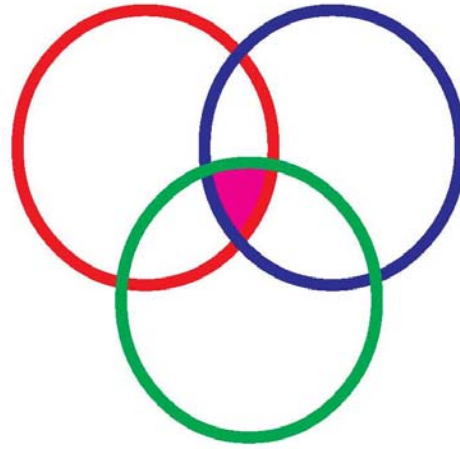


Academic Experience

Residential Experience



Peace Zone -
Integrating the entire college
experience for the benefit of
peaceful resolution through the
Guided Learning Philosophy.

Labor Experience

[What is the Peace Zone?](#)

The Peace Zone is a *process* available to assist students with a desire to resolve *selective* academic and most non-academic conflicts. Much of the role of the Peace Zone is to listen to students and direct them as appropriate to the proper resource. One primary goal of the Peace Zone is to assist students through the use of the Guided Learning Philosophy which may include reasoning, persuasion, civility, and knowledge of College policies so that satisfactory resolution may be obtained for complaints.

Although the Peace Zone can serve as a liaison for students in distress, the process has no specific authority over any segment of the College. Rather, the Peace Zone serves as a “safety net” for immediate student needs. As well, one primary goal of the process is to ensure students **do not** leave Berea College believing there is a lack of care for their well-being.

The Peace Zone does not serve as a last resort (ombudsman), but more as a **pro-active** process to encourage students to advocate for themselves. This process encourages natural justice for all parties to reach peaceful resolutions.

One element of the Peace Zone is the opportunity for students to serve as peer mediators. These students receive conflict resolution training and their names are listed throughout the campus as individuals available for one-on-one consultation. Again, students participating as peer mediators understand the level of confidentiality desired and the seriousness of accountability. Most importantly, these students exemplify and understand the “Workplace Expectations of Berea College” and how these expectations are integrated or applicable within the campus community. Students holding any type of probationary status are excluded.

[Who Can Use the Peace Zone?](#)

Some types of problems students may seek assistance would be as follows: how to communicate effectively with instructors regarding disagreements about grades, how to resolve disputes within the residence halls, how to resolve disagreements with peers, mediating the termination of employment and other labor related disputes, formal grievance, and informal mediations, etc. For issues related to academics, conduct (drugs/alcohol), harassment or discrimination, students would be referred to appropriate offices. Only if a student desired mediation would the Peace Zone become involved at the request of all parties.

The Peace Zone would work with the Residential Life Collegium to enhance relationships and provide basic small group trainings on conflict resolution and assist with individual development of students following specific judicial procedures. Very similar to the Life Skills program utilized a few years ago.