

MASTER DEGREES AND ADVANCED COURSES

Learn Online with
the United Nations





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This page: UN Photo/Andrea Brizzi

UNITAR

The United Nations Institute for Training and Research

is a specialized training agency of the United Nations system, whose mandate is to develop individual and institutional capacities for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development through outcome-based training and learning initiatives. By providing tailored training in different formats and lifelong learning opportunities, the Institute makes a substantive contribution to the achievement of the Goal 4 of Quality Education. In relation to the Goal 16 of Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, UNITAR strives to support the (re-) establishment of peaceful, just and inclusive societies by enabling individuals and organizations to contribute meaningfully to sustainable peace.

[Click here](#)

to hear from our leadership and learn how UNITAR contributes to our Global Goals.



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UNITAR MASTER DEGREES

are advanced academic programmes, offered in partnership with the leading higher education institutions and designed to strengthen knowledge and capacities in the field of peace and security. The programmes are mostly delivered online, offering a high degree of flexibility for mid- to upper-level professionals currently working in the field or whose assignments involve a lot of traveling. Each programme has in-built advanced academic modules, which can be taken separately based on individual needs and preferences.





UNITAR/ Arquette Heródek

Foreword

Innovation and democratisation of learning under the new normal

Dear learners,

The recent COVID-19 pandemic has challenged and fundamentally changed the way we live, work, interact and learn. Globally, cancellations of events, postponed and cancelled study abroad programmes, and moving teaching and operations virtually have had disparate impacts on the internationalisation and globalisation of higher education. While distance learning tools present vast opportunities for democratising higher education systems, the shift to online learning has so far been vastly uneven.

Even in times of crisis, education matters. Education is what connects, enables and inspires all great minds and hearts around the world to bring about a sustainable change, and thus it is indispensable for the successful implementation of our Agenda for Sustainable Development, and in particular as it relates to peace and justice for all. Driven by this vision, UNITAR remains committed to not only maintaining but also continuously improving the quality of its synchronous and asynchronous online learning programmes.

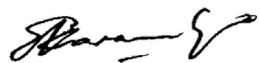
The booklet you are holding highlights the results of numerous highly creative inputs: from human-centred instructional design and best practices to a great deal of coordination and harmonization, pilot-testing and improvement. Our online academic programmes and courses incorporate 75 years of the United Nations' work in the field, decades of UNITAR's experience in training and research as well as rich academic heritage of our partner universities located all around the world. Most importantly, they incorporate insights and feedback of several generations of learners who – like you –

ceaselessly work on the promotion of global peace, security and development in various countries. Becoming a part of this cohort, beyond the direct knowledge- and skills-related benefits, will enable you to connect with hundreds of successful like-minded individuals.

Based on the 4As of availability, accessibility, acceptability and adaptability, our programmes support the fundamental goal of reaching the furthest first and leaving no one behind, which is particularly important today. In addition to these, and just as importantly, is excellence. Excellence in training – a core UNITAR’s principle, is well-reflected in our mission of providing “knowledge to lead”. Essentially, this is not about our leadership but about enabling and advancing your leadership through high-class educational products.

Informed leadership and mutual support and cooperation is what eventually will enable us to overcome the current unprecedented challenge, while building up a global vision – a vision of breaking down the limits of what is possible and reaching the level of capability high enough to radically transform and improve the world we live in today. This kind of attitude, combined with expert knowledge and skills, will be a driver on our way towards a better tomorrow for everyone, regardless of our differences and unequal initial opportunities.

As we are all in this together, let us learn with and from each other and be the change we want to see in the new world that we are about to witness.



Evariste Karambizi,
Director, Division for Peace
UNITAR



UN Photo/Emmanuel Hungrecker



UN Photo/Martel Elias

At a Glance

At UNITAR, we understand the challenges experienced by practicing professionals, especially in the field, when it comes to obtaining additional training to deepen existing, or to obtain new knowledge and skills. Therefore, for decades, we have been developing distance-learning products and services, which allow the benefit of the online delivery mode without compromising collaboration, learner engagement and human interaction. Today, our online learning pillar comprises a wide range of courses of different lengths, accredited academic degrees of graduate level and related qualifications.

From September 2015, our work at the United Nations has been concentrated around our united [Agenda for Sustainable Development](#). The 2030 Agenda is a plan of action centered around people and their prosperity, for our planet and for peace and justice. It is the plan of action which UNITAR as a responsible and capable international actor adopts as its main guiding beacon. While the whole diversified set of UNITAR's activities in training is essentially centred around the Goal 4 of Quality Education, UNITAR's work in peace, in particular, revolves around [the Goal 16 of Peace, Justice and Strong institutions](#) and the related comprehensive set of 12 targets needed to achieve it. With this in mind, we have created five groundbreaking learning experiences for motivated and inspiring adults meant to transform mindsets and open up new perspectives on how to visualize and achieve a sustainable impact.

Our advanced academic programmes in peace and security include:

Master in Conflict, Peace and Security

UNITAR/ Universitat Oberta de Catalunya

- Postgraduate Certificate in Armed Conflict
- Postgraduate Certificate in Crisis Management and Strategic Planning
- Specialization Course in Conflict, Peace and Gender
- Specialization Course in Strategic Conflict Management
- Specialization Course in Intercultural Conflict Management
- Specialization Course in Human Security and Peace Operations

Master in Electoral Policy and Administration

UNITAR/ Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna/ International IDEA

- 19 individual modules available separately or in combination

Master in Humanitarian Action and Peacebuilding

UNITAR/ Oxford Brookes University

- Post-Graduate Certificate in Humanitarian Action and Peacebuilding

Master in Prevention, Arbitration and Conflict Resolution

UNITAR/ Hautes Etudes Politiques et Internationales



These programmes represent a new step in the development of adult distance learning by combining fundamental theoretical concepts and their field applications, online and offline components, internships, lectures and peer-to-peer learning, networking, and much more.

Not familiar with UNITAR yet and interested in starting with something smaller? Our training expertise has developed over years starting from a variety of face-to-face, online and blended individual courses. Check out [over 70 courses](#) in the areas of peacekeeping, peacebuilding, youth and women empowerment, post-conflict reintegration, and rule of law, to name only a few.

A set of [25 open online courses](#) in English, French and Spanish with the continuously updated content is available free of charge to everyone interested in improving their knowledge and skills in conflict management, security, peace operations and various crosscutting skills.

Learn more at unitar.org or contact us at ptp@unitar.org.



UN Photo/Amanda Volzard



4 A's

for Sustainable Impact

Guided by this global aspiration, UNITAR adopts a four-pillar strategy. This strategic vision is translated into a distinctive student-centred, multidisciplinary approach, in which the workplace is used as the main learning environment.

Availability

Cost-effective education programmes delivered within an adequate face-to-face and online infrastructure by experienced and qualified instructors.

Accessibility

Education that is non-discriminatory and accessible to all – positive steps are taken to include populations at risk as a priority. We encourage applications from qualified women and provide financial aid to students coming from the least developed countries.

Acceptability

Education where the content is relevant and culturally appropriate while at the same time adhering to international quality assurance standards.

Adaptability

Education that continues to evolve within the framework of changing needs of the target population as well as changing structural demand for the related skills and evolving technological and socio-economic landscape.

“Education is a long-term and the most desirable goal, which accelerates the achievement of all goals of the SDG structure.”

*Nikhil Seth, United Nations Assistant Secretary-General,
Executive Director, UNITAR*

LEARN, THINK, ACT

By designing and delivering learning solutions for individuals actively engaged in humanitarian, peacebuilding and development work, UNITAR makes a substantial contribution to the promotion of the right to education for all, thereby advancing the achievement of the Goal 4 of Quality Education, and in particular:

Target 4.3

By 2030, ensure equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university.

Target 4.7

By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development.



Distinctive features of our Master's programmes include:



Online delivery, allowing for a flexible schedule designed to fit the specific needs of full-time working professionals



Student-centred approach, in which the learner and the learning experience are at the core of the programme



Lifelong learning approach, in which the workplace is used as the main learning environment



Access to a unique community of top-ranked professionals and researchers from all around the globe



Focus on cutting-edge issues and current field practices



Multi-cultural and multi-disciplinary pedagogy

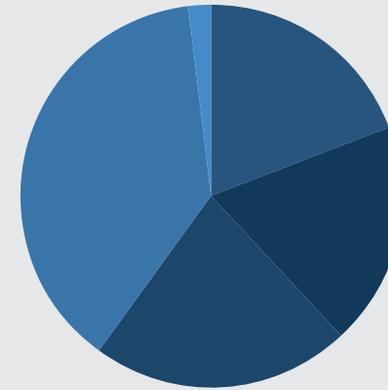


Direct access to the United Nations expertise

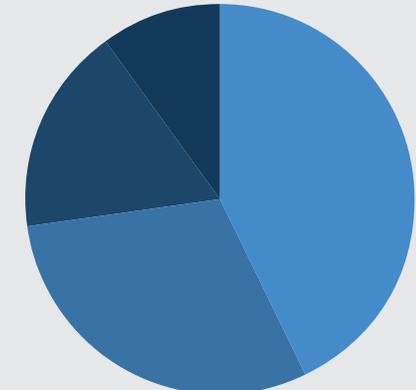
In numbers

357 graduate students and alumni from

76 countries working in multilateral and non-governmental organizations at international, regional and national levels



Student Origin by Continent



Top Sectors of Employment

38%

Africa

22%

Europe

19%

Asia

19%

The Americas

2%

Oceania

43%

United Nations

30%

Government

17%

NGO

10%

Academia

The Open University of Catalonia

(Universitat Oberta de Catalunya, UOC) in Spain is an innovative Internet-based university that offers lifelong learning opportunities meant to help society advance and accelerate its development into the knowledge society. Its educational model is based on interactive e-learning methodologies, cutting-edge research, and personalization, which effectively enables students to become more competitive in their respective professional fields. The UOC forms part of an integrated network of open universities globally and actively contributes to and benefits from this shared global knowledge space.

Programmes in partnership: Master in Conflict, Peace and Security



The Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies

(Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna) in Italy is a public university that works in the field of applied sciences and offers PhD programmes, Master degrees, professional courses and continuing education programmes. The Scuola Sant'Anna's scientific and research activities in the field of social sciences concentrate on conflict management, human rights, emergency response, democratisation, and good governance. Ever

since 1998, the Scuola has developed extensive experience in electoral policy, practice, assistance and studies. Main activities carried out in this field include electoral trainings to election missions support and mentoring, technical assistance to national electoral commissions as well as capacity building of national observers.

Programmes in partnership: Master in Electoral Policy and Administration



The International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance

(International IDEA) is a global intergovernmental organization with a mission to support sustainable democracy building. It has 29 Member States representing Africa, the Americas, Asia Pacific and Europe.

Programmes in partnership: Master in Electoral Policy and Administration



Oxford Brookes University

(OBU) is a public university located in the United Kingdom. Set in a historic student city, Oxford Brookes is one of the UK's leading modern universities and enjoys an international reputation for teaching excellence and innovation as well as strong links with business and industry. Oxford Brookes has been named as one of the top 50

young (under 50 years old) universities in the world by the QS World University Rankings 2018 – and is the only UK university to make the list. The Master's programme is run by the Centre for Development and Emergency Practice (CENDEP), which is based within the School of Architecture and which provides a unique academic setting for the study of international development, conflict, disaster management, urbanisation, humanitarianism and human rights.

Programmes in partnership: Master in Humanitarian Action and Peacebuilding



Hautes Études Internationales & Politiques | INSEEC U.

Founded in 1899 and located in Paris, France, **HEIP (Hautes Etudes Politiques et Internationales)** is one of the oldest higher education establishments in the field of international relations and political science in Europe. To set up and drive forward her project for a ground-breaking school, the founder, Jeanne Weill, better known under the nom de plume of Dick May, called on major thinkers of her day, such as Romain Rolland, Charles Péguy, and Emile Durkheim, etc. Today, the school continues this rich tradition of eclecticism by working with a range of renowned thought leaders and scholars from the field of political and social sciences.

Programmes in partnership: Master in Prevention, Arbitration and Resolution



“The United Nations cannot succeed alone.

Partnership must continue to be at the heart of our strategy. We should have the humility to acknowledge the essential role of other actors, while maintaining full awareness of our unique convening power.”

Antonio Guterres, United Nations Secretary-General

Our Partners

Further adhering to the spirit of the 2030 Agenda and in accordance with the Goal 17 of Partnerships for the Goals, we leverage our strengths and those of our academic partners to ensure a balanced, comprehensive, consistent and at the same time diversified curriculum and methodologies, while increasing your networking opportunities manifold. Our partner universities are centres of excellence in their respective fields and constantly generate new knowledge to keep up with the ever-accelerating changes in our tightly interconnected world.

If you are an academic institution with an interest in changing the global professional education landscape together with UNITAR, please contact us directly at ptp@unitar.org.



Master in **CONFLICT, PEACE AND SECURITY**

The online Master in Conflict, Peace and Security is a unique opportunity designed to enhance the understanding of conflicts in all their dimensions and to explore innovative approaches to their management, resolution and transformation, with the help of leading academic experts and experienced practitioners. Built on the combined expertise of UNITAR and Universitat Oberta de Catalunya, the Master's programme aims to equip participants with a broad analytical skillset, as well as with first-hand knowledge and insights coming directly from the field.

The Master's programme and related Specializations are suitable both for professionals working in conflict-prone environments within the framework of international, regional, governmental or non-governmental organizations, and for graduate students, researchers or anyone with an initial knowledge of and interest in conflicts and the best ways to address them constructively. By choosing the Master in Conflict, Peace and Security, students gain access to a broad community of faculty, peers and alumni spread all across the world. Becoming a part of this community is a valuable asset for life.



“Since early human history there has been a need for peace and security while managing and resolving conflicts that come from living in society. Nowadays more than ever, there is a need of highly skilled professionals in the peace, security and conflict fields.”

Dr. Daniel Rajmil, CPS Programme Director, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya

Duration

The Master in Conflict, Peace and Security programme has an average duration of 2 years needed to complete all the requirements. However, the programme can be extended to up to 6 semesters (3 years) to adjust to individual circumstances. The minimum and maximum duration of both the Postgraduate Certificate in Armed Conflict and the Postgraduate Certificate – Specialization in Crisis Management and Strategic Planning is 1 to 2 years, respectively.

Application

Applications are open throughout the year and students are accepted on a rolling basis. However, deadlines exist to be considered for a specific semester.

For fall semester, apply before
15 September

For spring semester, apply before
15 January

Address your queries to [UNITAR](#) and to [Mr. Alfred Salat Rosas](#),
[Universitat Oberta de Catalunya](#)

[Apply online here](#)

Curriculum

The Master in Conflict, Peace and Security is a certified degree awarded upon the completion of 60 ECTS. The Master is awarded according to the rules and regulations set by the Spanish education system. Giving its specificity, it does not give automatic access to Doctoral studies (PhD and similar). Validation of credits for access to such programmes can be requested from competent institutions.

The topics covered within the Master’s include:

- Understanding Conflict and Conflict Analysis
- Conflict Resolution
- Introduction to Peace Operations and Milestones in UN peacekeeping
- Human Security in Post-Conflict Interventions
- Gender Matters
- Media and Conflict
- Philosophy of Peace and Non-Violence
- Game Theory
- Economy, Environment and Migration
- Research Methods
- Intercultural/Ethnic Conflict and the Management of Diversity
- Corruption, Conflict and Security
- Prevention and Transformation of Conflict
- Mandate Evaluation/ Leadership and Strategic Planning
- Crisis Management

Students may alternatively opt for the Postgraduate Certificate in Armed Conflict. Certificate or the Postgraduate Certificate in Crisis Management and Strategic Planning, where each is awarded upon the completion of 31 ECTS.

RELATED ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS

The related postgraduate qualifications in Conflict, Peace and Security, offered jointly by UNITAR, Division for Peace and Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC), focus on specific parts of the curriculum of the Master's in Conflict, Peace and Security, providing learners with academic flexibility depending on their interests and professional needs. All programmes are offered online and provide a corresponding number of academic credits. Successful participants receive official certificates of completion at the end of each programme.

The related qualifications (Postgraduate Certificates and Specialization Courses) as well as the full Master's programme are suitable both for professionals working in conflict-prone environments within the framework of international, regional, governmental or non-governmental organizations, and for graduate students, young researchers or other academics interested in enhancing their understanding of conflicts and acquiring skills to better address them. Enrolment in any of the programmes below provides access to a broad expert community of UOC and UNITAR alumni spread across the world.

[Apply online here](#)



Postgraduate certificate in armed conflict

The Postgraduate Certificate consists of a practical proposal grounded in the theoretical and methodological knowledge acquired over the course of the programme. This Specialization Course is intended to help students develop a pragmatic view of conflict resolution, based on both multidisciplinary scientific knowledge of conflicts and effective and non-violent methods for conflict resolution that safeguard human rights.

Application deadlines and starting dates

15 September to start 21 October
15 January to start 10 March

Programme structure – 31 ECTS

Introduction to Peace Operations (including module on History of UN Peace Operations) – 3 ECTS
Conflict Analysis – 3 ECTS
Conflict Resolution – 3 ECTS
Human Security – 3 ECTS
Media and Conflict – 3 ECTS
Philosophy of Peace & Non Violence – 4 ECTS
Research Methods – 4 ECTS
Corruption, Conflict, and Security – 3 ECTS
Prevention and Transformation of Conflict – 4 ECTS

Duration

Flexible duration of 1 to 2 years

Specialization course in conflict, peace and gender

The objective of this Specialization Course is to provide participants with a broad analytical skillset, first-hand knowledge and unique expertise in the area of conflict and peace as viewed through the lens of gender and with an understanding and mastery of gendered approaches to conflict management and transformation.

Application deadlines and starting dates

15 September to start 21 October

Programme structure – 31 ECTS

Gender Matters – 2 ECTS
Economy, Environment and Migration – 4 ECTS
Corruption, Conflict and Security – 3 ECTS
Prevention and Transformation of Conflict – 4 ECTS

Duration

4 months



Postgraduate certificate in crisis management and strategic planning

Conflicts are everyday occurrences in people's lives, social groups and international relations. In all historic times, in all cultures, groups and countries, the quest for peace has been ongoing. Costs incurred because of conflicts are very high: human suffering, economic losses and moral degradation. The efforts made by humankind to live in peace give us insight to accomplish real results, eliminate wars, transform conflicts and manage them positively. This Specialization Course draws from this insight, systematises knowledge and presents it in an advanced and efficient educational manner.

Application deadlines and starting dates

15 September to start 21 October
15 January to start 10 March

Programme structure – 31 ECTS

Introduction to Peace Operations (including module on History of UN Peace Operations) – 3 ECTS
Conflict Analysis – 3 ECTS
Conflict Resolution – 3 ECTS
Game Theory – 4 ECTS
Crisis Management – 4 ECTS
Gender Matters – 2 ECTS
Research Methods – 4 ECTS
The Intercultural/Ethnic Conflict and the Management of Diversity – 4 ECTS
Mandate Evaluation/Leadership and Strategic Planning – 4 ECTS

Duration

Flexible duration of 1 to 2 years

Specialization course in strategic conflict management

The objectives of this Specialization Course include: 1) provide an understanding of crisis management theory and its different approaches; 2) improve conflict analysis skills; 3) increase the participants' ability to manage strategic interventions; 4) help develop efficient intervention programmes and manage the search for specific and positive solutions; 5) enable the creation of communication campaigns capable to transform, prevent and end conflicts.

Application deadlines and starting dates

15 September to start 21 October

Programme structure – 16 ECTS

Game Theory – 4 ECTS
Mandate Evaluation – 4 ECTS
Economy, Environment and Migration – 4 ECTS
Crisis Management – 4 ECTS

Duration

4 months

Specialization course in intercultural conflict management

The Intercultural Conflict Management Specialization Course aims to enhance the participants' understanding of conflict and peace processes from an intercultural perspective. By exploring ethnic and cultural aspects as well as mastering intercultural management theories, course participants gain critical insights into the structural roots of conflicts. This Course is suitable for anyone working in environments and communities where intercultural differences and divides are particularly prominent.

Application deadlines and starting dates

15 January to start 10 March

Programme structure – 14 ECTS

Philosophy of Peace and Non-Violence – 4 ECTS
Conflict Resolution – 4 ECTS
Intercultural Conflict and Diversity Management – 4 ECTS
Media, Conflict and Peace Building – 3 ECTS

Duration

4 months



Specialization course in human security and peace operations

The Human Security and Peace Operations Specialization Course aims to enhance the participants' understanding of conflict and peace processes from a human security perspective as well as unpack the role that UN peace operations play in conflict resolution

Application deadlines and starting dates

15 January to start 10 March

Programme structure – 13 ECTS

Human Security – 4 ECTS
Introduction to Peace Operations and History of UN Peace Operations – 3 ECTS
Mandate Evaluation – 4 ECTS
Conflict Analysis – 3 ECTS

Duration

4 months



UN Photo/Harandane Dicio

Master in **ELECTORAL POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION**

The online Master in Electoral Policy and Administration (MEPA) aims to provide advanced learning on electoral processes for current and aspiring election professionals through a network of field practitioners and world-leading academics and electoral experts. Responding to a global structural demand for qualified electoral professionals, the Master's programme is based on a systematic and comprehensive approach to the professional development of those enrolled and places particular emphasis on the importance of advancing equal career opportunities for men and women in this sector, including in senior positions.

MEPA is composed of an online component (9 months) and an optional residential component at the Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna in Pisa, Italy (up to 3 weeks). Internships are encouraged but not compulsory in order to earn the Master's diploma.

In partnership with the Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna and the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA).



“Free and fair elections are not only a basic human right, codified in several international conventions, but also the pre-requisite for building credible and effective governments. In a period of great changes and challenges for each state and for every citizen, especially in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, the integrity, credibility and transparency of electoral

processes must be safeguarded and enforced. The Master in Electoral Policy and Administration, entirely delivered online, represents a unique capacity building opportunity for all the stakeholders involved in the preparation and running of national elections. Staff of the national Election Management Bodies, political activists, civil society organizations can immensely benefit from the Master, which offers the technical and political inputs needed to run the elections according to the current international standards and to monitor the development of the electoral process.”

Professor Andrea de Guttry, MEPA Programme Director, Scuola Superiore Sant’Anna

Duration

The average duration of the Master in Electoral Policy and Administration is 12 months. The average duration of the individual modules is between 20 to 40 hours (depending on the specific module chosen).

Application

Applications are open throughout the year and students are accepted on a rolling basis. However, deadlines exist to be considered for a specific semester.

For fall semester, apply before
1 September

For spring semester, apply before
1 March

Address your queries to [UNITAR](#) and to [Scuola Superiore Sant’Anna](#)

[Apply online here](#)

Curriculum

The Master in Electoral Policy and Administration is awarded upon the completion of 62 ECTS (minimum), while it is possible to obtain up to 67 ECTS throughout the programme. At the end of the Master Programme, those students, who have passed all the required examinations and successfully presented their Master thesis, will receive from Scuola Superiore Sant’Anna a First Level Master’s Diploma, in accordance with art. 3 of the Italian DM no. 270/2004. The degree is awarded according to the rules and regulations set by the Italian and the EU education system. Giving its specificity, it does not give general access to Doctoral studies (Phd and similar). Validation of credits for access to such programmes can be requested from competent institutions.

The topics covered within the Master’s include:

- Elections and Voting as Instruments of Governance
- Electoral Legal and Regulatory Frameworks
- Electoral Management Bodies (EMBs)
- Electoral Systems and Managing Representation
- Understanding and Managing Boundary Delimitation
- Political Parties, Campaigns, and Political Finance
- Electoral Planning and Budgeting
- Voter Registration and Identification Systems
- Electoral Operations
- Marginalized Electorates and Special Voting Programmes
- Elections and Technology
- Civic and Voter Education
- Media and Elections
- Electoral Integrity and Malpractice
- Electoral Security and Conflict Prevention
- Electoral Justice Systems
- Electoral Observation, Evaluation, and Validation
- Policy Advice and Electoral Reform
- Direct Democracy (optional)

Students may alternatively opt to register for 1-6 of these individual modules which will grant between 2 and 5 ECTS.



UN Photo/Martina Ferrel

Master in **HUMANITARIAN ACTION AND PEACEBUILDING**

Complex man-made crises, conflicts, violence and unrest have become a major concern for the international community. Designing interventions in these extremely volatile contexts requires specific knowledge and skills that would enable involved professionals to minimize negative impacts and maximize opportunities for positive and sustainable changes. The online Master in Humanitarian Action and Peacebuilding explores the interactions between these two fields, by linking theory with practice and applied knowledge. The programme envisages online lectures, discussions with key practitioners, experience sharing, and critical reflections - all within the framework of an action research-based approach. The aim of the programme is to enhance reflective practices by combining the art of conflict-sensitive approaches to humanitarian and peacebuilding programming with the appreciation of the wider context in which these interventions unfold.

The programme is designed for practitioners working in the fields of humanitarian action and peacebuilding, though is also open to personnel working in related fields (such as military and police officers deployed or about to be deployed in field operations, civil servants – including diplomats – in charge of humanitarian affairs, academics teaching humanitarian affairs, journalists etc.) who seek to develop a more holistic understanding of critical issues related to humanitarian action and peacebuilding. Finally, the programme addresses practitioners working within other professional sectors, interested in exploring opportunities in the fields of humanitarian action and peacebuilding.



“The Master’s degree in Humanitarian Action and Peacebuilding is an amazing learning journey undertaken with reflective practitioners from all over the world. Reflecting on the common grounds and the gaps between humanitarian action and peacebuilding opens up many new avenues in our understanding of local context, our practices of resilience enhancement and our moves towards integrated sustainable responses.”

Dr. Brigitte Piquard, HAP Programme Director, Oxford Brookes University

Duration

The average duration of the Master Diploma is 30 months (minimum duration: 2 years; maximum duration: 5 years). The Post-Graduate Certificate in Humanitarian Action and Peacebuilding can be completed in 12 months on average (maximum duration: 2 years).

Application

Applications are open throughout the year and students are accepted on a rolling basis. However, deadlines exist to be considered for a specific semester.

For fall semester, apply before **15 August**

For spring semester, apply before **15 December**

Address your queries to [UNITAR](#) and to [Oxford Brookes University, Centre for Development and Emergency Practice](#)

[Apply online here](#)

Curriculum

The programme is constituted of three core modules, three issue-based modules as well as a research skills module as preparation for the dissertation. The degree is awarded upon obtaining 180 UK credits.

The three core modules (60 UK credits) are:

- From Conflict Sensitivity to Conflict Transformation
- Culture Sensitivity in Conflict and Post-Conflict Settings
- Leadership, Team and Self-management in Conflict Settings

A Post-Graduate Certificate in Humanitarian Action and Peacebuilding is also offered for those not wishing to undertake the full MA. It consists of the three core modules only.

The three issue-based modules (60 UK credits) are:

- Humanitarian and Peacebuilding Programmes in Urban Conflicts
- Protection of Civilians in Conflict and Post-conflict Settings
- Post-Conflict Stabilisation and Recovery

Note that one of the six modules could be replaced by an independent study, should you wish to investigate a specific issue in depth. Each of these six modules is accessible to associated students and can be studied individually.

The research component (60 UK credits) is constituted of:

- Research Methods and Dissertation/Practice-based Final Work

The dissertation is a large piece of work that enables you to explore an issue or theme in depth. The dissertation is a self-driven work, where the supervisor plays the role of advisor, supporter and questioner.



UN Photo/Abdelrhahmed Tamer

Master in

PREVENTION, ARBITRATION AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION

This blended learning programme offered in partnership with Hautes Études Internationales & Politiques (HEIP) has been developed in Paris under the direction of Ms. Ouided Bouchamaoui, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate 2015. This Master's degree enables students and auditors to prepare for career in a company, consulting firm or public institution working on national and/or international crisis issues. In a world where areas of tension are numerous and multifaceted, prevention and arbitration techniques are increasingly used to avoid the destruction of property and the loss of human life caused by armed conflicts as well as to prevent the destabilization of entire countries over long periods of time.

The programme is available in English and French.



Ms. Ouided Bouchamaoui
Nobel Peace Prize Laureate
Prevention, Arbitration and Conflict
Resolution Programme Director,
Hautes Études Internationales
& Politiques

Duration

The duration of the Master's programme is 1 year, starting from September. Students can complete the programme by immersion in companies and institutions as part of the work-study arrangement.

Application

Applications are open throughout the year and students are accepted on a rolling basis. However, deadlines exist to be considered for a specific semester.

For fall semester, apply before **August 27**

Address your queries to [UNITAR](#) and to [HEIP](#)

More information about the programme can be found [here](#).

[Apply online here](#)

*“Let us never negotiate out of fear.
But let us never fear to negotiate.”*

John F. Kennedy

Curriculum

This programme is developed in the form of seven specialized thematic seminars allowing students to acquire theoretical knowledge as well as to meet directly with professional figures.

The topics covered within the Master's include:

- Major Players in Conflict Resolution, Negotiation Skills
- Natural Resources, Environment and Sources of Conflict
- Human Societies, Religious or Ethnic Conflicts
- Democracy, Gender and Conflict Prevention
- Media, Journalism and Information in Times Of Crisis
- Migration, Borders and Refugee Law
- Post-Conflict States and Public Services

Schedule

From September to February

1 week of courses alternating with 2 weeks in companies

From March to August

full-time work in a company / e-learning

September

1 week of mid-term exams and completion

Navigating the complex field
of conflict, peace and security

WEBINAR SERIES

Together with its academic partners, UNITAR runs a series of webinars dedicated to various issues pertaining to the modern peace and security landscape, with a specific focus on education and training needed by personnel and professionals operating in these highly complex environments. Each time, we invite a special guest from the international sector, field operations, academia or media to share their experience and expert knowledge with our audience.

Thematic areas vary from current conflicts and related political developments, media coverage and perceptions of conflicts, and humanitarian affairs to personal experience of/in training and educational programmes of different levels. Webinars are free of charge and open to all interested guests. Courses as well as the full Master's programme are suitable both for professionals working in conflict-prone environments within the framework of international, regional, governmental or non-governmental organizations, and for graduate students, young researchers or other academics interested in enhancing their understanding of conflicts and acquiring skills to better address them. Enrolment in any of the programmes below provides access to a broad expert community of UOC and UNITAR alumni spread across the world.

[Click here to learn more](#)



Our students



"All of UNITAR's Master's programmes are inspired by humanistic vision of learning and development. A deep respect for human life and human dignity, equal rights, social justice, cultural diversity, international solidarity, and a shared responsibility for a sustainable future that leaves no one behind."

Orsolya Bader, International Telecommunication Union, Switzerland – Participant in Master in Humanitarian Action and Peacebuilding



"This Master's degree gives us a complete picture of how the United Nations works and provide us with instruments to better analyze conflicts and develop mediation strategies to apply between parties in conflict. [...] It taught me that the more diverse points of view are, the more enriching the final result will be."

Leticia Álvarez Reguera, UNASOM Communication Officer, Somalia Participant in Master in Conflict, Peace and Security



"The course has literally transformed my worldview. This study journey has opened up new avenues for me and a new way of thinking about and approaching peace and conflict. The obtained knowledge on the philosophy of peace and non-violent social movements has improved my skills to engage with policy makers to build peaceful social systems, societies and communities to make the world a better place to live in for the future generations."

Saumendra Nath De, UN Office of Internal Oversight Services, USA – Participant in Master in Conflict, Peace and Security



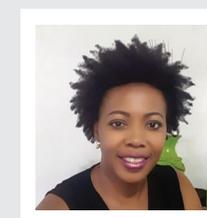
"The programme is designed in a way to be directly applicable to the work of an elections professional. I learn and test my new knowledge in a real time, and see the results".

Fatuma Silungwe, legal analyst, UNDP, Malawi – Participant in Master in Electoral Policy and Administration



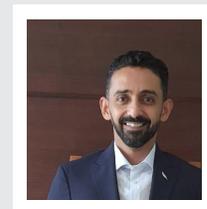
"The broader view is what I find truly awesome about MEPA. There is no definition of democracy as American or democracy as South African. Democracy is not limited to a particular country, and this should always be borne in mind while selecting course materials".

Henry Atem Oben, Executive Director, United States Center for Electoral Support, USA – Participant in Master in Electoral Policy and Administration



"Working with people who have been affected by conflict needs special understanding and special approach. To have effective reach out to marginalized communities, you need to have some prior exposure to experiences and views of different people. Through this programme, I have come to appreciate the fact that people think differently, and understood that it was possible to find a common solution together".

Elestina Yvonne Phuka, Midwife and Reproductive Health Coach working with refugees, Ethiopia – Participant in Master in Conflict, Peace and Security



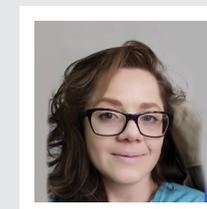
"The training I received covered a range of critical subjects from peace operations, scientifically deconstructing and understanding conflicts, importance of human security, to correct ways of conflict resolution and building a sustainable peace. It was a very enriching learning experience where I learned from both teachers and students who shared a wealth of knowledge and wisdom from practical experiences. This was extremely useful when applied to my work in designing peace initiatives, capacity building programmes, and even sustainable development projects."

Hisham Al-Omeisy, Conflict Analyst, Yemen



"The knowledge and skills obtained in the programme have significantly improved my ability to deliver with confidence in the conflict area. I have come to understand that violence is not inescapable, we only need to understand why people behave this way and meet their needs [...] The philosophy behind the global peace movement tells us that everyone is important and that all of us have something to contribute."

Judith Draleru, UNV midwife, South Sudan – Participant in Master in Conflict, Peace and Security



"When you are on the ground, you still have to think about the formal knowledge, it is not only about experience. This programme is intellectually challenging, but it is also very flexible and tailored to your needs as a working professional. I have a really great impression of UNITAR and the people behind, and I can recommend this degree to others."

Eloás dos Santos Prado, UNDP, Jordan – Participant in Master in Conflict, Peace and Security

General application information



In order to be considered for one of our Master's, students should comply with the following minimum requirements:

- have completed at least an undergraduate degree (in exceptional circumstances, extensive professional experience can be accepted in lieu of the degree);
- be fluent in English (some partner universities require a valid proof);
- possess a valid passport or national ID card.

The package of supporting documents varies depending on the programme chosen, but most often includes a CV, a cover letter, a grade transcript from previous studies, an essay, and a recommendation letter. As a rule, some of these submissions are optional.

All applicants are required to apply online by following the links specified above and have to complete all the required fields and uploads prior to submission. Applicants are encouraged to email UNITAR and the partner universities in the case they have any difficulties or questions regarding the application process.

Notes



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