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: Bachelor’s, Master’s, Graduate Certificate, and Doctoral degrees that develop students’ ability to engage with theory and build their own practice.
Graduate Certificates
S-CAR offers a graduate certificate in Mass Atrocity and Genocide Prevention and a graduate certificate in Conflict Analysis and Resolution. The Conflict Analysis and Resolution certificate offers four concentrations: Advanced Skills; Collaborative Community Action; Prevention and Reconstruction Contexts; and World Religions and Peacebuilding. Each of these 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, Korostelina, Rothbart, Rubenstein, Sandole

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

Assistant professors
Agbiboa, Chavis, Firchow, Irvin-Erickson, Lopez Bunyasi, Romano, Shedd

Visiting professors
De Janasz

Research professors
Price, Stanton

Affiliate faculty

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. See the Academic Policies.

Policies specific to each academic program can be found listed in each program’s catalog listing.

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 appropriate 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 Dean. The decision of the 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

• Conflict Analysis and Resolution 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
• Mass Atrocity and Genocide Prevention Graduate Certificate
• Sport and Conflict Resolution Minor (SCAR)