

# Creating Pathways for Human Rights Education in the California Community College Classroom

## An Overview of the Peace Studies Associate Degree at San Diego City College



Prepared by Katie Zaroni,  
Co-Founder of Peace Studies  
Associate Degree at SDCC  
Doctoral Student in International and  
Multicultural Education –  
Concentration in HRE  
University of San Francisco

Stanford Human Rights Education  
Initiative Symposium  
June 7, 2014  
Katiezanoni@gmail.com

Art Miles Mural Project dedicated to the families  
affected by the tragedy in Newtown (Spring 2013)

# Peace Studies: A Growing Field

- First Peace Studies Program – 1948 at Manchester College, IN
- Over 400 colleges and universities offering peace and conflict studies programs in U.S. and overseas
- Increase in Peace Studies students



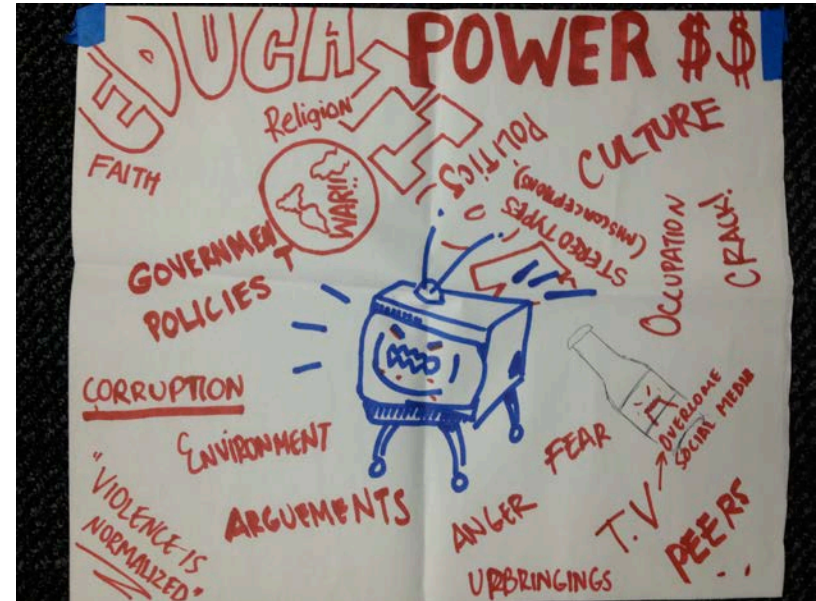
# Peace Studies: A Discipline

Peace Studies is an interdisciplinary academic field of inquiry within the social sciences that examines prevention, de-escalation and resolution of conflict as well as post conflict peacebuilding. Peace Studies considers the root causes of a conflict through the interdisciplinary approach to build peace in a nonviolent manner by **addressing human rights violations**, establishing just and equitable societies, and ensuring ecological sustainability." Proposal for Peace Studies as a new discipline

# SDCC Peace Studies AA Degree

## 4 Pillars

- human rights
- conflict studies
- peace processes
- the concept of justice in relation to peace.





# Six Principles of Peace Education



Source: APCEIU, 2002

# Certificate of Performance

- Peace Studies 101 – Introduction to Peace Studies
- Biology 101 – Issues in Environmental Biology
- Anthropology 103 – Introduction to Cultural Anthropology
- Philosophy 102B – Introduction to Philosophy: Values
- Peace Studies 250 – Field Experience
- English 101 – Reading and Composition  
or
- English 105 – Composition and Literature



# Peace Studies Associate Degree

- 
- PEAC 101 Introduction to Peace Studies
  - BIOL 101 Issues in Environmental Biology
  - ANTH 103 Introduction to Cultural Anthropology
  - PHIL 102B Introduction To Philosophy: Values
  - PEAC 250 Field Experience
  - PEAC 102 Nonviolence and Conflict Resolution
  - POLI 140 Contemporary International Politics
  - PEAC 201 Environmental Sustainability, Justice and Ethics
  - ENGL 208 Introduction to Literature

# Strategic Peacebuilding Paths





# Development Process

- Establish a shared vision
- Create institutional alliances
- Gain regional and national support
- Identify a chair person who is a content expert
- Research existing programs & courses

# Higher Education

## Community Colleges

- Berkshire Community College, Pittsfield, MA
- Greenfield Community College, MA
- Portland Community College, OR
- Golden West College, Huntington Beach – courses in Peace Studies

## Four Year Institutions - California

- University of San Diego - Peace Studies minor
- San Diego State University - International Security and Conflict Resolution Program
- University of San Francisco - Peace and Justice Studies Minor
- University of Santa Barbara - Global Peace and Security Minor and Certificate
- University of California, Berkeley - Peace and Conflict Studies Major and Minor

# Higher Education: Graduate Level

- University of San Diego –M.A. Peace and Justice Studies
- California State University, Dominguez Hills – MA in Negotiation, Conflict Resolution and Peacebuilding
- George Mason University, Fairfax, VA - Institute for Conflict Analysis and Resolution - M.S. and Ph.D.
- University of Notre Dame, IN - M.A. International Peace Studies and Ph.D.
- Arcadia University, Pennsylvania, M.A. -International Peace and Conflict Resolution
- Rutgers University, New Jersey - Master of Arts in Peace and Conflict Studies
- University of Wisconsin, Master of Sustainable Peacebuilding
- University for Peace, Costa Rica - M.A. Programs and trainings



# Build momentum

- Start with Certificate
- Demonstrate student interest
- Simultaneously develop Associate Degree
- Advocate for articulation agreements
- Institutionalize the program
  - State approval
  - Peace Studies recognized as a discipline
  - Illuminate student voices

# Next Steps

- Track students to demonstrate academic and career pathway
- Secure funding for full time faculty
- Include new courses on Conflict Resolution and Mediation offered at SDCC
- Increase efforts to institutionalize the program:
  - Invite increased student involvement
  - Create a community advisory board
  - Build more institutional partnerships
  - Strengthen community of educators (PJSA 2014)



# Student Voices

“now I feel empowered to take these skills to a community level” (Bridgit L., PEAC 102)

“My desires for peaceable conflict resolution and [a] worldwide mentality change lie in my experiences as a mediator amongst my friends and neighbors” (Blake S., PEAC 201)



# Discussion Questions

- *What are the differences and similarities between Peace, Human Rights, and Global (Citizenship) Education?*
- *What strategies can be used to increase awareness and build community to strengthen curricula related to Human Rights within higher education in California?*

# Resources

- Peace and Justice Studies Association
- Peace and Development Collaborative Network
- CRE
- Peacebuilding book – David Smith
- Guide to creating programs