

PEACE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE STUDIES PRE-MAJOR

Program Coordinator: Madhuri Deshmukh, 847-376-7032,
mdeshmuk@oakton.edu

The Peace and Social Justice Studies Pre-major offers a suitable pathway to four year programs in Peace Studies as well as a range of other humanities and social science programs. An undergraduate degree in Peace Studies or related Humanities and Social Science major with a focus on social justice is a good basis for many future graduate programs, as well as programs in law. It is also good preparation for careers in social work, politics, medicine, environment, education, journalism and legal fields.

Peace and Social Justice Studies emphasizes the development of skills in analytical thinking, problem solving, conflict resolution, ethical and political deliberation and advanced reading and writing. It therefore offers excellent preparation for a range of career options. Students interested in Peace and Social Justice Studies pre-major should consider combining this pre-major with a general education focus on Humanities, Social Science and/ or Environmental Science.

The pre-major is designed for students who have not decided upon a specific four-year college or university. Once a transfer school is selected, students are strongly encouraged to consult the Office of Advising, Transitions, and Student Success and the transfer institution's catalog to select courses that will meet both Oakton and transfer institution requirements.

While completing the pre-major, students can also complete the requirements for Peace and Social Justice Studies Concentration. Students meeting the Concentration requirements will have a notation added to their transcript. Any course tagged as Peace and Social Justice Studies (PSJ) on Oakton class schedule, will help students complete the requirements for both concentration and pre-major.

The recommended sequence of courses can be altered based on student interests and scheduling needs. For more information on course selection or program-specific advising, contact the program coordinator. Part time students should also consult the Office of Advising, Transitions, and Student Success for part-time pre-major recommendations. **General Education courses should be selected from the list of IAI General Education Courses.**

Course	Title	Hours
First Year		
Semester One		
EGL 101	Composition I (PSJ section recommended)	3
PHL 106	Ethics	3
SSC 201	Introduction to Global Studies ¹	3
Select one of the following:		4
MAT 125	General Education Mathematics	
MAT 131	Elementary Statistics	
Select one of the following:		3
HUM 140	Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies ²	
HUM 141	Introduction to LGBTQ Studies ²	
Hours		16
Semester Two		
EGL 102	Composition II (PSJ section recommended)	3
SPE 103	Effective Speech	3
BIO 106	Introduction to Environmental Science ¹	4

Select one of the following:		3-4
EGL 117	Introduction to Poetry (PSJ section recommended)	
EGL 129	Introduction to Literature (PSJ section recommended)	
EGL 130	Introduction to Global Literature ¹	
EGL 132	LGBTQ+ Literature ²	
EGL 135	Introduction to Native American Literature ³	
HUM 124	African-American Culture and the Arts ²	
Modern Language Course (202 ¹ or higher) ⁴		
Select one of the following:		3
SOC 103	Social Problems ³	
SOC 230	Sociology of Sex and Gender ²	
SOC 232	Sociology of Race and Ethnicity ²	
SSC 105	Introduction to Ethnic Studies ²	
PSY 202	Social Psychology ²	

Hours 16-17

Second Year

Semester One

Select one of the following:		3
GEG 120	World Regional Geography ¹	
GEG 122	Cultural Geography ¹	
PSC 103	Introduction to Political Science	
PSC 201	Comparative Government ¹	
PSC 202	International Relations ¹	
Select one of the following:		3
PHL 130	Religious Diversity in America ²	
PHL 205	World Religions ¹	
PHL 240	Philosophy of Religion	
PHL 245	Foundational Religious Texts	
Select one of the following:		3
HIS 111	United States History to 1877	
HIS 140	History of Contemporary Non-Western Civilizations ¹	
HIS 225	History of the Islamic Middle East from the 7th Century to 1918 ¹	
HIS 226	History of the Islamic Middle East in Modern Times ¹	
HIS 234	History of Modern Latin America ¹	
Select one of the following:		3
ART 114	Art History: Art of the Non-Western World ¹	
HUM 122	Contemporary Culture and the Arts (PSJ section recommended)	
HUM 124	African-American Culture and the Arts ²	
HUM 142	Women and Creativity ²	
HUM 160	Introduction to Film	
HUM 161	Global Cinema ¹	
HUM 165	Introduction to World Music ¹	
HUM 210	World Mythologies ¹	
HUM 220	Asian Humanities (PSJ section recommended) ¹	
HUM 242	Women, Art and Culture ²	
MUS 236	Music Literature and History	
Select one of the following:		3
EGL 131	Multicultural Literature in the U.S. ²	
EGL 133	Women and Literature ²	
EGL 134	Introduction to African-American Literature ²	
EGL 150	Introduction to Journalism ⁵	

Hours 15

Semester Two

Select one of the following:		3
EGL 150	Introduction to Journalism ⁵	
PHL 215	Asian Philosophy ¹	
PHL 231	Modern and Contemporary Philosophy	
Select one of the following: ⁵		3-4
BIO 107	Ecological Restoration	
PHL 204	Environmental Ethics	
EGL 290	Topics in English	

PHL 290	Topics in Philosophy	
or Topics course in any discipline with Social Justice focus		
Select one of the following:		3
PSY 202	Social Psychology ²	
SOC 103	Social Problems ³	
SOC 230	Sociology of Sex and Gender ²	
SOC 232	Sociology of Race and Ethnicity ²	
SSC 105	Introduction to Ethnic Studies ²	
Select one of the following:		3-4
EAS 100	Introduction to Earth Science	
EAS 105	Introduction to Weather and Climate	
EAS 121	Physical Geography	
EAS 125	A Survey of Oceanography	
PHY 115	Descriptive Astronomy	
Select one of the following:		3-4
Elective course of student choice ⁶		
Modern Language Course (202 ¹ or higher) ⁴		
Hours		15-18
Total Hours		62-66

- ¹ Course fulfills the Global Studies Requirement. At least one Global Studies course is required for degree completion.
- ² Course fulfills the U.S. Diversity Requirement. At least one U.S. Diversity course is required for degree completion.
- ³ Course fulfills both the Global Studies and U.S. Diversity Requirements.
- ⁴ Transfer institutions may have a language requirement. Any Modern Language Intermediate II course can meet the Humanities and Global Studies requirements.
- ⁵ For courses that do not have an IAI code, students should contact transfer institutions to inquire about transferability. If the course does not transfer, it may be replaced with any other course recommended for pre-major that have not yet been taken.
- ⁶ Applied Visual or Performing Arts or Creative Writing is recommended.

Note: Pre-major is a recommended sequence and selection of courses. For degree requirements see Associate in Arts (A.A.).