



Religious Studies

Cultural Studies

Ethical Studies

Apply now !

Interreligious Cooperation for Peace

Professional Certificate Course

Is religion causing or provoking violence or is religion building peace?

There is probably no other societal phenomenon in our times that creates more controversy. At the same time, it is certainly valid that all religions have an enormous potential for fostering peaceful cohabitation and cooperation.. This course invites you to embark on a unique learning journey: you will learn about religion and about how members of religious communities can engage with and learn from one another. During this course you will gain new insights into the way religions are intertwined with cultures and ethical values and how this offers both opportunities for identity formation and self-assertion, as well as challenges when religions sometimes become vulnerable to subtle intrusions of misrepresentation and abuse. Time and again, this course will also invite you to engage in a very personal journey of introspection, of relating the contents of the different units to your personal experiences on how religion is lived out individually and in communities.

Eligibility Requirements:

- ✓ 18 years or above
- ✓ Highschool Completion
- ✓ Successful Completion of JWU Peace Leader Course
- ✓ English proficiency at B1 Level CEFR

Information & registration

- Magdalena, +9647510186115 (WhatsApp)
- Contact your facilitator from your Peace Leader Course

The course follows a blended learning delivery which includes both classroom-based and online learning. The Peace Leader course is designed with the following three course sections, each 8 weeks long:

Religious Studies:

Religious Plurality, Interreligious Dialogue and Cooperation

Cultural Studies:

Cultural Diversity and Intercultural Cooperation

Ethical Studies:

Ethical Values and Tools in Interreligious Cooperation

Deadline to register
1st Feb 2025

Course Certificate:

Certificate Awarded by Globethics, Switzerland. Globethics is accredited by the European Agency for Higher Education and Accreditation (EAHEA).



Religious Studies

Cultural Studies

Ethical Studies

Start of the
Course
3rd April 2023

General Information

Several key questions are at the heart of the learning journey that this course invites you to go on:

- How do we deal with reading sacred texts and with the different ways that they can be and are interpreted?
- How does our religious practice inform our self-understanding?
- And ultimately, what impact do our religious identities have on our societal and political claims, and vice versa?

The course incorporates a recurrent thread that runs throughout all of the three sections woven around the theme and practice of **deep listening or mindfulness**.

For successful participation in this programme you may need

25 hours study time per unit (per week)!

There will be

- One online meeting per week together with the online faculty
- One mandatory onsite meeting per week

Religious Studies

Cultural Studies

Ethical Studies

Part A: Religious Studies

Religious Plurality, Interreligious Dialogue and Cooperation

Human beings are thoughtful by nature and seek to explain and understand the things that they see around them. To make sense of the world that they find themselves in, they rely on fundamental ideas or foundational knowledge that can be called beliefs. These beliefs take many forms and dialogue helps to further understanding and cooperation.

Learning Objectives:

This course will help you to ...

- recognise the different dimensions of religious worldviews, rituals and practices
- interpret religion(s) from a critical perspective
- explain the role of religion(s) in peacebuilding

Unit 1: What is Religion?

Unit 2: Introduction to Abrahamic Religions

Unit 3: Introduction to Karmic Religions

Unit 4: Multilateral Deep Listening

Unit 5: Hermeneutics of Sacred Texts

Unit 6: Economic and Political Instrumentalisation of Religions

Unit 7: Religious Literacy and Disengagement from Religious Extremism

Unit 8: Interreligious Relations

Religious Studies

Cultural Studies

Ethical Studies

Part B: Cultural Studies

Cultural Diversity and Intercultural Cooperation

Peaceful cohabitation is possible when attention and respect is given to differing cultural views and practices.

Cultures in turn are bound up with group and self-identity and social norms. Cross-cultural, intercultural and intra-cultural encounters can take place when there is openness. Arrival at and appreciation of common ethical values has the potential to create an enabling environment for exchange and eventually for change

Learning Objectives:

This course will help you to ...

- discuss critically how religion(s) and culture(s) are interrelated
- identify and examine how cultural views and practices impact peacebuilding
- translate the impact of culture(s) into your context

Unit 1: What is Culture?

Unit 2: Language Diversity

Unit 3: Authority Contested

Unit 4: Time, Organisation and Community

Unit 5: Understanding Gender

Unit 6: Instrumentalisation of Identity

Unit 7: Case Studies on Cultures

Unit 8: Religious Geography and Epistemology



Religious Studies

Cultural Studies

Ethical Studies

Part C: Ethical Studies

Ethical Values and Tools in Interreligious Cooperation

Being able to recognise and evaluate different values and attitudes can be a starting point for cooperation between differing groups, cultures and religions. Arrival at and appreciation of common ethical values has the potential to create an enabling environment for exchange and eventually for change.

Learning Objectives:

This course will help you to ...

- relate to the importance of values for interreligious cooperation
- evaluate different values and attitudes that are conducive to peacebuilding
- assess interreligious cooperation from an ethical perspective

Unit 1: What is Ethics? Core ethical values for dialogue and cooperation for peace

Unit 2: Core Virtues for Dialogue and Cooperation for Peace

Unit 3: Avenues towards Peace through Action in Situations of Societal Transition

Unit 4: Walking in the Others' Shoes: Cultivating an ethos of listening and collaboration for peace

Unit 5: Building Trust: How conflicts escalate and which steps for de-escalation are conducive for peacebuilding

Unit 6: How to Confront Economic and/or Political Barriers which Hinder Interreligious Cooperation for Peace

Unit 7: Final Project Presentation for Fieldwork

Unit 8: Self-Assessment