

"Uniqueness" of Program

Each respondent was asked to describe what it was that distinguished their Program from other similar offerings. Interestingly, many of the responses were similar – e.g. "Our Programming is unique because, unlike other peace/conflict resolution programs, it has a multidisciplinary focus."

Our Program is Unique because:

- ...the student body is largely military and mid career level – “between Kabul and Kosovo”. Programming has to be responsive to these "particularities".
- ... a short intense residency is combined with distance education, providing enhanced accessibility for students. It makes it easier to bring in people from all over world to teach for short periods of time.
- ...teaching draws heavily from principles of community based conflict resolution.
- ... our basic philosophy is of capacity enhancement, respect for diversity and difference; enhancing capacities of people from other cultures to deal with their own problems.
- ...of its multidisciplinary nature and interdisciplinarity of content
- ... of the integration of theory and practice (academic program, i.e. significant weight on theoretical knowledge – coupled with skills assessment)
- ...of the analysis/juxtaposition of structural violence against "relational peace"
- ...we have a small group so students are sent something daily via a list serve
- ...it's designed for people in work force – working professionals, people who have some "experience"
- ... the ADR model that we use is driven by the people involved in the issue – its collaborative.
- ...the commitment of the school to integrate DR into core curriculum is unique, providing a full range of understanding of how the system works, how conflict and disputes originate.
- ... of its emphasis on public policy dispute resolution and indigenous issues.
- ...it is founded in a pacifist, Mennonite mission with a commitment to peacemaking and pacifism as a basic stance. This religious focus makes it unique.
- ...it is value based with a practical focus.
- ...of its self directed focus and our increasingly close work with environmental studies.