

Conflict Studies and Peacebuilding (CSP) Master Program



MA Program Profile

By linking research and practice, the MA CSP offers a broad understanding of peace and conflict studies combined with insights from practical fields of peacebuilding and conflict management.

Students learn concepts, theories and methods in research on peace, conflict, and violence based on perspectives from political theory, comparative politics, and international relations. By using both qualitative and quantitative methods, they analyze actors, causes and dynamics of conflicts and peace processes in different parts of the world; they investigate state-society relations, socio-economic contexts, or political institutions as well as various approaches of conflict resolution and peacebuilding. The study of violent, intra-state conflicts is one of the defining features of the program.

The MA CSP integrates practical experiences and expertise in conflict analysis and peacebuilding. Practitioners will be invited for lectures and seminars on a regular basis. Further seminars provide skills on practice-oriented instruments, e.g. project management, evaluation methods, or policy consulting.

Career prospects

As a Master of Arts (M.A.) program taught in English, the course is intended for students who wish to pursue a professional career in an international environment, in particular with regard to professional fields of peacebuilding, conflict management, foreign and development policy. This may include:

- Academic research at universities and non-university institutes in the field of conflict studies and peacebuilding
- Strategic policy advising and project-based activities for international and national organizations as well as for non-governmental or civil society organizations, foundations or implementing agencies
- Work as advisors or civil servants in ministries as well as in international organizations
- National and international media work, public relations
- Work in peace education and conflict mediation

Study program and organization

The program is divided into five compulsory modules (50 CP), a unit for professional and research practice (24 CP), and a free elective unit (22 CP). The program concludes with a Master's thesis (24 CP).

Study start:	Winter semester
Duration:	Four semesters (standard period), 120 Credit points
Language of instruction:	English
Application period:	15. May - 15. July
Requirements:	Bachelor's degree in social sciences or political science or a comparable degree with a specialization in social sciences or political science; knowledge of English at the B2 level.

What about semester abroad and internship?

The MA CSP includes a mandatory full-time internship which is intended to provide students with insights into the practical challenges of and approaches in peacebuilding. Students may intern, for example, with aid organizations, political foundations, international organizations, NGOs, think tanks or national governments. The MA does not require a compulsory stay abroad. However, the flexible structure allows for spending a semester abroad without having to extend the duration of the program. The Institute for Social Sciences offers various exchange options with partner universities (e.g. Erasmus partnerships).

For further information

www.zedf.uni-osnabrueck.de/master_csp/master_in_conflict_studies_and_peacebuilding.html

www.uni-osnabrueck.de/en/prospective-students/studiengaenge-a-z/translate-to-english-conflict-studies-and-peacebuilding-master-of-arts/

For regulations and module descriptions, see:

www.uni-osnabrueck.de/studium/im-studium/zugangs-zu-lassungs-und-pruefungsordnungen/fach-master/conflict-studies-and-peacebuilding-ma/

Study Plan

Semester	Module 1 Methods in Conflict Studies and Peacebuilding (10 CP)	Module 2 Concepts in Conflict Studies and Peacebuilding (10 CP)	Module 3 Political Theory and History of Ideas in Conflict Studies (10 CP)	Module 4 Conflict, State & Society (10 CP)	Module 5 Conflict, Politics & the Global Economy (10 CP)	Professional and Research Practice (24 CP)	Electives (22 CP)
1/3	Research Design in Conflict Studies (6 CP)	Concepts & Theories in Conflict Studies (4/6 CP)	The Modern State in History and Theory (4/6 CP)	Political Institutions and Peacebuilding (4/6 CP)	Conflict Issues in Contemporary Societies (4/6 CP)	Obligatory advisory session in the 1st semester Professional skills e.g. block seminars by practitioners, methods of project management or evaluation, study trips (2 or 4 CP) Mandatory 2-month internship in the area of Conflict Studies and Peacebuilding (6 CP) Research Seminar (8 CP) Colloquium for Master's Thesis (2 CP)	Elective courses may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Courses in other MA degree tracks of the Institute of Social Sciences ■ Master's level courses within programs at the UOS
2/4	Practical Approaches to Peacebuilding & Conflict Management (4 CP)	Concepts & Theories in Peacebuilding (4/6 CP)	War und Peace in History and Theory (4/6 CP)	Political Violence and Peacebuilding (4/6 CP)	Conflict and Power in the Global Economy (4/6 CP)		
4	Master's Thesis (24 CP)						

Why choosing the MA CSP?

1) Getting a broad expertise in peace & conflict studies

The MA CSP offers expertise in three core areas of peace and conflict research: (1) international relations, with a focus on international conflict management, civil wars, and political violence; (2) comparative politics, in particular the role of political institutions, state-society relations, and protest; and (3) political theory, with a concentration on the normative and ideational foundations of the state, war, and peace. Moreover, the program profits from staff expertise in areas such as international political economy, European Studies or Migration Studies.

2) Combining academic analysis and practical skills

The research-based profile provides students with academic expertise required to undertake independent research. At the same time, the MA CSP emphasizes practical approaches and skills across a broad array of issue areas in peacebuilding.

3) Enjoy studying peace & conflict in the »City of Peace«

Osnabrück's image as »City of Peace« originates from the Treaty of Westphalia of 1648 which ended the 30 Years War in the center of Europe. Osnabrück regards this historical legacy as a mandate to promote peace both today and in the future, in and outside Europe. Students may enjoy and benefit from the various peace-related activities and sights in and around Osnabrück.

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