PEACEBUILDING, MA (PENDING SCHEV APPROVAL)

Banner Code: CA-MA-PCB

S-CAR Graduate Programs

Phone: 703-993-1300
Email: scarinfo@gmu.edu
Website: scar.gmu.edu

Note: as of catalog publication in April, the program described below has been approved by the Board of Visitors and sent to the State Council of Higher Education in Virginia for consideration as a new degree program. The university cannot accept applications or enroll students in this program until SCHEV approval has been granted.

The Master of Arts in Peacebuilding program supports students interested in developing career relevant skills for work on peacebuilding projects domestically and internationally in three ways. First, with scaffolded practical skills-oriented courses and an extensive internship opportunities, the program prepares graduates for reflective practice in planning and implementing peacebuilding initiatives and projects. Second, consultations with practitioners and organizations in the field provided input to design a program that builds the practical and professional skill sets required in contemporary peacebuilding contexts both locally and internationally. Finally, the program pays particular attention to the ethics, inclusivity and social justice aspects of being a peacebuilder throughout its content development and delivery.

This 30-credit program is designed to be completed over three semesters. The program, in addition to providing theoretical knowledge of peacebuilding to students, will therefore provide students with ample opportunities to develop and hone those practical and professional skills. During the first two terms, spring and summer, students will be in residence in Arlington devoting their time to course work. The last term, fall, students will be placed in internships and will enroll in a practicum and online capstone courses. Students do not need to be in residence in Arlington for the Fall term.

Admissions & Policies

Note: as of catalog publication in April, the program described below has been approved by the Board of Visitors and sent to the State Council of Higher Education in Virginia for consideration as a new degree program. The university cannot accept applications or enroll students in this program until SCHEV approval has been granted.

Admissions

Admission 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 (http://catalog.gmu.edu/admissions/graduate-policies/). In addition, applicants must submit all undergraduate and graduate transcripts; two letters of recommendation, one of which should be from a faculty member in the applicant’s undergraduate or graduate major field; a resume or curriculum vitae; and a 750- to 1,000-word essay on goals and reasons for seeking admission to the program. GRE or other standardized test scores are not required but may be submitted. The TOEFL is required of international students.

For more information, see Admission of International Students (http://catalog.gmu.edu/admissions/international-students/).

The MA in Peacebuilding runs as a cohort. Students will be admitted for the Spring term only and will complete within one year taking courses in Spring, Summer, and Fall.

Background courses in social sciences, as well as prior work experience, are desirable. Prior graduate academic work is evaluated on an individual basis for possible transfer credit and fulfillment of program requirements; however, Mason usually does not reduce the total credits required for the degree.

The MA in Peacebuilding is a full time program. Students take coursework in residence at the Arlington Campus in the Spring and Summer term. For the Fall term students will be participating in a practicum and online capstone courses. Students do not need to be in residence in Arlington for the Fall term.

Policies

Mason requires all students to complete the master’s degree within six years of their official admission date.

Consult the S-CAR student handbook for information on registration procedures.

Transfer of Non-Degree Credit

A maximum of 12 credits of S-CAR graduate courses taken at George Mason as a non-degree graduate student, or as part of S-CAR’s graduate certificate program may be transferred into the MA program. How credit will be counted will be determined in consultation with the admitted student’s advisor. A maximum of three credits of non-S-CAR courses taken as non-degree credit can be counted toward the MA program. Courses counted toward another degree cannot be transferred.

Adding an S-CAR Certificate Program

Students may elect to complete an S-CAR Graduate Certificate (http://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/conflict-analysis-resolution/#programtext) in addition to the MA program. Graduate certificates are opportunities for students to further tailor their academic program and specialize in a specific area of conflict resolution practice. Certain courses can be used to fulfill MA and Certificate program requirements. Students should consult with the Graduate Program Director for policies on counting certificate courses toward the MA degree.

Requirements

Degree Requirements

Note: as of catalog publication in April, the program described below has been approved by the Board of Visitors and sent to the State Council of Higher Education in Virginia for consideration as a new degree program. The university cannot accept applications or enroll students in this program until SCHEV approval has been granted.

Total credits: 30
### Required Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CONF 605</td>
<td>Foundations of Peacebuilding</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONF 670</td>
<td>Conflict Sensitive and Inclusive Peacebuilding</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONF 660</td>
<td>Conflict Assessment and Program Evaluation</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONF 661</td>
<td>Program Design and Monitoring</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONF 662</td>
<td>Funding and Managing Peacebuilding Programming</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONF 675</td>
<td>Peacebuilding Capstone</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONF 694</td>
<td>Internship</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Elective

Any 500, 600, or 700 level CONF courses ([link](http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/conf/))

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Credits:** 30

---

1 Except required courses

2 With the advisor’s approval, each student is eligible to include a maximum of three credits of electives of non-CONF courses, including courses in other Mason departments, consortium courses, and transfer courses from other universities.

### Internship

Students take 6 credits of CONF 694 Internship. The CONF 694 Internship course provides students with opportunities to use and develop peacebuilding skills, integrate theory and practice, and network with professionals in the field to enhance employment opportunities. The internship requires 160 hours of supervised work per every 3 credits. The goals and objectives of the internship are defined in an application and memorandum of agreement to be signed by the student, the internship site supervisor, and the advisor before the internship begins.