

INDIVIDUALIZED MAJOR

Social Justice

Students interested in questions of social justice, human rights, and peace and conflict resolution have frequently designed majors through the Individualized Major Program. Individualized majors in these areas have often focused on such questions as:

- What is social justice? What are human rights? What is peace? What are the origins of these concepts and how have they been interpreted across time and place?
- What causes social injustice, violations of human rights, conflicts and wars? What are the consequences of these for individuals and communities?
- How can social injustice, violations of human rights and conflicts be prevented? What are the conditions that create justice, peace, and respect for human rights?
- What are the origins, strategies and aims of social movements seeking justice, peace and respect for human rights?
- What are the philosophical, cultural, religious and political underpinnings of traditions of nonviolence and ethical behavior?

Individualized majors in the areas of social justice, human rights and peace and conflict resolution should seek to build breadth of understanding as well as focus. Students should include some courses that provide a theoretical and methodological grounding and some that allow them to investigate more deeply an issue or question of interest.

Some recent titles of individualized majors in this area have included:

Democracy Studies
Social Justice and the American Experience through Literature
Human Rights and Civil Liberties
Disability Rights
Culture, Human Rights and Law
Peace Studies

REQUIRED COURSES

The individualized major consists of at least 36 credits at the 2000-level or higher (before 2008: 200-level); at least 18 credits must be offered by the College which will be granting your degree.

Research Methods

You must include a research methods or research course to satisfy part of your information literacy competency requirement. This methods course should be offered by one of the departments represented in your plan of study.

Capstone

Every individualized major must satisfy a capstone requirement. Therefore, your plan of study must include INTD 4600W (the Individualized Major Capstone course), INTD 4697W (a senior thesis), or an acceptable alternative.

Writing

Beside the capstone, you must have one other writing-intensive course in your plan of study. Normally, this course will be designated a “W” course in the course catalog.

Experiential Learning

Study abroad, internships, and/or research are strongly recommended.

SELECT RELEVANT COURSES

An individualized major in this area could draw on a wide range of courses offerings. Listed here are courses whose titles or themes reveal a focus on social justice, human rights, peace and conflict studies and related movements and ideologies. Depending on a student's interests, many other courses may be relevant. Consult the course catalog for further course options. Check recent PeopleSoft course listings to make sure the courses are offered regularly.

There are a number of study abroad programs that focus on social justice, human rights and conflict resolution.

ANTH

3028 (228) Indigenous Rights and Aboriginal Australia
3152 (275) Race, Ethnicity and Nationalism
3153 (280) Human Rights in Democratizing Countries

COMM

4422 (243) Protest and Communication
4460 (272) Cross-Cultural Communication

ECON

2127 (207) Beyond Self-Interest

ENGL

3619 (241) Literature and Human Rights

HIST

2240 (225) History of War in the Modern World
3201 (253) History of Human Rights
3202 (226) International Human Rights
3204/W (207) Science and Social Issues in the Modern World
3207 Genocide after the Second World War
3575 (284) Latinos/as and Human Rights
3770 (224) History of Pan-Africanism

HDFS

3420 (269) Abuse and Violence in Families

INTD

2245 (241) Introduction to Diversity Studies in American Culture
3250 (250) Global Militarism and Human Survival

PHIL

2170W (170W) Bioethics and Human Rights in Cross-Cultural Perspective
2215/W (215) Ethics
2217/W (217) Social and Political Philosophy
3218 (218) Feminist Theory
3219 (219) Topics in Philosophy and Human Rights
3220 (220) Philosophical Foundations of Human Rights

POLS

3012 (202) Modern Political Theory
3022W (206W) Western Marxist Tradition
3042 (205) Theory of Human Rights
3212 (258) Comparative Perspectives on Human Rights
3418/W (225) International Organizations and Law
3422 (220) International Negotiation and Bargaining
3647 (245) Black Leadership and Civil Rights

3652 (247) Black Feminist Politics
3807 (256) Constitutional Rights and Liberties

PSYC

2101 (275) Introduction to Multicultural Psychology
2701 (276) Social Psychology of Multiculturalism

SOCI

2827/W (227) Revolutionary Social Movements around the World
3222 (222) Asian Indian Women: Activism and Social Change in India and the US
3421/W (268) Class, Power and Inequality
3429/W (249) Sociological Perspectives on Poverty
3503/W (243) Prejudice and Discrimination
3505 (236) White Racism
3801/W (269) Political Sociology
3821/W (290) Social Movements and Social Change
3823 The Sociology of Law: Global and Comparative Perspectives
3825 (235) African Americans and Social Protest
3831 (215) Human Rights in the United States
3833 (292) Topics in Sociology and Human Rights

WS

3250 (250) Feminisms
3263 (263) Women and Violence
3269 (269) The Women's Movement