

# SCHOOL FOR CONFLICT ANALYSIS AND RESOLUTION

## Undergraduate Programs

Phone: 703-993-4165  
E-mail: [ugradcar@gmu.edu](mailto:ugradcar@gmu.edu)  
Location: 110 Northeast Module II  
Fairfax Campus

## Graduate Programs

Phone: 703-993-1300  
E-mail: [scarinfo@gmu.edu](mailto:scarinfo@gmu.edu)  
Location: 5193 Metropolitan Bldg  
Arlington Campus

Website: [scar.gmu.edu](http://scar.gmu.edu)

## Administration

- Kevin Avruch, Dean
- Julie Shedd, Associate Dean for Administration
- Terrence Lyons, PhD Program Director
- Agnieszka Paczynska, MS Program Director
- Mara Schoeny, Undergraduate and Graduate Certificate Program Director

## College Code: CA

The School for Conflict Analysis and Resolution (S-CAR), is committed to the development of theory, research, and practice that interrupt cycles of violence. The school community includes scholars, graduate and undergraduate students, alumni, practitioners, and organizations in the field of peace making and conflict resolution. Building on the strengths of our four research centers, field-based courses, and faculty with expertise from over a dozen disciplines, earning a degree at S-CAR will take you to the epicenter of conflict and prepare you for a meaningful career.

Recognized in 1997 as a Commonwealth Center of Excellence by the Virginia Legislature, S-CAR is committed to serving our students, faculty and staff, our local community, our global mission, and the field of Conflict Analysis and Resolution. S-CAR is a leader in George Mason University's commitment to be a University for the world, leveraging our long history of engagement in research and intervention in real world problems and our strength in preparing our graduates to productively engage in our local and global challenges. S-CAR strives to break down the silos of domestic and international conflict research and practice with teaching, research and practice that cut across levels of conflict.

Our world class faculty has published foundational texts on such topics as culture, social identity, narrative, religion, history and education, gender, and peacebuilding and consciousness. As scholar-practitioners, their projects and teaching engage them around the globe, including in the Middle East, Africa, the Caucasus, and here in the United States.

We offer a full complement of degree programs: Bachelors, Master's, Graduate Certificate, and Doctoral degrees that develop students' ability to engage with theory and build their own practice.

## Undergraduate Programs

### Bachelor's Degrees and Minors

Conflict Analysis and Resolution offers students a BA, a BS, or a minor in an interdisciplinary social science field with practical applications. The field of conflict analysis and resolution analyzes the sources and dynamics of conflict and the means for resolution toward lasting peace. Conflict resolution students take a series of core courses that provide a background in conflict theory, analysis, and conflict resolution skills. All conflict analysis and resolution majors also choose an area of concentration. There are six concentrations: Building Peace in Divided Societies, Global Engagement, Political and Social Action, Justice and Reconciliation, Interpersonal Dynamics, and Collaborative Leadership.

After selecting a concentration, students choose courses from units throughout the university that relate to the concentration and their areas of interest. The major also requires three credits of field experience in the form of an internship, independent research, or study abroad.

### Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's

#### Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's

The School offers qualified undergraduates the opportunity to apply to the accelerated master's degree program. If accepted, students will earn both an undergraduate and a graduate degree after satisfactory completion of 155 credits, sometimes within 5 years. More information about the degree options and application process may be found here (<http://scar.gmu.edu/undergraduate/degrees/accelerated-masters>).

## Graduate Programs

### PhD Program

The PhD program in Conflict Analysis and Resolution, the first of its kind in the United States, provides advanced study for students in the fields of conflict and conflict resolution. Students are prepared for careers as researchers, theoreticians, and teachers in higher education, and as policy administrators, analysts, and consultants in the public and the private sectors. The program stresses a close link between knowledge of theory and process in the resolution of conflict. For this, training in the methods of research and analysis is emphasized. In addition, students are expected to obtain a background in a substantive area of conflict, usually related to the topic of the dissertation.

### MS Program

The MS in Conflict Analysis and Resolution is a professional program that prepares students for practice and further academic work by integrating conflict analysis and resolution theory, research, and practical techniques. Participants study the theory, methods, and ethical perspectives of the field, and apply this knowledge in laboratory simulations and workshops, internships, and field practice. Graduates work in a variety of settings where conflict resolution is useful and interest groups are in conflict with current and emergent public policy. Examples are businesses, unions, government agencies, religious groups, court systems, educational institutions, community centers, international relief and development organizations, and consulting firms.

### Graduate Certificates

Four graduate certificate programs are administered by S-CAR. Each of these one-year, 15-credit programs is specifically tailored to provide students with practical knowledge of conflict analysis and resolution

relevant to their focused areas of work. Designed for mid-career professionals studying in a cohort environment, the certificate programs integrate conflict analysis and resolution theory, research, and practical technique. These programs use intensive course sessions, lecture, seminar, and applied mentored learning in real and simulated situations to prepare students to use conflict analysis and resolution approaches in their work in a variety of fields.

## Faculty

### School Faculty

#### Professors

Avruch, Cobb, Gopin, Hirsch, Jeong, Korostelina, Rothbart, Rubenstein, Sandole

#### Associate professors

Allen, Dwyer, Flores, Lyons, Maulden, Paczynska, Schoeny, Simmons

#### Assistant professors

Firchow, Irvin-Erickson, Lopez Bunyasi, Romano, Shedd

#### Research professors

Price, Stanton

#### Affiliate faculty

Baily, Baker, Boileua, Burt, Carton, Cioffi-Revilla, Dale, Deshmukh, Diamond, Dukes, Eby, Geller, Goldstone, Gusterson, Haddad, Hamrin, Heineman-Peiper, Johnston, Katz, Kelly, Kurtz, Mandaville, Mantz, McFerson, McGlinchey, Montville, Murdock, Oren, Osman, Paden, Pirio, Pruitt, Reinert, Schwartzstein, Scimecca, Seligmann, Sklarew, Stanton, Thatchenkery, Thurston, Tolchin, Trencher, Waters, Wedel

#### Emeritus faculty

Cheldelin, Mitchell, Sluzki

## Requirements & Policies

### Policies

Students should become familiar with the university's general academic policies in addition to those specific to each academic unit. Please see the Academic Policies section of this catalog.

#### Transfer Students

Admitted and enrolled transfer students who have completed an AA, AS, or AA&S degree from the Virginia Community College System (VCCS) and have been offered admission to Mason by the Office of Admissions may be eligible for a waiver of all George Mason University's Mason Core requirements in accordance with the Guaranteed Admission Agreement. Students eligible for this waiver are still required by the university to complete ENGH 302 Advanced Composition (Mason Core) and a synthesis course.

Transfer students who have been offered admission under the terms of the Guaranteed Admission Agreement and are pursuing a BA are considered to have met all school requirements except for proficiency in a foreign language.

Students with a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution who are pursuing a BA in this school are considered to have met all school requirements except for proficiency in a foreign language.

### Appeal of Decisions

The policies of the School for Conflict Analysis and Resolution are designed to be consistent, equitable, and transparent. Our office strives to be thorough, timely, and open to answer any questions students may have regarding our decisions and/or the process through which they were reached. Students seeking clarification and explanation of the decision should request an appointment with the S-CAR Program Director to discuss their concerns.

Students have the right to appeal decisions regarding requests for academic actions. This step can only be taken after a request to meet with the Program Director. Students who wish to pursue an appeal after this meeting should do so only if they can provide sufficient and compelling reasons for their initial claim to be reconsidered. Such reasons include newly available documentation, proof of an irregularity in procedures, proof of inequity or inconsistency, or consequences so serious that further review is warranted. A student's dissatisfaction or disagreement with the decision does not constitute sufficient reason for a decision to be changed. Appeals are first reviewed by the Program Director. If denied, the appeal is forwarded to the S-CAR Dean. The decision of the S-CAR Dean is the final decision of the School.

If the appeal is a case involving a school-level policy, the Dean serves as the final point of appeal. If the appeal involves university level policies, students must first complete the school-level appeal process before appealing to the Provost's Office.

## Programs

- Advanced Skills Graduate Certificate
- Conflict Analysis and Resolution Minor
- Conflict Analysis and Resolution, BA
- Conflict Analysis and Resolution, BS
- Conflict Analysis and Resolution, MS
- Conflict Analysis and Resolution, PhD
- Conflict Resolution in Communities Graduate Certificate
- Prevention, Reconstruction, and Stabilization Contexts Graduate Certificate
- Sport and Conflict Resolution Minor (SCAR)
- World Religions, Diplomacy, and Conflict Resolution Graduate Certificate