

Changes in PECOS core courses

PECOS4110 is not offered in spring term 2021 because the lead instructor is on sabbatical. In the present program structure for PECOS, PECOS4110 has been one of two core courses (where the students have to take at least one of these two). The course will be resumed in the future as a revised optional class open to regular MA and PECOS students.

We propose that PECOS4110s is replaced by a new substantive core course (PECOS4XXX Conflict and Cooperation) from 2022. The course description for this new course is circulated to the Program Council as an attachment. This course provides insights into conflict and cooperative behavior, conflict de-escalation, and cooperative arrangements between states to tackle old and emerging security challenges. This new course is less dependent on individual lecturers than PECOS4110 as several permanent and also postdoctoral fellows can teach it.

This does not entail a change in the programme structure of PECOS, but rather a changed status for PECOS4110 (from core to optional), and the addition of a new substantial core course (PECOS4XXX). This change makes the program more robust in terms of personnel.

Practical consequences for students

The class of 2020 was informed in their welcome meeting that PECOS4110 would not be offered, and that they therefore had to choose PECOS4010 as their core course.

The class of 2019 and earlier classes had PECOS4110 as a mandatory course. They had the opportunity to pass PECOS4110 in their second term. It has been established in correspondence with the faculty that in special circumstances there can be given compensation to students who, due to the fact that PECOS4110 is not offered in spring term 2021, will not be able to fulfil their requirements.