

POLITICAL SCIENCE EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING



POLITICAL RECONCILIATION AND THE SEARCH FOR UNIVERSAL RIGHTS

This program examines the historical struggle for peace and human rights, both within the United States and around the world. We offer classes that take students to a place that has undergone conflict, focusing on how nonviolent social movements have contributed to the advancement of a just peace. Each course focuses on an individual case—e.g. the civil rights movement in America; the end of apartheid in South Africa; the peace process in Northern Ireland; the Israeli-Palestinian conflict; the reconciliation process after the Rwandan Genocide—with links made across the cases about the philosophy, strategies and tactics embedded within these movements.



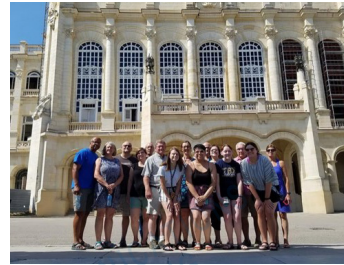
MODEL UNITED NATIONS

Each year, our students participate in two separate week-long National Model United Nations Conferences (Washington DC in the Fall; New York City in the Spring). At these conferences, students learn about the United Nations by conducting research, drafting resolutions, giving speeches and engaging in mock diplomatic meetings with hundreds of students from around the world.



INTERNSHIPS

We encourage each of our students to pursue at least one internship at the local, state, national or international level during their time at UNK. Over the years, our students have interned with local law firms, county attorney offices, local/city government, non-profits, political campaigns, elected officials (within Nebraska and in Washington DC) as well as international and intergovernmental organizations.



INTERNATIONAL FIELD STUDY COURSES

Faculty within the UNK Political Science Department routinely offer courses that take students to individual countries. These countries have included: Cuba, Colombia, Japan, Mexico and Venezuela. As part of the course, students travel to the country to meet with experts, activists and policymakers and learn about their history, culture and politics.



WASHINGTON D.C. FIELD STUDY COURSE

Every other year, students will participate in a Summer field study course that examines the policymaking process in Washington DC. Students will travel to DC to meet with policymakers and experts to discuss a particular area of public policy.



UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

Most of our students engage at some point in undergraduate research during their time at UNK. This involves one-on-one faculty-student mentoring on an independent research project chosen by the student. Students receive a significant stipend for doing this work, either through the Undergraduate Research Fellows (URF) program or the Summer Student Research Program (SSRP). Many of our students have presented their work at professional conferences (in Chicago, St. Louis, San Diego, Portland and Tokyo, to name a few) and have published their work in professional journals.

Learn more at unk.edu/politicalscience