

# CONFLICT ANALYSIS AND RESOLUTION, BS

**Banner Code:** CA-BS-CONF

Analytical skills and techniques are critical to solving the world's toughest problems. In order to solve conflict we must first understand it. Critical thinking and research skills are the focus of our Bachelor of Science program and are in demand by employers of all sectors. Students pursuing a Bachelor's of Science in Conflict Analysis and Resolution develop research skills and have the opportunity to gain experience designing surveys, conducting interviews, analyzing statistics, and organizing data.

All conflict analysis and resolution majors choose an area of concentration:

- Building Peace in Divided Societies
- Global Engagement
- Political and Social Action
- Justice and Reconciliation
- Interpersonal Dynamics
- Collaborative Leadership

## Advising

Advisors help students create an interdisciplinary course of study that meets their interests and career goals. All majors are strongly encouraged to meet regularly with an academic advisor from the School who will help students develop and follow a coherent plan of study and complete the degree in a timely manner.

## Admissions & Policies

### Policies

For policies governing all undergraduate degrees, see AP.5 Undergraduate Policies.

### Major Coursework Grade Requirement

Students cannot use more than 12 credits of coursework within the major with a C- or D grade to count towards the Conflict Analysis and Resolution, BS. If a student receives C- or D grades in excess of the allowed number, they may retake courses to meet the major coursework grade requirement for graduation. Students taking a graduate course for undergraduate credit must achieve a grade of B- or higher for graduate course credits to count towards their undergraduate degree.

### Transfer Students

For policies governing admission and requirements for students transferring from another college or university, see Undergraduate Admission Policies - Transfer.

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.

## Requirements

### Degree Requirements

Total credits: 120

Students must fulfill all requirements for bachelor's degrees as stated in Academic Policies including all Mason Core requirements. S-CAR majors must complete the 6 credit college-level requirement in research methods as well as 51 major requirement credits for the BS degree.

Students pursuing a double major/degree with a program outside of the S-CAR undergraduate program will be expected to fulfill all of the Mason Core and college requirements necessary to complete the second major. Please check with the second major department concerning additional requirements.

### Required Core Courses

Code	Title	Credits
CONF 101	Conflict and Our World (Mason Core)	3
CONF 210	Theories of Conflict Analysis and Resolution	3
CONF 300	Conflict Resolution Techniques and Practice	3
CONF 301	Research and Inquiry in Conflict Resolution	3
CONF 302	Culture, Identity, and Conflict	3
CONF 320	Interpersonal Conflict Analysis and Resolution	3
CONF 330	Community, Group, and Organizational Conflict Analysis and Resolution	3
CONF 340	Global Conflict Analysis and Resolution (Mason Core)	3
CONF 490	RS: Integration (Mason Core)	3
Total Credits		27

### Field Experience

Students can choose to fulfill this requirement through an internship, service learning, study abroad, or independent study.

Students may not be approved for field experience until they have earned at least 30 credits. It is recommended that students complete at least 9 credits of conflict coursework before applying for field experience credit. Prior approval by the Director of Field Experience is *required* for students to receive credit through any field experience options. Students interested in trips with S-CAR can find information here (<https://scar.gmu.edu/field-experience>). Students interested in study abroad through the Global Education Office can find information here (<http://studyabroad.gmu.edu>). Please contact an S-CAR advisor with questions or for information on the opportunities, policies, and procedures for field experience credit.

Code	Title	Credits
Select a minimum of three credits from the following:		3
CONF 370	Internship Field Experience	
CONF 375	Special Programs Field Experience	

CONF 385	International Field Experience	
CONF 485		
CONF 499	Independent Research in Conflict Analysis and Resolution	
Total Credits		3

## Skills and Practice

This three credit requirement can be fulfilled by taking

1. an additional 3 credits of field experience, OR
2. a foreign language course at the 250 level or higher, OR
3. one 3 credit course or three 1 credit courses from the following:

Code	Title	Credits
Select one of these 3 credit courses:		3
CONF 325	Dialogue and Difference	
CONF 398	Special Topics in Advanced Techniques and Practices	
CONF 425	Mediating Conflict	
Or select 3 of these 1 credit skills courses:		
CONF 310	Special Topics in Practice	
CONF 314	Advising Seminar for Conflict Majors	
CONF 331	Simulation in Community and Organizational Conflict Resolution	
CONF 341	Simulation in Global Conflict Resolution	
CONF 499	Independent Research in Conflict Analysis and Resolution	
Total Credits		3

Courses may NOT double count for the concentration requirement and the skills and practice requirement.

## Research Methods

Code	Title	Credits
Select at least six credits from the following:		6
ANTH 380	Language and Culture	
ANTH 450	Qualitative Methods: Nonstatistical Approaches in Culture and Social Research	
CRIM 315	Research Methods and Analysis in Criminology	
ENGH 318	Introduction to Cultural Studies	
GOVT 300	Research Methods and Analysis (Mason Core)	
GOVT 366	Public Policy Analysis	
HIST 300	Introduction to Historical Method (Mason Core)	
HIST 390	The Digital Past (Mason Core)	
PHIL 357	Philosophy of the Social Sciences	
or SOCI 599	Issues in Sociology	
PSYC 300	Statistics in Psychology	
PSYC 301	Research Methods in Psychology	
SOCI 303	Methods and Logic of Inquiry	
SOCI 313	Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences (Mason Core)	

SOCI 410	Social Surveys and Attitude and Opinion Measurements (Mason Core)	
STAT 250	Introductory Statistics I (Mason Core)	
STAT 362	Introduction to Computer Statistical Packages	
STAT 474	Introduction to Survey Sampling	
WMST 410	Feminist Approaches to Social Research	
Total Credits		6

## Concentrations

There are seven concentrations:

### Concentration in Building Peace in Divided Societies (BPDS)

### Concentration in Global Engagement (GLBE)

### Concentration in Political and Social Action (PSA)

### Concentration in Justice and Reconciliation (JRCN)

### Concentration in Interpersonal Dynamics (INTD)

### Concentration in Collaborative Leadership (CLDR)

To fulfill the concentration requirement students select six concentration courses. Four of those six courses must be taken from within their chosen concentration. The remaining two concentration courses may be taken from any of the concentration course lists. Special topics courses relevant to the concentration and/or courses that provide regional expertise can be substituted with departmental approval. Students are encouraged to check special topics courses each semester and think creatively about the applicability of courses that support learning in their chosen concentration. At least two of the six concentration courses must be CONF courses. Courses may not double count for the concentration requirement and the skills and practice requirement.

### Concentration in Building Peace in Divided Societies (BPDS)

Focuses on how divided societies with a history of conflict seek to transform relationships and situations of violence and injustice. Examines communities and societies that have experienced conflict and how individuals and groups build peace locally and globally.

Code	Title	Credits
Select at least four of the six concentration courses from the following:		12
CONF 325	Dialogue and Difference	
CONF 335	Justice and Reconciliation	
CONF 393	Violence: Causes, Dynamics Alternatives	
CONF 435	Building Peace in Divided Societies	
COMM 305	Foundations of Intercultural Communication (Mason Core)	
CULT 320	Globalization and Culture	
ECON 360	Economics of Developing Areas (Mason Core)	
GGIS 307	Geographic Approaches on Sustainable Development	
GOVT 342	Diplomacy	
HIST 373	The Civil War and Reconstruction	
INTS 305	Conflict Resolution and Transformation	
SOCI 320	Globalization and Social Change (Mason Core)	
Total Credits		12

### Concentration in Global Engagement (GLBE)

Focuses on studying the dynamics and impact of global conflict resolution. Examines domestic and international dimensions of security, state-to-state conflict, internal wars, terrorism, migration, negotiation, and diplomacy. Explores what can be done to reduce violent conflict and increase peace and security.

Code	Title	Credits
Select at least four of the six concentration courses from the following:		
CONF 335	Justice and Reconciliation	12
CONF 345	Social Dynamics of Terrorism, Security, and Justice	
CRIM 405	Law and Justice around the World (Mason Core)	
ECON 385	International Economic Policy	
EVPP 337	Environmental Policy Making in Developing Countries	
GGS 301	Political Geography	
GGS 307	Geographic Approaches on Sustainable Development	
GOVT 322	International Relations Theory	
GOVT 342	Diplomacy	
GOVT 446	International Law and Organization	
INTS 416	Refugee and Internal Displacement (Mason Core)	
SOCI 388	Violence and Religion	
Total Credits		12

### Concentration in Political and Social Action (PSA)

Focuses on the ways that people organize themselves to effect change in their societies. This concentration explores social action, social organization, social movements, and civil resistance to analyze and investigate the role of constructive conflict.

Code	Title	Credits
Select at least four of the six concentration courses from the following:		
CONF 393	Violence: Causes, Dynamics Alternatives	12
CONF 394	Human Rights and Inequality	
COMM 326	Rhetoric of Social Movements and Political Controversy (Mason Core)	
ECON 309	Economic Problems and Public Policies (Mason Core)	
GOVT 301	Public Law and the Judicial Process	
GOVT 364	Public Policy Making	
INTS 304	Social Movements and Community Activism (Mason Core)	
INTS 334	Environmental Justice (Mason Core)	
INTS 362	Social Justice and Human Rights (Mason Core)	
PSYC 427	Community Engagement for Social Change (Mason Core)	
SOCI 307	Social Movements and Political Protest	
SOCI 340	Power, Politics, and Society	

SOCI 352	Social Problems and Solutions (Mason Core)	12
Total Credits		

### Concentration in Justice and Reconciliation (JRCN)

Focuses on the relationships between human rights, justice, and conflict resolution. Encompasses a spectrum of coursework including legal dimensions of human rights, trauma, memory, healing, conflict transformation, and forms of restorative justice.

Code	Title	Credits
Select four of the six concentration courses from the following:		
CONF 335	Justice and Reconciliation	12
CONF 394	Human Rights and Inequality	
CONF 435	Building Peace in Divided Societies	
CRIM 307	Social Inequality, Crime, and Justice	
CRIM 404	Crime Victims and Victimization	
CRIM 406	Family Law and the Justice System	
INTS 300	Law and Justice (Mason Core)	
INTS 314	Conflict, Trauma and Healing (Mason Core)	
INTS 362	Social Justice and Human Rights (Mason Core)	
SOCI 308	Race and Ethnicity in a Changing World	
SOCI 355	Social Inequality (Mason Core)	
Total Credits		

### Concentration in Interpersonal Dynamics (INTD)

Focuses on the dynamics of social interaction that lead to interpersonal conflict and the processes and skills that support the transformation of these conflicts. Issues examined include intercultural communication, psychology of groups, family relationships, and other dimensions of human relations.

Code	Title	Credits
Select four of the six concentration courses from the following:		
CONF 325	Dialogue and Difference	12
CONF 425	Mediating Conflict	
COMM 301	Relational Communication Theory	
COMM 305	Foundations of Intercultural Communication (Mason Core)	
COMM 401	Interpersonal Communication in the Workplace	
INTS 317	Issues in Family Relationships (Mason Core)	
PSYC 231	Social Psychology (Mason Core)	
PSYC 379	Applied Cross-Cultural Psychology (Mason Core)	
PSYC 417	Science of Well Being	
PSYC 467	The Psychology of Working in Groups and Teams	
SOCI 309	Marriage, Families, and Intimate Life	
SOCI 315	Contemporary Gender Relations	
Total Credits		12

### Concentration in Collaborative Leadership (CLDR)

Focuses on improving the capacity of leaders to work with conflict and manage change. Includes topics in conflict transformation, mediation, dialogue, and organizational leadership.

Code	Title	Credits
Select four of the six concentration courses from the following:		12
CONF 325	Dialogue and Difference	
COMM 201	Small Group Communication	
COMM 335	Organizational Communication	
GOVT 351	Administration in the Political System	
MBUS 301	Managing People and Organizations in a Global Economy	
INTS 404	Ethics and Leadership	
INTS 435	Leadership in a Changing Environment	
INTS 331	The Nonprofit Sector (Mason Core)	
PRLS 316	Leadership and Outdoor Education	
PSYC 333	Industrial and Organizational Psychology	
PSYC 335	Psychology of Creativity and Innovation	
Total Credits		12

### Individualized Concentration (IND)

Students interested in creating their own concentration can work with an advisor to decide upon a set of at least six courses that will fulfill the requirements of the BS in Conflict Analysis and Resolution.

### Writing-Intensive Requirement

All Mason students are required to complete at least one course designated as "writing intensive" in their major at the 300-level or above. CONF 302 Culture, Identity, and Conflict has been designated "writing intensive."

### Electives

Code	Title	Credits
Remaining credits needed to bring the degree total to 120 may be fulfilled with general elective courses. <sup>1,2</sup>		

<sup>1</sup> Up to 3 credits of 100 level Recreation (RECR) courses may be taken as general elective credits.

<sup>2</sup> Only Military Science (MLSC) courses at the 400-level can be used for credit for a degree in the School; credit for other MLSC courses may not be applied toward a degree in the School.

### Mason Core

Some Mason Core requirements may already be fulfilled by the major requirements listed above. Students are strongly encouraged to consult their advisors to ensure they fulfill all remaining Mason Core requirements.

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Foundation Requirements</b>		
	Written Communication (ENGH 101)	3
	Oral Communication	3
	Quantitative Reasoning	3
	Information Technology and Computing	3
<b>Exploration Requirements</b>		
	Arts	3

Global Understanding	3
Literature	3
Natural Science	7
Social and Behavioral Sciences	3
Western Civilization/World History	3
<b>Integration Requirements</b>	
Written Communications (ENGH 302)	3
Writing-Intensive <sup>1</sup>	3
Synthesis/Capstone <sup>2</sup>	3
Total Credits	40

<sup>1</sup> Most programs include the writing-intensive course designated for the major as part of the major requirements; this course is therefore not counted towards the total required for Mason Core.

<sup>2</sup> Minimum 3 credits required.

## Accelerated Master's

### Conflict Analysis and Resolution, BA or BS/Conflict Analysis and Resolution, Accelerated MS

#### Overview

This accelerated Master's option is designed for highly qualified and motivated undergraduate students that have completed at least 6 credit hours of CONF coursework at the time of application. If accepted, students may take up to 12 credits of graduate coursework before undergraduate degree conferral and will be able to earn an undergraduate degree and the Conflict Analysis and Resolution, MS after satisfactory completion of at least 147 credits. The time period for the combined program is typically five years. It provides a streamlined MS application process with no additional application fee.

For more detailed information, see AP.6.7 Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Degrees. For policies governing all graduate degrees, see AP.6 Graduate Policies.

#### Application Requirements

For specific application requirements and information for the accelerated Conflict Analysis and Resolution, MS, see Eligibility, Policies, and Deadlines (<http://scar.gmu.edu/undergraduate/degrees/accelerated-masters>). Applicants to all graduate programs at George Mason University must meet the admission standards and application requirements for graduate study as specified in Graduate Admissions.

Students must have a minimum undergraduate cumulative GPA of 3.25 at the time of application.

#### Accelerated Master's Requirements

- During the *first semester* in *senior status* admitted students may take up to 6 credits (1-2 classes) that will count towards both their undergraduate AND graduate degrees. During the *second semester* of *senior status*, students may take up to 6 credits (1-2 classes) that will count towards the graduate degree only.
- Students must begin their master's program the semester immediately following conferral of the undergraduate degree and

will be expected to complete all remaining graduate program requirements within five years.

- See the program website (<https://scar.gmu.edu/academics/undergraduate/accelerated-masters>) for additional information.

### Accelerated MS Requirements

- No grade below a B is permitted for any undergraduate or graduate CONF course taken after application to the accelerated master's program until completion of the undergraduate program.
- If a student receives a grade below a B in any CONF course after acceptance in the program, they will not be allowed to continue on to the master's program. Students that have received a grade below a B in a CONF course after acceptance into the program may re-apply to the master's program after conferral of the undergraduate degree; however, re-application does not guarantee admission.
- At the time of the undergraduate degree conferral, students' GPAs must meet the standard required for admission to the master's degree.
- Students may not take more than 12 credits a semester if taking two graduate courses or 15 credits a semester if taking one graduate course.

## Bachelor's Degree (selected)/ Interdisciplinary Studies, Accelerated MAIS (Religious Studies Concentration)

### Overview

Highly-qualified undergraduates in selected majors (see below) may apply to the accelerated master's degree in interdisciplinary studies with a concentration in religious studies. If accepted, and depending on their undergraduate major, students will be able to earn a bachelor's degree in their chosen major and a master's in interdisciplinary studies with a concentration in religious studies after satisfactory completion of 150 credits, sometimes within five years. See AP.6.7 Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Degrees.

Students in an accelerated degree program must fulfill all university requirements for the master's degree. For policies governing all graduate degrees, see AP.6 Graduate Policies.

### Selected Majors

- Art history
- Philosophy
- Conflict analysis and resolution
- Global affairs
- History
- Religious studies
- Russian and Eurasian studies
- Sociology
- Anthropology

If the student has not majored in religious studies, it is preferred, though not required, that the student have a minor in religious studies.

### Application Requirements

Applicants to all graduate programs at George Mason University must meet the admission standards and application requirements for graduate study as specified in the Admissions. For information specific to the

accelerated MAIS, see Application Requirements and Deadlines (<http://mais.gmu.edu/programs/la-mais-isin/application>).

### Accelerated Option Requirements

While undergraduate students, accelerated master's students complete two graduate courses as indicated on their Accelerated Master's Program Application with a minimum grade of B in each course. Once admitted to the accelerated master's pathway, students must maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.25 in all coursework. Upon completion and conferral of the undergraduate degree in the semester indicated in the application, they submit the Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Transition Form and are admitted to graduate status.

Code	Title	Credits
Select two from the following:		
RELI 600	Interdisciplinary Pathways in the Study of Religion	6
RELI 630	Theories and Methods in the Study of Religion	
RELI 632	Interreligious Dialogue	
RELI 633	Issues in Religious Ethics	
RELI 636	Religion and the Natural Environment	
RELI 637	Religion and Secularity in State and Society	
Total Credits		

As graduate students, accelerated master's students have an advanced standing. They must meet all master's degree requirements except for the two courses (6 credits) they completed as undergraduates. Students must begin their master's program the semester immediately following conferral of the undergraduate degree.

### Reserve Graduate Credit

Students may take up to 6 additional graduate credits as reserve graduate credit. These credits do not apply to the undergraduate degree. To apply these credits to the master's degree, students should use the Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Transition Form.

Code	Title	Credits
Select 6 credits from the following:		
RELI 600	Interdisciplinary Pathways in the Study of Religion	6
RELI 630	Theories and Methods in the Study of Religion	
RELI 632	Interreligious Dialogue	
RELI 633	Issues in Religious Ethics	
RELI 636	Religion and the Natural Environment	
RELI 637	Religion and Secularity in State and Society	
Total Credits		

The ability to take courses, including ones not listed above, for reserve graduate credit is available to all high achieving undergraduates with the permission of the department. Permission is normally granted only to qualified Mason seniors within 15 hours of graduation. See AP.1.4.4 Graduate Course Enrollment by Undergraduates.

## Bachelor's Degree (selected)/ Interdisciplinary Studies, Accelerated MAIS (Social Justice and Human Rights Concentration)

### Overview

Highly-qualified undergraduates in select majors (listed below) may apply to the accelerated master's degree in interdisciplinary studies with a concentration in social justice and human rights. If accepted, and depending on their undergraduate major, students will be able to earn an undergraduate degree in their chosen major and a master's in interdisciplinary studies with a concentration in social justice and human rights after satisfactory completion of 150 credits, sometimes within five years.

For more detailed information, see AP.6.7 Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Degrees. For policies governing all graduate degrees, see AP.6 Graduate Policies.

### Selected Majors

Anthropology, Environmental and Sustainability Studies, Sociology, English, History, Philosophy, Conflict Analysis and Resolution, Psychology, Government and International Politics, Integrative Studies, and Communication.

### Application Requirements

Applicants to all graduate programs at George Mason University must meet the admission standards and application requirements for graduate study as specified in Graduate Admissions. For information specific to the accelerated MAIS, see Application Requirements and Deadlines (<http://mais.gmu.edu/programs/la-mais-isin/application>) on the departmental web site.

### Accelerated Option Requirements

While undergraduate students, accelerated master's students complete INTS 540 Contemporary Issues in Social Justice Human Rights and one course chosen from the list of electives for the MAIS concentration in social justice and human rights as indicated on their Accelerated Master's Program Application with a minimum grade of B in each course. Once admitted to the accelerated master's pathway, students must maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.25 in all course work. Upon completion and conferral of the undergraduate degree in the semester indicated in the application, they submit the Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Transition Form and are admitted to graduate status.

As graduate students, accelerated master's students have an advanced standing. They must meet all master's degree requirements except for the two courses (6 credits) they completed as undergraduates. Students must begin their master's program the semester immediately following conferral of the undergraduate degree.

### Reserve Graduate Credit

Students may take up to 6 additional graduate credits as reserve graduate credit (chosen from the list of electives for the MAIS concentration in social justice and human rights). These credits do not apply to the undergraduate degree. The ability to take courses for reserve graduate credit is available to all high achieving undergraduates with the permission of the program. Permission to take a graduate course for reserve graduate credit is normally granted only to Mason seniors

within 15 hours of graduation. See AP.1.4.4 Graduate Course Enrollment by Undergraduates.

Code	Title	Credits
Select up to 6 credits from the list of electives for the MAIS concentration in social justice and human rights		6
Total Credits		6

## Bachelor's Degree (selected)/ Interdisciplinary Studies, Accelerated MAIS (Women and Gender Studies Concentration)

### Overview

Highly-qualified undergraduates in select majors may apply to the accelerated master's degree in interdisciplinary studies with a concentration in women and gender studies. If accepted, and depending on their undergraduate major, students will be able to earn a bachelor's degree in their chosen major and a master's degree in interdisciplinary studies with a concentration in women and gender studies after satisfactory completion of 150 credits, sometime within five years.

For more detailed information, see AP.6.7 Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Degrees. For policies governing all graduate degrees, see AP.6 Graduate Policies.

### Selected Majors

Anthropology, Sociology, English, History, Philosophy, Conflict Analysis and Resolution, Psychology, Government and International Politics, and Communication.

### Application Requirements

Applicants to all graduate programs at George Mason University must meet the admission standards and application requirements for graduate study as specified in Graduate Admissions. For information specific to the accelerated MAIS, see the departmental web site (<http://mais.gmu.edu/programs/la-mais-isin/application>).

### Accelerated Option Requirements

While undergraduate students, accelerated master's students complete two graduate courses as indicated on their Accelerated Master's Program Application with a minimum grade of B in each course. Once admitted to the accelerated master's pathway, students must maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.25 in all course work. Upon completion and conferral of the undergraduate degree in the semester indicated in the application, they submit the Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Transition Form and are admitted to graduate status.

Code	Title	Credits
Select two from the following:		6
WMST 600	Special Topics	
WMST 610	Feminist Approaches to Social Research	
WMST 630	Feminist Theories across the Disciplines	
WMST 640	Transnational and Global Feminisms	
Total Credits		6

As graduate students, accelerated master's students have an advanced standing. They must meet all master's degree requirements except for the two courses (6 credits) they completed as undergraduates. Students

must begin their master's program the semester immediately following conferral of the undergraduate degree.

### Reserve Graduate Credit

Students may take up to 6 additional graduate credits as reserve graduate credit. These credits do not apply to the undergraduate degree. To apply these credits to the master's degree, students should use the Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Transition Form.

Code	Title	Credits
Select 6 credits from the following:		6
WMST 600	Special Topics	
WMST 610	Feminist Approaches to Social Research	
WMST 630	Feminist Theories across the Disciplines	
WMST 640	Transnational and Global Feminisms	
Total Credits		6

The ability to take courses, including ones not listed above, for reserve graduate credit is available to all high achieving undergraduates with the permission of the department. Permission is normally granted only to qualified Mason seniors within 15 hours of graduation. See AP.1.4.4 Graduate Course Enrollment by Undergraduates.