CENTRE FOR PEACE AND CONFLICT STUDIES
FACULTY OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
Introduction

What causes conflict and violence and how could they be transformed? How can we safeguard human rights, and promote peace with justice, by intervening creatively at different levels, from wars to the workplace? The Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies, founded in 1988, prepares students to engage with these questions through its interdisciplinary postgraduate coursework and research programs.

CPACS provides students from a wide variety of disciplinary and professional backgrounds with the opportunity to pursue a new career path in peace and conflict studies or to enhance skills they have developed in the field with a solid theoretical grounding. Graduates go on to enjoy challenging and rewarding careers with the United Nations, non-government organisations, universities, government departments and agencies – see examples on page 5.

Studying at CPACS also gives you the chance to learn practical skills in conflict resolution, nonviolence, community mediation and the use of media to build peace. The theory-to-practice focus of the program includes one unit of study that provides training in designing and facilitating an interactive conflict resolution workshop, and another that allows you to build your own social or community media intervention in conflict.

CPACS offers its postgraduate coursework program for full or part time study in Sydney, or by a combination of online units and intensive face-to-face teaching, including Summer and Winter Schools. Our Distance Learning program allows mid-career professionals, based outside Sydney, to obtain a world-recognised qualification without having to uproot home or work – details on page 3.

CPACS’ growing global reputation as a centre of research excellence has seen many talented students enter our range of higher research degree programs, including several holders of competitive postgraduate awards – details on page 4.
**About us – academic staff**

**Associate Professor Jake Lynch** (pictured right, recording research material on location in the Philippines), Director of CPACS, is the world’s leading authority in the emerging field of peace journalism, and a former presenter and reporter for the BBC. His books include *Peace Journalism* (Hawthorn Press, 2005, with Annabel McGoldrick) and *Reporting Conflict – New Directions in Peace Journalism* (University of Queensland Press, 2010, with Johan Galtung). With former television reporter Annabel McGoldrick, he teaches CPACS’ pioneering Conflict-resolving Media unit.

**Dr Wendy Lambourne**, Deputy Director and Academic Coordinator, is a leading researcher in transitional justice, reconciliation and peacebuilding after mass violence. Her regional focus is on Africa and Asia/Pacific, including field research conducted in Cambodia, Timor Leste, Sierra Leone and the African Great Lakes region. In addition to her specialized units in reconciliation and transitional justice, Dr Lambourne’s teaching and research supervision cover topics relating to the United Nations, conflict resolution, genocide prevention and the psychology of peace and violence.

CPACS Lecturer, **Dr Lucy Fiske**, offers expertise in human rights with a particular focus on forced migration, the role of civil society groups in human rights protection and anti-racist and transformative education strategies to develop peace with justice. Lucy has published extensively on issues relating to asylum seekers and refugees. Her teaching includes human rights, women in conflict and grass roots peace and justice movements.

**Dr Ken Macnab**, CPACS President and former Senior Lecturer with the Department of History, applies his 35 years of research and teaching experience to his classes on cultures of violence and the nature and history of terrorism. Former CPACS Lecturer, **Dr Lynda Blanchard**, now based at Curtin University, teaches an innovative unit of study focusing on how tourism can contribute to peacebuilding. CPACS Vice-President, **Dr Erik Paul**, applies his regional expertise to a unit on peace and conflict in Southeast Asia. And experienced practitioners, **Abe Quadan** and **Steve Lancken**, provide students with expert training in conflict resolution and mediation.

In addition, CPACS’ excellent links, with academics and practitioners across a range of disciplines and professions including journalism, development, diplomacy and psychotherapy, give students access to a pool of cutting-edge expertise. Contributors include former Senior UN Weapons Inspector Rod Barton; investigative journalist and author Antony Loewenstein, and Professor George Kent, consultant to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization.
What sets people against each other as enemies and how can they cooperate to create peaceful communities? How can nonviolent strategies contribute to social change? How can meeting human needs and respecting human rights contribute to peace and justice?

These questions underpin CPACS’ postgraduate coursework program, which can be studied here in Sydney or by Distance Learning (requiring one short trip to the Centre for intensive study, with the rest online).

Theoretical underpinnings for the program are covered in a core unit: ‘Key Issues in Peace and Conflict Studies’, considering what conflict is, how it works, and ideas for handling it constructively and non-violently.

In other units, we study the UN, its history and the challenges it faces in maintaining international peace and security; how religion can contribute to war, and peace; how the world’s finite food resources can be distributed more justly and sustainably, and many more. The unique value-explicit, trans-disciplinary approach of Peace and Conflict Studies will equip you to contribute critically and meaningfully to international peacebuilding, development, humanitarian aid, human rights, social change, conflict transformation and social justice.

Flexible learning plans mean you can obtain your degree full-time or part-time. Many units are offered in intensive mode, including those in Summer and Winter School. These are supplemented by a number of online units, taught by world-leading experts in their respective fields and utilising up-to-date internet tools.

The Master of Peace and Conflict Studies (MPACS) program includes the option – depending on your attainment in coursework units – of a supervised dissertation of 12,000-15,000 words, or you may wish to undertake a supervised internship in a local or international organization. MPACS students who perform at a high level may apply to upgrade to the Master of Letters (MLitt) program, which includes a supervised treatise of 25,000-30,000 words.

Students on our MPACS and MLitt programs can customise their degrees, substituting, by agreement, up to two units of study from the growing range available through other departments at the University of Sydney, particularly the School of Social and Political Sciences, in which CPACS is based. The School offers world-leading research and teaching expertise in a range of fields including International Relations, Security Studies, Political Economy, Sociology, and Anthropology, Human Rights and Development.
Postgraduate research

CPACS has a vibrant community of postgraduate research students enrolled in four different higher degree research programs: Doctor of Philosophy, Master of Philosophy, Doctor of Social Sciences and Master of Arts (Research).

Many of our students pursue topics with significant theoretical and policy implications. Our first PhD graduate, senior United Nations manager David Penklis, is now implementing some of his thesis recommendations on improving the coordination of UN peace operations. Cammi Webb-Gannon completed her PhD on the West Papuan struggle for self-determination involving interviews with West Papuan leaders in exile around the world. In addition to coordinating the Centre’s West Papua Project, she has published influential articles and contributed to reports highlighting the suffering and aspirations of the West Papuan people.

Two of our doctoral students are pursuing research relating to human rights and peacebuilding in Sri Lanka, while another is exploring the impact on peacebuilding of aid and development assistance on the Thai-Burmese border. Our Master of Arts by Research candidates have also pursued significant research covering topics such as the role of humiliation as a psychological factor in mass violence, and the causes and implications of the July 2001 Genoa riots.

We support students to conduct primary research overseas and to present papers at international conferences. PhD candidate Frecie Carreon presented at a prestigious international conference of media researchers in Istanbul, drawing on her field research in the Philippines on how media report conflict and violence. Sixteen of our students presented papers at the International Peace Research Association biennial global conference, which we hosted at the University of Sydney, in 2010.

Our doctoral students are encouraged to publish their research and to contribute to teaching at the Centre. Annie Herro has published several journal articles and a book chapter based on her doctoral research assessing responses to the proposal to create a United Nations Emergency Peace Service. Punam Yadav from Nepal was awarded a PhD Teaching Fellowship in 2012, and PhD candidate Leticia Anderson won a prestigious University teaching award in 2010.
CPACS graduates have pursued successful careers with the United Nations, often after starting as interns or volunteers. Sarah Elliott worked as a United Nations Protection Officer in Southern Sudan and Timor Leste after completing her Masters degree in 2004. Sven Kiplesund (MPACS 2009) has been working with UNFPA on projects to reduce gender-based violence in Yemen. After graduating in 2003, Kevin Chang worked with UNHCR in earthquake-ravaged Pakistan, followed by postings as a UNDP Peacebuilding and Conflict Transformation Specialist in Nepal and Timor Leste.

Andrea Ottina from Italy completed his MPACS degree and then a Master of Arts (Research) at CPACS in 2011, followed by an internship at the United Nations University (UNU) in Tokyo. Andrea then travelled to Liberia, where he supported the work of a local NGO and conducted capacity-building workshops targeting university students, professionals and former combatants on themes such as conflict analysis, peacebuilding and community development.

Within Australia, CPACS graduates have developed careers in social justice, human rights, conflict resolution and peacebuilding. After completing her MPACS degree in 2010, Susy Lee Deck obtained her ‘dream job’ as NSW and Territories Coordinator for TEAR Australia, a Christian-based non-government organisation that works to reduce poverty around the world. Aletia Dundas (MPACS 2006) was appointed Program Assistant, Disarmament and Peace at the Quaker United Nations Office in Geneva, after which she worked with the Quaker office in Sydney before being offered a position with Union Aid Abroad - APHEDA, also based in Sydney.

A number of CPACS graduates have gone on to successful careers in various branches of media. Dilnaz Boga, who graduated in 2004, works as a reporter for the Mumbai Mirror. With co-director and fellow journalist, Aliefa Vahanvaty, Dilnaz made the documentary film *Invisible Kashmir: The Other Side of Jannat*, which helped to win her the prestigious Kate Webb Prize from Agence France-Presse in 2011. Mary Saliba, who received her MPACS in 2010, secured first a much sought-after internship, then a production job, with Al Jazeera English, in Doha.
CPACS is a highly unusual Centre, having both a world-renowned academic program and long record of advocacy in civil society. We walk our talk, working in the community and taking our ideas and discussions out into the wider world, opening up exciting opportunities for students to become involved and gain invaluable insights and experiences.

Visiting scholars and public seminars, advocacy projects and media commentary, are prominent features of life at CPACS, making for a rich and varied extra-curricular student experience. We publish working papers and a biannual newsletter, PeaceWrites, to which students are invited to contribute.

We organized and hosted the global conference of the International Peace Research Association, in 2010, bringing together senior peace researchers from around the world. Six books were published with chapters based on papers presented and discussed at the conference, including several by CPACS students and graduates and placed with major international publishers. Two of these volumes were later ‘launched’ with events at the Centre.

Sections from some of them have been incorporated into course readers for students.

CPACS collaborates on a steady stream of exciting public events with the Sydney Peace Foundation, on a range of topics including a massive rally and public meeting calling for justice for Julian Assange, the founder of Wikileaks, in a packed Sydney Town Hall. Speakers included Julian Burnside QC and the journalist and film-maker, John Pilger. CPACS students were involved in the planning, organization and running of the event.

CPACS helped to create, and participates fully in, the Peace Foundation, which awards the Sydney Peace Prize to a recipient internationally recognised for his or her contribution to peace. The winner comes each year to a special event exclusively for our students, giving them a chance to put their own questions: your own private briefing with the likes of Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Vandana Shiva and Noam Chomsky – all recent laureates.

The multi-faceted work of the Centre creates openings for volunteering and modestly-paid part-time employment, a prominent feature of many a CV or resume sent by CPACS graduates to prospective employers.

Our community feeling is enhanced by welcoming students of many different nationalities, from all the world’s continents. They enjoy both their work together and an active social life!
Degree structures:

- **Master of Peace and Conflict Studies**: core unit, PACS 6911, plus seven elective units, which may include a two-unit dissertation of 12,000 – 15,000 words or a two-unit supervised internship (total 48 credit points). Full-time: one year. Part-time: 2-4 years.

- **Graduate Diploma in Peace and Conflict Studies**: core unit plus five elective units (36 credit points). Full-time: one year. Part-time: up to 3 years.

- **Graduate Certificate in Peace and Conflict Studies**: core unit plus three elective units (24 credit points). Full-time: half a year. Part-time: up to 2 years.

- **MA by Research**: EITHER one postgraduate unit from PACS program and thesis of 28,000 – 30,000 words; OR two units and thesis of 26,000 – 28,000 words; OR thesis of 30,000 – 35,000 words. Full-time: 2 years. Part-time: 4 years.

- **Master of Philosophy**: Candidates may be required to undertake coursework. All candidates are required to submit a thesis of between 70,000 – 100,000 words on an approved topic. Full-time: 3-4 years. Part-time: 3-8 years.

- **Doctor of Social Sciences**: Candidates are required to complete two postgraduate research methods units of study, plus a research thesis of between 60,000 – 80,000 words. Full-time: 3-4 years. Part-time: 3-8 years.

**Entry requirements:**

- **Master of Peace and Conflict Studies**: Bachelor degree majoring in humanities or social sciences with a Credit average of at least 65%. Graduate Diploma: Bachelor degree majoring in humanities or social sciences, or equivalent with an average of at least 60%. Graduate Certificate: Bachelor degree in any area. (Relevant, recent professional qualifications and experience may be assessed as suitable for admission under exceptional circumstances).

- **Doctor of Arts (Research)**: Bachelor degree with a major in a relevant field in the humanities or social sciences with a Distinction average or equivalent.

- **Master of Philosophy**: Bachelor degree with Honours Class I or II, with appropriate majors in the humanities or social sciences, or an MA with Merit with a dissertation in an appropriate subject area.

- **Doctor of Philosophy**: Bachelor degree with 1st class Honours or equivalent.

- **Doctor of Social Sciences**: EITHER: Bachelor degree in a relevant subject area; OR Masters by research or equivalent; OR Masters by coursework in a relevant subject area; AND minimum five years recent, full-time employment or professional experience in relevant field.

Ken Macnab makes a point to Jake Lynch.
Units of study

Postgraduate

Unless otherwise indicated, units of study are offered in weekly two-hour seminars over a 13-week semester.

PACS6911 Key Issues in Peace and Conflict Studies (Core Unit; offered once a year in intensive mode, suitable for short trip to Sydney by students on Distance Learning program).

Introduction to theories of peace, conflict and violence. Demonstrates the application of theories and methods across the spectrum of conflict types from intrapersonal and interpersonal, to community, interethnic and international. Understanding the nature of social conflict, causes of violence and the meanings of peace, as well as conflict analysis and resolution and ways of working for peace with justice.

PACS6901 United Nations, Peace and Security

Critically examines the UN's role in promoting international peace and security. Contemporary and historical case studies such as Rwanda, Iraq and East Timor are used to analyse the UN's performance in peacemaking, peacekeeping, peacebuilding, peace enforcement. Assesses the challenges facing the UN in achieving its mandate and implementing reform with a view to attaining peace with justice.

PACS6902 Reconciliation and Conflict Transformation (intensive)

Explores concepts of apology, forgiveness, reconciliation and justice as they apply to the transformation of conflicts and building of peaceful relationships and societies. Psychological, spiritual, legal, structural and political dimensions of reconciliation are considered in the context of case studies from the local, national and international arenas. Students develop their own ideas about reconciliation and conflict transformation through self-awareness, class discussions and role-play exercises.

PACS6903 Peace and the Environment

How to achieve and sustain peaceful environments, now and in the future? The challenges both locally and globally are explored as well as the need to rethink philosophies, policies and practices. Draws primarily from peace and conflict studies with input from overlapping fields of enquiry such as peace education, environmental studies, cultural geography and urban planning.

PACS6907 Gender and the Development of Peace

Explores theories of how ‘gender’ is understood as a concept and the implications of each for reading our world and critiquing social problems with particular reference to conflict and post-conflict situations. Considers ‘real world’ case studies of how different approaches to gender manifest in violence against women, international law, peace negotiations, transitional justice, development and structural inequality.

PACS6908 Conflict Resolution and Peacebuilding

Introduction to skills-building for peace practitioners in the context of deep-rooted, protracted social conflicts. Students learn how to analyse conflict situations and to assess appropriate interactive conflict resolution intervention strategies. Case studies, role-plays and a simulation exercise are used to illustrate and develop skills in techniques such as design and facilitation of dialogue and conflict transformation.

PACS6909 Cultures of Violence

Studies the cultural contexts, origins, meaning and leading varieties of ‘violence’ in the modern world.

PACS6910 Peace Through Tourism (intensive)

Tourism flourishes in peaceful environments; can it also contribute to the achievement of peace? Includes equity and justice issues, sustainability, international citizenship, globalisation, education and reconciliation tourism. Assesses the effect of contemporary neo-liberal economic principles on the social value of tourism, and claims by such bodies as the World Tourism Organisation that tourism is a force for peace.

PACS6912 Nonviolence and Social Change (intensive)

Considers the relevance of the philosophy, language and skills of nonviolence in contemporary conflicts and the record of nonviolence in achieving social change in the cause of peace with justice. Considers the approaches advocated by Gandhi, Martin Luther King and Aung San Suu Kyi. Includes practical workshop in non-violent intervention and encounter skills.

PACS6913 Conflict in Organisations (intensive)

Organisations require close proximity and communication between people, often under pressure. This unit analyses organisations and diagnoses dysfunctional practices. It explores conflict/consensus theories and organisational politics. Culture and the
relevance of peace with justice in the workplace are explored, and theory and skills that lead toward satisfying outcomes are examined and practised.

PACS6914 Conflict-Resolving Media (intensive)

Peace journalism – a contradiction in terms? Actually, a growing field of academic research and a globally distributed reform movement. Considers the influence of media on the actions and motivations of people involved in conflict, and introduces creative ways for journalists, media development workers and media activists to contribute to peace with justice. Students gain practical skills in news writing and campaigning, as well as critically examining such concepts as journalistic objectivity and the nature of representation.

PACS6915 Human Rights, Peace and Justice (also available online)

Explores the philosophy of human rights and development of the international human rights regime as a means of promoting peace with justice, through legal instruments and mechanisms and political strategies. Debates considered include those surrounding the universality and indivisibility of human rights, existence of group rights, ethics of humanitarian intervention and specific rights such as those of refugees, minorities and indigenous peoples.

PACS6917 Religion, War and Peace

Religion is frequently blamed as the cause of war, and yet peace and nonviolence are considered central to most, if not all, religions. Studies the war and peace traditions of the world's major religions, focusing on Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity and Islam. Sacred texts are examined as sources of attitudes towards war, peace, and the historical and contemporary case studies are used to deepen understanding of both religion-based violence and the peacemaking potential of religion.

PACS6921 Peace of Mind: The Psychology of Peace (intensive)

Examines how psychological processes – cognitive and emotional, individual and collective – combine with external factors such as socio-economic injustice and discrimination in causing violence. Explores how psychological insights can help prevent and resolve violent conflicts, by developing approaches to peacemaking and reconciliation which address psychological needs and fears.

PACS6922 Peaceful Conflict Transformation (online)

Critical introduction to the Transcend method for analysing conflicts and identifying means for peaceful transformation, also known as Diagnosis-Prognosis-Therapy. Examination of ‘deep culture’ and ‘deep structure’ – underlying dynamics which predispose societies, states, nations and regions to particular forms of response to conflict issues.

PACS6923 The Human Right to Food (online)

Traces the historical origins of the human right to adequate food and its meaning since the landmark World Food Summit of 1996. Examines its application in relation to such issues as refugees, infants, drinking water and prisons and in specific countries. Builds skills in formulating proposals for policy and legislation to realise the human right to adequate food in specific contexts.

PACS6924 Democracy in the Developing World (online)

Comparative consideration of different concepts of democratisation and development, including criteria for compiling country development indices and typologies of democracy. Do elections lead to more democracy? More development? Or allow authoritarian winners to institutionalise their power?

PACS6925 Peace and the Global Compact (online)

In-depth critical exploration of the context, concept and development of the UN Global Compact for business. Examination of theoretical underpinnings of the notion of corporate social responsibility and the role business can and should play in pursuit of peace and justice. Human rights principles; labour rights principles and environmental principles - where do they come from and how can they be applied?

PACS6926 Conflict and Peace in Southeast Asia (intensive)

Focuses on the themes of development, conflict, and democratisation in Southeast Asia. An introductory theoretical framework on development, conflict, and democratisation is followed by country-based case studies of Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar (Burma), Laos, Philippines, Singapore Thailand, Timor Leste (East Timor), and Vietnam.

PACS6927 Transitional Justice and Peacebuilding (intensive)

Examines the evolution of transitional justice theory and practice, including truth commissions, trials and traditional practices, in such contexts as post-apartheid South Africa and post-genocide Cambodia and Rwanda. Issues include various types of justice, accountability, truth, reconciliation and reparations, and the challenges of balancing justice and peace.

PACS6928 Community Mediation, Theory and Practice (intensive)

Focuses on the theory and practical application of facilitation, communication and conflict resolution skills in community mediation, including role-plays and simulation exercises. Successful completion of this unit of study equips students for possible accreditation as a community mediator in Australia, as well as providing transferable skills and knowledge about mediation.

PACS6929 Information Interventions in Conflict (intensive)

Considers the theory and practical application of conflict intervention in the domains of information and communication. Competing theories are critically reviewed, including ‘modernisation’ and the ‘information society’ model, along with the notion of a ‘new world information and communication order’; the emerging field of Communication For Social Change, and critical pedagogy as a principle in training information and communication actors in conflict.

PACS6930 Ethics for a Sustainable Peace (online)

Considers the inequitable distribution of wealth, power and resources among individuals and groups, now exacerbated by a multidimensional environmental crisis. The origin of this crisis is to be found within our species – so numerous and so technologically powerful that we have now begun to alter the Earth’s basic life support systems. How should members of civil society understand and respond to these facts? Not all units are taught each year. For more information on when these units of study are being offered, please check the timetables on the CPACS website: http://sydney.edu.au/arts/peace_conflict/teach/timetables.shtml
General Information

How to apply:
Local applications
Australian citizens, permanent residents, New Zealand citizens, and holders of a permanent humanitarian visa, must apply through the Universities Admissions Centre: http://www.uac.edu.au/

International students
Overseas applicants may apply EITHER:
(i) directly to the University via the International Office. Further information on applications and English language requirements and support services for international students is available on the International Office website: http://sydney.edu.au/internationaloffice/
OR
(ii) through a University overseas representative (education agent).

Important note: The Master of Peace and Conflict Studies combined distance learning and intensive face-to-face delivery mode is not CRICOS registered and is therefore not available to international students on a student visa who come to Sydney to study on shore. Students wishing to undertake the course in this delivery mode should apply directly to the university by the choosing the Distance Education from the drop-down menu under the International applicants section and follow the prompts to apply for the Distance Learning program. Please consult the Australian High Commission for advice about the appropriate visa to come to Sydney to undertake a unit or units of study.

The MPACS course is also offered as an onshore course (CRICOS registered) for international students on a student visa who must apply through the International Office for admission.

Application dates:
• Check websites (UAC and International Office) for updates but USUALLY the end of October for commencement in Semester One (March) of the following year OR the end of May for commencement in Semester Two (July) of the same year.

Fees:
Domestic Tuition Fee
Postgraduate indicative tuition fee commencing from 1 January 2012 is $17,520.00

International Tuition Fee
Postgraduate indicative tuition fee commencing from 1 January 2012 is $25,920.00.

The University’s tuition fees are reviewed annually and may be varied during the period of study. The exact tuition fee for your course may depend on the specific units of study in which you enrol. Please refer to the University of Sydney website links above for up to date information on fees.
Application Information

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