per week)
Colombian Political System	4 semester	3	Each semester	54 hours (3 hours per week)
International Law and Human Rights	4 semester	3	Each semester	54 hours (3 hours per week)
Colombian Foreign Policy	4 semester	3	Each semester	

[Course descriptions:](#)

Contemporary Armed Conflicts (Conflictos armados contemporáneos)

The course seeks to introduce students to the debates surrounding contemporary armed conflicts and the application of International Humanitarian Law; to critically review the conceptual, legal, and political construction of the war against terror, as well as the debate

around violence in the name of Islam and the myths of the clash of civilizations; and to review case studies of armed conflicts around the world (i.e. Palestine, Darfur, Somalia, Afghanistan).

Consensus Building (Construcción de consensos)

The course will focus on how to deal with differences of interests, objectives, and world visions among groups of people, with the aim of transforming relations through processes of dialogue and deliberation for various purposes: building trust, explore ideas, transform conflicts, make decisions, evaluate communal processes, build political commitment, undertake common actions and build consensus in order to improve social worlds and democratic methods. The course will explore a variety of methods and techniques for designing processes, as well as research and reflexive practices around these processes. It will study the basis of dialogical and interactive perspectives in the field of conflict resolution, and will explore and reflect on a variety of methodologies and processes of dialogue and consensus building.

Peace and Conflict in Colombia (Conflicto y paz en Colombia)

The course provides general knowledge about violence in Colombia, its characteristics and possibilities of resolution, with an emphasis on the internal armed conflict. The problem will be approached from two perspectives: acquisition of basic tools for understanding the concepts of violence, peace, peace process, negotiation, conflict resolution, and political solution. Second, utilizing a comparative perspective with processes of reconciliation elsewhere, such as south Africa, Northern Ireland, El Salvador, Guatemala, Sierra Leone and others.

Post-Conflict and Reconciliation (Posconflicto y reconciliación)

The goal of the course is to familiarize students with the origin, evolution, complexity and specificities of Transitional Justice, analyze from a scientific perspective various problems that arise out of the transition from war to peace, discuss the challenges of reconciliation and reconstruction, understand the cost of the implementation of post-conflict policies, identify indicators of success in transitions from war to peace, discuss the issues of memory, social change, international criminal tribunals, victims and perpetrators, vengeance and retribution, forgiveness, and truth commissions.

Prevention of violence (Prevención de violencias)

The objective of the course is to critically discuss one of the field's biggest practical and theoretical challenges: the prevention of violence as a proactive strategy of approaching conflicts. The course will deal with the topic of structural and direct prevention, the design of strategies for the prevention of violent conflicts, and the role of the international community in the prevention of violence. The course will also provide technical knowledge for the design of early warning systems.

Comparative Peace Processes (Procesos de paz comparados)

The objectives of this course are to study in a comparative perspective peace processes and peacebuilding processes around the world, and develop a systemic approach to their study. It answers the question “what is a peace process?” It deals with topics such as the insecurity dilemma, conciliatory gestures, intra-party divisions, the role of third parties, spoilers, problems of implementation of agreements, multi-actor negotiations, civil society participation, and public peace processes and multi-level diplomacy.

Genocides of the 20th Century (Genocidios del silo XX)

The 20th century witnessed a great number of genocides carried out by regimes with different ideological orientations in all parts of the world. These acts of mass murder targeted political enemies as well as specific ethnic and religious groups and other “undesirables”. Much academic work has been done in order to illuminate how, why, and when genocide is perpetrated. The objective of the course is to introduce students to relevant approaches and theories for the study of genocide. By the end of the semester the students will have acquired conceptual, analytical and theoretical tools to understand the phenomenon in various contexts, and will be familiarized with some of the most important cases of genocide in the 20th century.