

PACS 621 Peace Research Course

Description, procedure and requirements

PACS 621 Peace Research – Course description

*This course requires completion of a research project that develops a student's capacity to do research for an applied objective. * The research may be to support a grant proposal, document and contextualize a need or a human rights abuse, analyze what various agencies are doing in the face of common challenges, or write an advocacy brief to a government. Students are expected to demonstrate a high level of competence in research, analysis and writing.*

*Please note that pure research without a direct application is also an option with approval of your supervising faculty member.

Procedure and Requirements

1. Students should seek a supervising faculty member *before* the beginning of the term in which you plan to enroll in PACS 621. Together with the supervisor, you should negotiate a topic, timeframe and general course expectations. PACS faculty members have a limited number of supervisions they can manage each term, so you may be asked to work with a different faculty member than the one you initially approach.
2. To enroll in this course, students must complete a “course add” form and receive permission from the Director of PACS after negotiating an agreement with a PACS instructor.
3. Students will begin by writing a proposal and submitting it to their supervisor. Your proposal should include:
 - a. PART I: RATIONALE (2-3 pages, double-spaced)
 - i. Provide a detailed description of your project plan. Students may choose a project with an applied objective, (see examples listed in the course description), or may choose a pure research project without direct application.
 - ii. Describe how this project relates to/draws on other courses you have taken in PACS and why it interests you.
 - iii. Describe any research and writing you have done previously in an academic or a workplace setting and how this project might build on this work.
 - iv. Explain how this project can be considered research with an applied objective or pure research.
 1. Who (individuals, organizations or other academics) might benefit from this research?
 2. How might this project support these groups in their work or further scholarship in the field?
 3. Does the project relate to the work you are currently doing or plan to do in the future? If so, how?
 - v. State 4-5 specific learning objectives for this project.
 - vi. Provide a timeline for completing different stages of the project.
 - b. PART II: Preliminary Bibliography (1 -2 pages)
 - i. List sources you have already identified for this project.

- ii. Be sure to include a proper mix of sources from which you will read:
 1. At least 10 books.
 2. At least 8 journal articles.
4. By the end of week 12, submit the final draft of your research paper to your faculty supervisor. The final project should be 40-60 pages in length and of publishable quality.
5. In addition to the details cited above, individual faculty members may have other requirements that they will negotiate with students.