



UPEACE Africa MA Programme

September 7, 2018

**UPEACE M.A. Programmes Admissions Requirements
Congratulations on having taken the first step towards a
transformative year at the University for Peace!**

1. Introduction

The following documentation is required to complete your application process for the UPEACE on-campus (Face to Face) M.A. programmes. Please have them ready and on hand before beginning your application process, as they will need to be uploaded into the system.

DETAILED OVERVIEW OF MA PROGRAMME

2. Programme Description

The MA Programmes are envisaged to advance the development of the full spectrum of knowledge, skills and related capacities of students. The programmes will offer a holistic selection of courses that critically examine the academic concepts, theories, contemporary debates and practices of the interdisciplinary studies of peace, conflict, governance and development in Africa. Students will have the chance to follow a tailored set of courses and explore relevant theoretical frameworks, analyze and critique policy and practice, explore case examples and reflect on the political, economic, social and cultural contexts to find innovative ways to invest in the prevention and transformation of violence, for sustainable development and peace to emerge.

a. Programmes Objectives and Deliverables

The MA programmes are designed to meet the needs of scholars and students interested in various disciplines of studies with a distinct focus on Africa. To arrive at the afore-mentioned goal, the educational purposes and objectives of the MA programme include:

- To introduce students to the key concepts and applications in the field of peace, conflict, international law, environment and their nexus with governance, security and development in Africa
- To guide students to develop their functional competences of advance reflection and

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critical analyses of various theoretical and practical applications

- To encourage praxis – the complex and holistic ‘action-reflection’ process necessary for synergy in theory and practice
- To enhance conceptual thinking and espouse multiple pedagogies – holistic, dialectical, dialogical, innovative, critical – all relevant perspectives in a globalized and rapidly changing world
- To develop students’ familiarity with the conventional guidelines for the creation, interpretation and dissemination of academic material including using content in the form of a problematique.
- To encourage empirical research and develop a critical mass of researchers whose objective is to nourish the formulation of policy in the varied and complex area of African peace, security, governance and development.

The above objectives presume measurable deliverables including among others:

- Active participation, reflection and presentation of viewpoints and perspectives
- Essential skills in leadership, non-violent communication, conflict transformation and project management for sustainable development
- Advanced written essays as final course papers for each of the modules, including policy briefs, project proposals and critical essays
- A well written final dissertation based on empirical research or thematic analysis of a problem

b. Programme Structure and Timeline

The programmes will offer 12 courses over 12 months, totaling 36 academic credits. A final 15000-word research paper (Dissertation) worth at least 6 credits will be mandatory for the award of Master of Arts.

Each student will be expected to attend a 3 weeks face to face courses and take comprehensive exams on each of the courses. The course will be completed with a final dissertation which will be presented during the period of residency and graduation.

Given the various professional commitments of students, the MA programme can be completed via two routes:

- a. Full time online-only (FO): This corresponds to completion of all required credits and a Dissertation within 12 months from the date of registration;
- b. Part time online only (PT): Completion of all required credits and a Dissertation anytime from 18 months amount to part time study.

Admission to the MA will be open throughout the year, and enrolled students can begin in January or September.

c. List of Courses

1. MA in Environment, Development and Peace
 - a. Specialization Environmental Security and Governance
 - b. Specialization Sustainable Natural Resource Management
 - c. Specialization Climate Change Policy
 - d. Specialization Sustainable Food Systems
2. MA in Peace Governance and Development
3. MA. Responsible Management and Sustainable Economic Development
4. MA in International Law and Human Rights
5. MA in International Law and the Settlement of Disputes
6. MA Disaster Resilience Leadership and Humanitarian Assistance
7. MA Media, Peace and Conflict Studies
8. MA Gender and Peace Building

d. Methodology

A strong grounding in proactive, student-centered learning is the envisioned pedagogical philosophy of the MA programme. To ensure that all students get the full benefits as face to-face learning, interactive, participatory, task-based methodology will be fostered, to enable critical reflection while leaving room for creativity and validation of multiple points of views.

e. Teaching Methods:

The proposed MA programmes will primarily use a variety of learning methods for teaching. Students will have face-to-face teaching 3 days a week (Thursday, Friday and Saturday) throughout the year. All materials will be composed of scientifically sourced and originally-authored work by in- house and external academic contributors. For all modules, students will be supported by faculty and tutors (facilitators) who will provide course materials and feedback on their work and will be available to them by face to face and email.

f. Assessment methods:

Learning will generally be self-directed, applied and collaborative. However, several aspects of the learning process will be assessed to contribute to students' final grades, including – substantive participation in discussions, individual and group written assignments, applied (creative) project development and presentation. All grades will reflect the UPEACE established grading system.

a. Language:

The MA programmes will be taught in English. Applicants from Arabic speaking countries will therefore be encouraged to have an intermediate or higher level of English to partake in English language discussions. All discussions will be conducted in English. Students will be offered all course guides and syllabi in English.

3. Application and Selection process

For eligibility and admission into the MA programmes, the following criteria will apply:

Education: A 3 or 4-year Bachelor degree in Social or Behavioral Science, Business, Economics and Humanities

Skills: A functional knowledge and familiarity with e-learning tools – internet search engines, Microsoft Word and Powerpoint, (internet access is implied)

Language ability: Proof of *advance* ability in English is mandatory. For the primary language, this implies either having completed undergraduate study in English or attended tertiary education in any native-speaking English country. Arabic speakers must demonstrate intermediate level English competence through a phone or face to face interviews. Speakers of other languages must demonstrate ability in English through an established professional language exams

To apply, candidates will send the following to the SDRI Office:

- A Completed Application form
- Bachelor Degree University Certificates and Transcripts (certified)
- A 1000-word Statement of Purpose
- Proof of English language competence
 - To waive the English language proficiency test report requirements, applicants from non-English speaking countries may present one of the following documents:
 - Undergraduate or previous master's degree from an English speaking university (language of instruction must be clearly stated on transcript)
 - Letter from a higher-education institution certifying enrolment in or completion of an undergraduate or master's programme where the medium of instruction was English
- An updated Curriculum Vitae (CV)
- Two recommendation letters (ideally sent electronically or if in hard copy, must be signed, sealed and dated, with valid contact information. Valid referees include former/current professors, and employers)
- Passport size photographs

Once successful candidates are selected, Admission Letters will be sent to them detailing the financial terms available for them. They must confirm such terms in signature and pay the non-refundable enrolment fee to confirm their place in the programme. Once payment is made, they will be issued a UPEACE student ID access the 'Classrooms'.

4. Tuition

The complete cost of the programme is \$ 3500, which covers:

- A non-refundable Enrolment¹ fee: \$500
- MA tuition fee: \$3.000
- Per Term Extension charge: \$1000 per term²

Programme costs are paid as follows:

- A non-refundable Admin and Enrolment¹ fee: \$500 (payable in 2 installments of \$250)
- First Semester 50% tuition fee: \$1.500
- Second Semester 50% tuition fee: \$1.500
- Failure to graduate on time will attract an Extension Charge: \$1000

5. Notes:

1. Complete tuition fees can be paid at the beginning of the study period or in 2 installments per term at the beginning of each term via direct bank deposit.

2. Bank Account

Bank Name: Premier Banks

Account Name: SOMALI DISASTER RESILIENCE INSTITUTE

Account Number: 020300070001

¹ This fee covers administrative costs related to matters of admission processing, thesis supervision, translation, and graduation (transcripts and diploma priority shipping – San Jose-Addis-home country).

² A term refers to a half annual year. The year has 2 terms, January and September and for each extended term, the student pays an extension charge