

*Academic and Vocational
Peace Building Education Program
of the University of St. La Salle
in cooperation with
the Niall O'Brien Center*

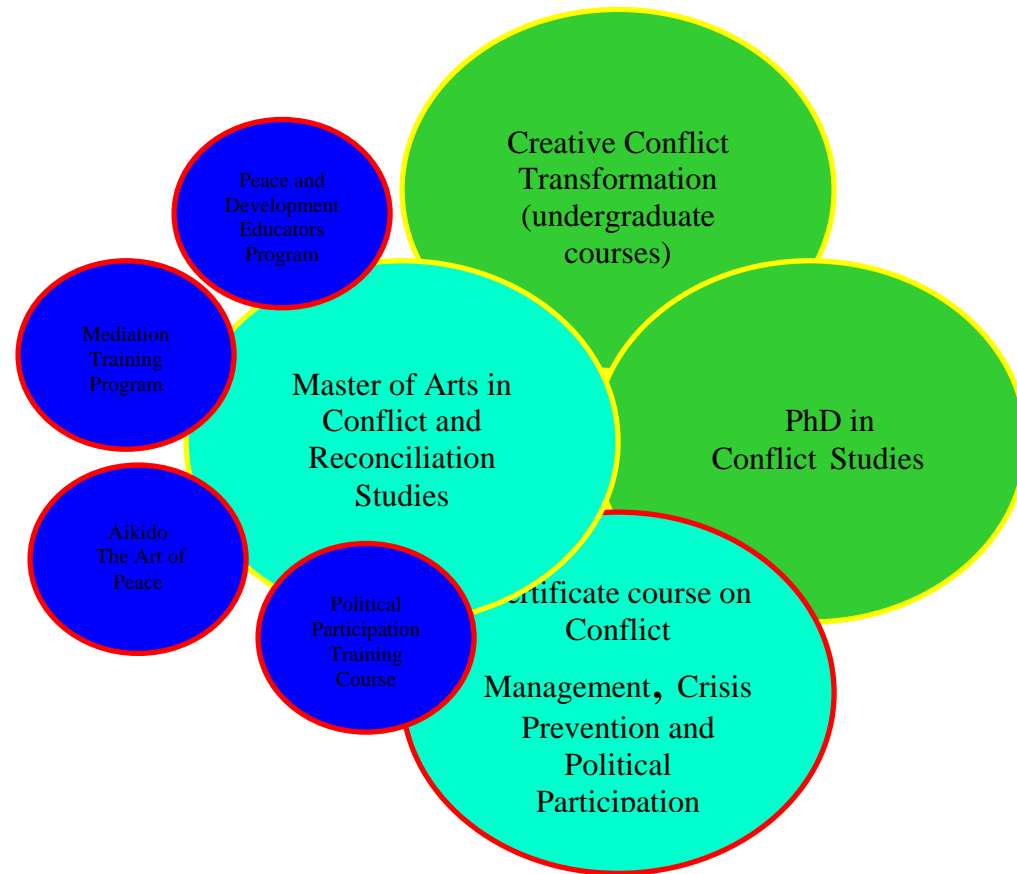


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Peace Building Education Program

1. Academic Training

The most important measure to achieve positive peace (where people can deal creatively and constructively with conflict) and to prevent crisis is the education of society. Therefore, the preparation of skilled and conflict work experienced teachers, trainers and facilitators is the paramount goal of an academic program.

1.1 Undergraduate Courses

The "Creative Conflict Transformation" course is the entry point of the academic peace building education. College students from political science, social science and interdisciplinary studies (IDS) have to undergo this 3-unit (54 hours) course as part of their curriculum. At the end of the course they will be equipped with basic skills in conflict analysis, conflict transformation and mediation and can make use of the lessons learned in professional life.

1.2 Postgraduate Courses

For an in-depth, broader and more holistic study of the mechanisms and responses to conflict the University of St. La Salle offers two postgraduate programs.

Master of Arts in Conflict and Reconciliation Studies

The Master of Arts course is a transdisciplinary study, an open dialogue of multiple creative and scientific subjects, based on existing political, economical and societal situations and conflicts in the Philippines.

Graduates of the study program ideally use their knowledge and skills as multipliers (teachers, trainers and facilitators) on all educational and professional levels.

Doctorate in Conflict Studies

After completing a Masters degree in *Conflict and Reconciliation Studies* or any other peace science program, students can apply for the PhD course. The doctorate is strongly research based to guarantee a high quality dissertation and an important contribution for scientific and – if possible – Philippine development. Within a time frame of two to five years students will prepare a thesis comparable to international standards. Graduates from other disciplines are welcome to attend the program but have to take several courses of the *Conflict and Reconciliation Studies* in advance.

2. Vocational Training

This program offers training opportunities for interested and life-experienced professionals regardless of high school diplomas and college degrees. All participants who seek for just peace and authentic development are invited to become conflict managers, trainers or facilitators in their communities and professional environments.

2.1 Certificate Course on Conflict Management, Crisis Prevention and Political Participation

The certificate course is conceptualized as a vocational training and provides many important skills to work with people in

conflict-affected communities. Graduates will be able to apply preventive conflict transformation measures to avert violence and destruction, and to respond constructively to current challenges and conflicts. In addition, participants get trained in political awareness (for example the imbalance of powers, decision making processes, human rights violations, unequal distribution of wealth, unjust systems and hidden agendas) and prepared for taking responsibility in political life. After successful completion of the certificate course the graduates have the chance to continue their education on college level (only political science, social science or interdisciplinary studies).

2.2 Training Programs (Electives of the MA Studies)

Six units (108 hours) of the Conflict and Reconciliation Studies are covered by hands-on courses. Practically oriented and drawn from life, the electives link and relate the theories to reality. The four electives are first of all vocational training programs for the grassroots. To guarantee maximum interaction of participants from various professional backgrounds, not more than 50 per cent students are allowed to join per class. To foster mutual understanding at least parts of the training will be held in Hiligaynon.

Peace and Development Educators Training Program

The Peace and Development Educators Program is designed for future peace educators and facilitators from all social and professional backgrounds. It is composed of six courses.

The first two courses deal with the dynamics of conflict and violence. In three empowerment courses, the participants face the major existing conflicts in Negros: Cultural (identity), Economical (poverty), and Political (ideology). Empowerment needs critical

and compassionate consciousness, creativity and vital exchange. Therefore participants leave the “comfort zones” of their daily lives and learn with people in their conflict environment.

Mediation Training Program

The mediation program presents the basic concepts, principles and practices of negotiation and mediation. It introduces the standards of court mediation in the Philippines and discusses differences and commonalities to indigenous Philippine mediation methods. For successful completion the participants mediate several conflict cases.

Aikido – The Art of Peace

Aikido is a Japanese martial art but it is also considered the “Art of Peace”. This course introduces the student to the basic characteristics and principles that make *Aikido* unique as a holistic peace building approach. Participants will discover the philosophy of the nonviolent martial art through active regular participation in *Aikido* trainings, discuss the potentials of *Aikido* to create Inner and Outer Peace and its concepts of harmony (*Ai*) and reconciliation.

Political Participation Training Course

This course covers parts of the certificate course on *Conflict Management, Crisis Prevention and Political Participation*. It is the interface between intellectual ideas and practical feasibility. The course marks the beginning of a realistic grassroots democracy through controversial discussion, facilitating mutual understanding and raising political awareness.

Appendix 1: Curriculum Postgraduate Studies (MA)

**MASTER OF ARTS
IN
CONFLICT AND RECONCILIATION STUDIES**

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS (42/40 UNITS)

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Basic Courses	9 units
Major Courses	21 units
Electives	6 units
Comprehensive Examination	written
Thesis/Project Paper	6/4 units
TOTAL	42/40 units

CURRICULUM **UNITS**

Basic Courses **(9 units)**

MA 201	Methods of Research/Statistical Methods	3
MA 202	Peace Sciences 1 - Foundations, Issues and Trends	6

Major Courses **(21 units)**

MA 203	Peace Sciences 2 - Ethical and Religious Perspectives	3
MA 204	Human Rights, Humanitarian Law and the Role of the United Nations	3
MA 205	Conflict Communication: Between Active Listening and War Journalism	3
MA 206	Peace Education	3
MA 207	Peace Psychology	3
MA 208	Conflict History of the Philippines	3
MA 209	Crisis Management in Development Work and the Business Sector	3

Electives **(6 units)**

MA 210	Peace and Development Educators Program	6
MA 211	Mediators Training Program	6
MA 212	Aikido - The Art of Peace	6
MA 213	Political Participation Training Program	6

Thesis/Project Paper 6/4

Appendix 2: Curriculum Postgraduate Studies (PhD)

**DOCTORATE (PhD)
IN
CONFLICT STUDIES**

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS (39/63 UNITS)

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Preliminary Courses	24 units
Seminars	3 units
Disputation	12 units
Dissertation	24 units
TOTAL	39/63 units

CURRICULUM **UNITS**

Preliminary Courses **(24 units)**

MA 202	Peace Sciences I - Foundations, Issues and Trends	6
MA 203	Peace Sciences II - Ethical and Religious Perspectives	3
MA 204	Human Rights, Humanitarian Law and the Role of the United Nations	3
MA 205	Conflict Communication: Between Active Listening and War Journalism	3
MA 207	Peace Psychology	3
MA 208	Conflict History of the Philippines	3
MA 209	Crisis Management in Development Work and the Business Sector	3

Seminars **(3 units)**

PhD 101	Conflict Studies I	1
PhD 102	Conflict Studies II	1
PhD 103	Conflict Studies III	1

Dissertation 24

Appendix 3: Curriculum Certificate Course

**CERTIFICATE COURSE
IN
CONFLICT MANAGEMENT, CRISIS PREVENION
AND POLITICAL PARTICIPATION**

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS (45 UNITS)

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Basic Courses	9 units
Major Courses	36 units
TOTAL	45 units

CURRICULUM **UNITS**

Basic Courses **(9 units)**

CC 101	Computer Skills	3
CC 102	Language Skills (Tagalog and English)	3
CC 103	Logic Training (Mathematics and Natural Sciences)	3

Major Courses **(36 units)**

CC 104	Introduction to Philippine and International Politics	3
CC 105	Functions and Players of the Security Sector	3
CC 106	Contemporary Philippine History	3
CC 107	Human Rights – Misbalance in Economical, Political and Social Structures	3
CC 108	Protection and Promotion of Human Rights	3
CC 109	Communication Skills	3
CC 110	Foundations of Investigation and Research	3
CC 111	Foundations in Psychology	3
CC 112	Nonviolent Conflict Intervention	3
CC 113	Information Dissemination – Peace and Conflict Journalism	3
CC 114	Political Empowerment and Participation	3
CC 115	Martial Arts	3

Appendix 4: Structure of Training Programs/Elective Courses

PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT EDUCATORS PROGRAM

Introduction to Creative Conflict Transformation	one weekend
Conflict Violence	one weekend

Empowerment Courses	one weekend
Identity Development Ideologies	one weekend one weekend

Training of Trainers Training	one weekend
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MEDIATION TRAINING PROGRAM

Mediation Training	four weekends
Praktikum	four days

AIKIDO – THE ART OF PEACE

Self-Transformation	40-60 sessions (60-90 hours)
Practice on the mat	

Conflict Management and Transformation Course	three weekends
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POLITICAL PARTICIPATION TRAINING COURSE

Introduction to Philippine and International Politics	one weekend
Functions and Players of the Security Sector	one weekend
Introductions to Human Rights Work	one weekend
Nonviolent Conflict Intervention	one weekend
Information Dissemination – Peace and Conflict Journalism	one weekend
Political Empowerment and Participation	one weekend