WAR AND PEACE IN COLOMBIA

DESCRIPTION

The Peace Agreement between the Colombian government and the FARC-EP guerrilla has ended the longest armed conflict in Latin America. This Agreement has brought new and complex challenges that imply the formulation of different strategies that respond territorially to the historical, political and social contexts of the conflict. This is necessary in order to reconstruct the social fabric and consolidate peace environments.

In this sense, this course will study the history of the armed conflict in Colombia, the basis of the transitional justice model that was implemented, the processes of peacebuilding and the current challenges.

INSTRUCTORS

IVÁN GARZÓN VALLEJO

Associated Professor at Universidad de La Sabana and Senior Researcher according to classification of Colciencias. His issues of research are the relationships between politics and religion, historical memory and liberalism. Prof. Garzón Vallejo holds a Ph.D. in Political Sciences from Pontificia Universidad Católica Argentina and a Law degree from the Universidad Pontificia Bolivariana, where he also studied Philosophy. Author of four books and more than thirty academic articles on political theory and philosophy of law. He was Visiting Researcher at Georgetown University and Visiting Scholar at Missouri State University.

DIANA MARÍA RAMÍREZ SARMIENTO

Professor at Universidad de La Sabana. Holds a M.A. in Political Science, a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and a Law degree from Universidad de los Andes, Colombia. She also has a Diploma from the Program of Political Management, Public Management and Governance, from Universidad del Rosario, Colombia. Her issues of research are citizen participation, peacebuilding and social movements.
JUANA INÉS ACOSTA-LÓPEZ

Professor at Universidad de La Sabana. Holds a Law degree from Pontificia Universidad Javeriana; M.A in Human Rights and Democratization from Universidad Externado de Colombia and an LL.M in International Legal Studies from New York University. She is currently studying her JSD at Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México. She has been an agent in representation of Colombia and Bolivia before the Inter-American Court of Human Rights in more than 10 cases and participated as Deputy Director of the thematic area of the Office of the High Commissioner for Peace in the peace talks in Havana, Cuba. She has been an advisor to public and private entities and international organizations on issues of international law and human rights. She has been President and Vice President of the Colombian Academy of International Law and has several publications on issues of international human rights law, and transitional justice.

OBJECTIVES

GENERAL OBJECTIVE:

Understand the main facts, actors and processes of the Colombian armed conflict and the Peace Agreement of 2016.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES:

• Analyze the importance of the main elements of the history of the Colombian armed conflict.
• Recognize the different aspects of the peace negotiation process.
• Identify potential solutions to implement the Peace Agreement in the rural territories.

STRATEGICAL METHODOLOGIES

This course includes the following learning methodologies: presentation of the topic by the professor, discussion of readings, debates, research, practice exercises, and oral presentations by the students.

EVALUATION

• Oral presentation: 25%
• Participation on class debates: 50%
• Final Essay: 25%
PROGRAM

Session 1: A country that is trying to abandon the war
   Session led by Prof. Ivan Garzón and Prof. Diana Ramírez

Session 2: A country that is trying to abandon the war II.
   Session led by Prof. Ivan Garzón

Session 3: 1960’s: the origins of the guerrillas.
   Session led by Prof. Ivan Garzón

Session 4: A country that strives for making peace more than war
   Session led by Prof. Ivan Garzón

Session 5: Introduction to Peace Agreement
   Session led by Prof. Ivan Garzón and Prof. Diana Ramírez

Session 6: Negotiation process in Havana, Cuba
   Session led by Prof. Juana Inés Acosta

Session 7: Transitional justice
   Session led by Prof. Juana Inés Acosta

Session 8: Peacebuilding strategies from the communities
   Session led by Prof. Diana Ramírez

Session 9: Current challenges of the post conflict and territorial peace (overview)
   Session led by Prof. Diana Ramírez

Session 10: Murders of social leaders: the risks of citizen participation in Colombia
   Session led by Prof. Diana Ramírez

Session 11: Final thoughts and conclusions
   Session led by Prof. Ivan Garzón and Prof. Diana Ramírez

Session 12: Academic visit
   Session led by Prof. Ivan Garzón and Prof. Diana Ramírez
BIBLIOGRAPHY:

- Acosta, Juana and Espitia, Cindy. The transitional justice model in Colombia vis-a-vis the Inter-American Human Rights System: Amidst the conventionality control and the national margin of appreciation; 2018 (submitted for publication, 2019).

PRESS REPORTS:

• The Economist, The dogs bark in Colombia. 

• The New York Times, An Investment in Colombia’s Peace. 

DOCUMENTARY:
Centro Nacional de Memoria Histórica, There was no time for sadness.