

POSTCONFLICT RECONSTRUCTION, CAS

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Certificate of Advanced Study in Postconflict Reconstruction

The Certificate of Advanced Study in Postconflict Reconstruction (PCR) is a 12-credit, multidisciplinary program for law and graduate students preparing for careers in PCR, peace building, humanitarian relief, and international development.

The certificate provides students a documented concentration and familiarization with the various dimensions and goals of postconflict work, the types of actors who conduct it, the trade-offs and dilemmas they face, and the lessons learned from its application across various settings. Students learn the tools required for success in public service careers in reconstruction, human security, and development, including:

- Analytical techniques tailored for work in international development communities.
- A better understanding of how the US and the international community can effectively participate to rebuild shattered societies.
- New ways of thinking about the nature of conflict, cooperation, and security.

Specific topics of study include international law and the rule of law, human rights and human security, peace and conflict studies, diplomacy and international relations, humanitarian relief, economics of development, and capacity-building. This sequence of specialized coursework is coordinated across the Maxwell School, College of Law, Whitman School, and Newhouse School. All students take a core course—Fundamentals of Postconflict Reconstruction—and complete a Capstone Project/Internship related to PCR.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Identify and describe the main concepts of postconflict reconstruction; the various dimensions and goals of postconflict work, the types of actors that conduct it, the trade-offs and dilemmas they face, and the lessons learned from its application across various settings.
2. Evaluate techniques and tools used by international intermediaries, as well as local stakeholders, to assist societies transitioning from violence to sustainable peace.
3. Describe and analyze the sources and dynamics of violent conflict including its onset, subsequent trajectories, and termination, with implications for post-conflict reconstruction.
4. Apply current research and theoretical approaches to real-world post conflicts issues through professional development experiences.

Certificate Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
Required Core Course (Mandatory/Three Credits)		
PAI 719	Fundamentals of Post-Conflict Reconstruction	3
Secondary Core Course		
Select one course/three credits of the following:		3
PAI 730	Problems in Public Administration	
PAI 757	Economics of Development	
PAI 601	Fundamentals of Conflict Studies	
PAI 765	Humanitarian Action: Challenges, Responses, Results	
PAI/ANT 701	Seminar on Multilateral Peacekeeping	
PCR Capstone Project/Internship		
Select one course/three credits of the following:		3
PAI 996	Master's Project Course	
PAI 670/690	Experience Credit	
or LAW 991/997	Independent Research	
PAI 670/711/715	Experience Credit (Global Internship for IR Students)	
PAI 752	MPA Workshop (MPA Workshop for MPA Students)	
PAI 700	Selected Topics (Washington Practicum)	