## Study Abroad in Geneva, Switzerland Summer 2014









## International Conflict Engagement: Provention, Engagement, and Peacebuilding

The study of conflict engagement in an international context can be framed in many ways. For this study abroad course we will look at the issues related to conflict engagement in a chronological spectrum that runs from what John Burton once called "provention" - work done before overt or physical conflict breaks out - through "engagement" during times when conflict is live and ongoing, to "peacebuilding" or "capacity building," done when hot conflict has concluded or paused.

The course will begin with a weekend session at SMU in Plano and conclude with a week in Geneva, Switzerland, visiting non-governmental organizations (NGO's) and international intervention offices. The agenda will be finalized based on events in the world just prior to the Geneva visit, but two "bookend" visits will frame the issues: The International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the United Nations Funds and Programmes Ombudsman Office.

Topics discussed in the Plano session and in the visit to Geneva will include approaches to direct intervention, the relationship of dispute resolution theory to actions in international conflict engagement, and the challenges of working in day-to-day high stress environments.

For more information or to discuss the class, contact the instructor, Daniel Rainey, at Irainey@smu.edu.