OVERVIEW
Religion has played a crucial role in various forms of human conflict, historically and in our own times. The nature of that role, however, varies significantly, since religion provides contexts for division and war as well as for unity and peace. ASU’s Undergraduate Certificate in Religion and Conflict provides students a broad, interdisciplinary understanding of the dynamics of religion, conflict, and peace by exploring questions such as these:

- What are the religious and non-religious causes of conflict or factors that contribute to it?
- What do we mean by the term “religious violence”?
- What secular and religious resources exist for understanding and resolving different kinds of conflict?
- What do we mean by “peace”? And how can religion inform the pursuit of peace?

The certificate is open to all students and majors. It may be of particular interest to students pursuing careers in journalism, law, policy work, diplomacy, the military, public advocacy, publishing, education, ministry or other fields in which an enhanced understanding of religion and conflict is increasingly vital.

CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENTS
Students must complete 18 credit hours of qualifying coursework (at least 12 hours from ASU), consisting of regional, political, and cultural components. A minimum grade of “C” is required for a course to fulfill a certificate requirement. In many cases, the same course can be used to fulfill several requirements simultaneously.

1. Regional component (6 hours)
Courses in this category provide students regional knowledge of how religion has been implicated in human conflict. Required coursework in at least two different regions fosters a comparative understanding of the dynamics of religion and conflict in historical and global contexts.

2. Political component (3 hours)
Courses in this category explore how religion influences—or is influenced by—matters of state, law, government, or other dimensions of political life.

3. Cultural component (3 hours)
Courses in this category provide students with an understanding of how religion operates as a powerful force that impacts and intersects with expressions of human identity, thought, art, history, science and culture.

4. Electives (6 hours)
Any approved/qualifying course may be used as an elective to fulfill remaining requirements.

Interdisciplinary requirement
To ensure that students are exposed to a wide variety of approaches, an interdisciplinary component requires that at least 6 of the 18 hours be filled with courses from the Humanities (ARB, HST, POR or REL) and at least 3 hours from the Social Sciences (SOC, POS, SGS or WST).

In addition to the list of regularized courses, there are many special topic courses (generally numbered 194, 294, 394, 494, and 498) that can fulfill certificate requirements as approved by the certificate director.

CERTIFICATE REGISTRATION & INFORMATION
For more information on the certificate, see: http://csrc.asu.edu/education/certificate-program, or contact Matt Correa at matt.correa@asu.edu.

Faculty interested in adding their courses to the certificate program should contact certificate director Professor John Carlson at john.carlson@asu.edu.

Follow the Center’s Facebook page for news and updates on programs and events.

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