



**SHORT –TERM COURSE  
(Saturday Classes)  
IN  
‘PEACE STUDIES’**



---

**Conducted by the Mahatma Gandhi Peace Centre  
University of Mumbai**

**PREAMBLE:**

From the beginning of the 21st Century the world has been characterized by wars, terrorism, environmental disruption, infectious diseases and other maladies. We live in a ‘century of violence’ which seems threateningly more violent than the last century. To cope with this, governments of developed nations have pursued policies of intensifying their military powers to suppress claims of people and resolve the world situation of violence, but such policy has only induced counter-violence and made conflict-resolution more difficult and peace non-existent.

Peace is generally conceived as equivalent to the absence of manifest violence. The term ‘peacemaking’ is associated with the term conflict resolution and indicates no use of violence. Peace in minds of individuals and peace in society are indispensable factors for social development and progress. In every human civilization, people have been searching for a deeper understanding about the understanding and experience of peace. There is an urgent need to address the problems at the individual, social, national and communal levels, wherein a social structure built on values of justice, equal opportunity, humanitarianism, multiculturalism and peace is pursued through a mutual dialogue.

In this regard the role of peace studies is pertinent. The goal of a peace analyst is to understand mechanisms of oppression, suppression and marginalization operating within the society. Following which, ways to manage conflicts can be determined, in ways that reduce the possibility or the level of violence without diminishing other values of justice or freedom. For looking into the roots of conflicts, it does not suffice to look into one field of thought. Therefore, Peace Studies is a Multi-disciplinary field. In order to understand the roots of especially violent conflicts, this academic field analyses reasons for war and conflicts by borrowing and expanding theories from psychology, social sciences, international relations, philosophy, education, political science and many more.

The present course follows both psychological and educational paradigms and seeks to enhance understanding theories and practices aimed at prevention and mitigation of conflict and violence. This course aims at fostering the ability of imagination and creativity and to use them in promoting peace. It aims to promote the Gandhian principles of non-violence, equality and understand Gandhiji’s word “an eye for an eye, leaves the whole world blind”. This course finally aims at social justice through deliberations on peacemaking and peace-building methods.

**OBJECTIVES OF THE COURSE:**

1. To understand the theoretical dimension of Peace Studies.
2. To highlight the meaning, need, aim and scope of Peace Psychology.
3. To delineate the meaning, need, aim and scope of Peace Education.
4. To underline implication of Peace Studies for state and society through use of conflict management and peace-building initiatives.
5. To study the process of Peace Building and Peace-Making in multicultural societies and the pursuit of social justice.

**ELIGIBILITY**

Graduate from any discipline.

**INTAKE CAPACITY**

Forty Students (People working with NGOs and research foundations in the area of peace & conflict resolution, discrimination, social work and social sciences at large are likely to benefit from this course. In addition, all youth interested in working towards nation -building, is encouraged to take up this course).

**DURATION**

Six-month Short-term Course (Saturday Classes) with 2 Lectures of 120 minutes each every alternate week. (Mostly Working Saturdays, 4 pm to 8 pm).

**TEACHING METHOD:**

Teaching method will be a combination of lectures, group work, workshop, self -group study, film screening, presentation and discussion in plenary. The main emphasis will be on participatory approach.

**TEACHERS' QUALIFICATION:**

Departmental staff and guest – faculty drawn from affiliated colleges / universities, Officials and intellectuals from a cross–section of religious/ social institutions, police and administrative officers, GOs and NGOs, lawyers and judges, sociologists, psychologists, journalists, activists, etc.

**COURSE FEE:**

Rs. 1000/- per student

**Application Forms are available at:**

Mahatma Gandhi Peace Centre, c/o Dept. of Applied Psychology, C.D. Deshmukh Bhavan, University of Mumbai, Vidyanagari Campus, Mumbai – 400 098.

Tel: 022-26527764, 26543282, 26543064, 9773476055.

## **MODULES OF THE COURSE:**

**This course will include 48 hours of teaching.**

### **Introduction to Peace Studies**

**8 Hours**

1. (a) Introduction to Peace Studies and its various multi-disciplinary dimensions (economic, political, religious, social, philosophical, psychological, educational and others)
- (b) Psychology of Peace and Conflict: Meaning, Aim and Scope
- (c) Peace Education: Meaning, Aim and Scope

### **Theoretical Understanding**

**8 Hours**

2. (a) Theories of Violence: direct, structural
- (b) Theories of Nonviolence: Contemporary issues and Gandhian Thought
- (c) Peace building, Peace-Making and Promotion of Social Justice

### **Global Issues**

**8 Hours**

3. (a) Distinguishing Culture of Peace from Culture of War
- (b) Societal Conflict and Promoting Culture of Peace
- (c) Peace Movements

### **Peace – Building Education**

**8 Hours**

4. (a) Human Rights Education (b) Multicultural Education (c) Environmental Education

### **Peace - Making Interventions**

**8 Hours**

5. (a) Psychological Construct of Personality for achieving Peace
- (b) Confidence Building, Conflict Management and Conflict – resolution
- (c) Negotiation, Communication, Decision-Making, Critical Thinking Skills

### **Practicum**

**8 Hours**

6. (a) Exercising Peace Building & Peace Making Initiatives in the Community – Street Plays, Posters, Talks, Workshops, etc.
- (b) Project Presentation of twenty minutes for each group (Students will be divided in a group of four).