

2013-150

AFRICA NAZARENE UNIVERSITY

PROPOSED BACHELOR OF ARTS IN PEACE AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION STUDIES (PCS)

This Proposal was approved
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DOCUMENTATION CENTRE

TO BE PRESENTED TO THE COMMISSION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

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3.0 THE CURRICULUM

3.1 Title of the Programme offered

Bachelor of Arts in Peace and Conflict Resolution Studies

3.2 Philosophy of the Programme

Pursuing a Bachelor of Peace and Conflict Resolution Studies enhances the University's mission of serving God and humanity through higher education with an aim of developing individuals academically, spiritually, culturally, and physically. In particular, Bachelor of Peace and Conflict Resolution Studies stress ethical and moral values in conflict solving mechanism and peace building procedure in every unit. Also, aims at equipping students with negotiations skills and techniques required for victorious mediations in divide of public and private sectors.

3.3 Rationale of the Programme

The overall purpose of the degree in Peace and Conflict Resolution Studies is to prepare students as potential leaders with peacemaking and conflict studies skills, which they can apply to daily life situations, regardless of their academic disciplines or chosen professions. The course examines the causes of war and other forms of violence. It offers nonviolent ways to resolve destructive conflicts and engage in peacemaking, and it discusses the conditions necessary for creating a positive peace. The program has been developed to provide a Christian interdisciplinary perspective to the study of conflict, violence, war, and peace. It has been found that most institutions of higher learning offer the programme from secular perspectives, unlike Africa Nazarene University. Christian approach to peace and conflict studies is essential in view of the highly complex, interconnected, interdependent world in which we live. This requires an understanding that allows people to respond creatively, rather than thoughtlessly, to conflict and violence at various levels. This is made possible through rigorous training of students in related areas of the programme such as justice, conflict resolution, security and peace, and making and evaluating of policies.

The heads of private and public bodies are increasingly calling people whose expertise are in peace and conflict studies. Africa is being faced with a rising backlog of destructive conflicts, which deters peace leading to underdevelopment. Such conflicts have been experienced in Kenya, as well as surrounding countries like Sudan, Uganda, Ethiopia, Somalia, Burundi, Rwanda, Congo, and others. On national and international levels some of the root causes of these destructive conflicts are: tribal/ethnic conflict, unequal distribution of natural resources, and poverty among others. In a low level of conflict, other root causes have been attributed to injustice in court cases, cattle rustling, water competition, revenge missions, the cost and delay of justice, crime in the streets, domestic violence, disorder in schools, ongoing conflict in various workplace settings, and people generally unable to cope with the stress of modern living

among others. All these contribute to a pressing need of peacemakers, mediators, and facilitators capable of resolving destructive conflict with justice. To excel in this capacity, peace and conflict studies practitioners need a thorough understanding of practical peace and conflict resolution theories effective for leading the world from destructive conflict to peaceful coexistence. The development of perspectives and skills in peace, justice, and conflict resolution are relevant in the general areas of private business, the arts, national and international nongovernmental organizations, and national, regional and international government bodies, as well as church related organizations.

3.4 Aim of the Program

To produce graduates who are prepared to go on to numerous related areas such as diplomacy, Third World aid and development, mediation services, public relations, defense planning, management operations, industrial relations, fields of Peace and Conflict Resolution Studies, and peace advocacy among others.

3.5 Expected Learning Outcomes of the Proposed Programme

The program seeks to offer students a thorough grounding in Peace and Conflict Studies Resolution skills through the outcomes of content, competence, character and context. This will assist them to develop analytical skills and approaches to conflict studies and to find the best solutions using appropriate tools. Specifically the program aims that at the time of graduation students will be able to meet the following degree objectives:

1. Develop strategies for solving conflict in given situations,
2. Apply effective peace-building tools and negotiations skills in solving various types of conflicts,
3. Formulate policies and strategies for community development and conflict mitigation,
4. Assess environments, establish possible conflicts and apply negotiations skill into decision making and conflict mitigations