



University of Haifa  
MA Program in Peace and Conflict Management Studies

**Practicum Guidelines\***

***Definition***

The Practicum is a field experience in an organizational project of peace-building, conflict management, justice, development, or human rights. A Practicum should have all the following components:

1. Specific project, either existing or initiated;
2. Field work (not research);
3. Relevancy to areas of peace, conflict, development, or human rights;
4. Work in an organization.

***Objectives***

1. To integrate theory with practice;
2. To acquire hands-on experience;
3. To gain first-hand knowledge of a relevant organization.

***Supervision***

Each student will have two supervisors: an “*academic supervisor*” from the University of Haifa faculty and an “*organization supervisor*” from the organization in which the Practicum is carried out.

***Procedures***

1. Like other seminars in the program, the Practicum is assigned 4 credit hours and a numerical grade.
2. The Practicum plan has to be approved by both the academic and organization supervisors.
3. The Practicum will be conducted in the first semester of the second year of study, but the work on the project can begin earlier informally.
4. Attendance of three class meetings at the beginning, middle and end of the semester is required.
5. The students are expected to stay in contact with the supervisors throughout the semester.
6. A minimum of 120 field hours (or more if required by the nature of the project) should be devoted to the project.
7. Exemptions from the Practicum will be made only in rare cases.
8. The Practicum will be performed in Israel within the pre-1967 borders (including East Jerusalem), and only in rare cases will a project abroad be approved.

***Report***

Students will submit a full analytical report. The report will cover the theoretical background, the project, the organization, policy implications, bibliography, and a personal journal. The report should be no more than 10,000 words (not including bibliography and personal journal).

***Language***

Since the languages spoken in organizations in Israel are Hebrew and/or Arabic, knowledge of one of these languages is important. However, the Hebrew or Arabic language study during the first year of study, possible joint teams of international and Israeli students, and the presence of English-speaking staff in many organizations will enable international students to conduct their projects.

***Team Work***

Each student will work alone on a project, but an international student and an Israeli student may work on a joint project (neither two international students nor two Israeli students may team up).

***Examples of Projects***

Initiatives of peace-building and economic development carried out by NGOs like the “Peres Center for Peace” and “the Economic Cooperation Foundation”;  
Programs of civil rights and democracy carried out by organizations like “Adam Institute for Democracy and Peace” and the “Association for Civil Rights in Israel”;  
Encounters between Arab and Jewish youth and civil society dialogues organized by schools and non-profit organizations like “Beit HaGefen Arab Jewish Center”;  
Interfaith encounters as well as meetings between secular and religious Jews organized by associations like the “Interreligious Coordinating Council in Israel (ICCI)” and the “Gesher Foundation”.

***List of Organizations***

A list of organizations of which some are relevant for the Practicum can be found on the “Mideast Peace Links”: <http://www.mideastpeaceforum.com/Links.htm>.

*\* Please note that these guidelines are provisional and will be revised before the conduct of the first Practicum in response to inputs from potential organizations and students.*