JIMMY AND ROSALYNN CARTER SCHOOL FOR PEACE AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION

Undergraduate Programs
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Administration

- Alpaslan Özerdem, Dean
- Julie Shedid, Associate Dean
- Thomas Flores, Graduate Programs Director
- Mara Schoeny, Undergraduate Program Director

College Code: CA

The Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter School for Peace and Conflict Resolution (Carter School) 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 the Carter School 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, the Carter School is committed to serving our students, faculty and staff, our local community, our global mission, and the field of Conflict Analysis and Resolution. The Carter School 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. The Carter School 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.

Undergraduate Programs
Bachelor’s Degrees and Minors

The Carter School offers students a BA, BS, and two minors in an interdisciplinary social science field with practical applications. The BA and BS are in Conflict Analysis and Resolution and the minors are in Conflict Analysis and Resolution or Sport and Conflict Resolution. 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, Collaborative Leadership, and Environmental Conflict and Collaboration. 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

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 147 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**
The Carter School 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**
Cobb, de Janasz, Gopin, Hirsch, Korostelina, Lyons, Özerdem, Rothbart, Rubenstein

**Associate professors**
Allen, Dwyer, Flores, Lopez Bunyasi, Maulden, Paczynska, Schoeny, Shedd, Simmons

**Assistant professors**
Chavis, Irvin-Erickson, Manojlovic, Romano, Wilson

**Visiting professors**
De Janasz

**Research professors**
Pentikäinen, Price

**Affiliate faculty**

**Emeritus faculty**
Avruch, 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 (http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/).

**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
- Contemporary Dispute Resolution Graduate Certificate
- Mass Atrocity and Genocide Prevention Graduate Certificate
- Organizational Conflict Resolution Minor (TCS)
- Sport and Conflict Resolution Minor (TCS)