

CONFLICT ANALYSIS & RESOLUTION

<http://www.gmu.edu/departments/icar>

Name and description of the field.

The Conflict Analysis and Resolution program focuses on how society “does” conflict and how conflicts can be resolved by more peaceful and just means. The program teaches students to analyze sources of conflict, understand conflict theories, and effectively use conflict resolution techniques. The curriculum consists of core courses in conflict theory, conflict processes, and identity conflicts as well as gateway courses into the study of conflict at different societal levels. Students expand their knowledge of conflict processes by choosing a concentration in one level of conflict: interpersonal (micro), community/organizational (mezzo), international (macro).

What special skills or abilities are needed to succeed in this major?

Interest in working with people, Appreciation for diversity, Analytical reasoning, Interest in promoting social justice

Organizations employing recent graduates include:

Barros International, Ltd.	Northern Virginia Mediation Services (NVMS)	Co-op America
Department of Defense	Middle East Broadcasting Network	The Campagna Center
Department of State	Institute for Research and Peace	

Sample job titles of recent graduates:

Foreign Affairs Officer	Researcher	International Sales Manager
International Student Advisor	News Editor	Americorps VISTA

If both B.A. and B.S. degrees are offered, what are the differences in career/graduate school opportunities?

A B.A. degree in Conflict Analysis & Resolution provides students a strong grounding in the social sciences and the opportunity to apply theories and principles from other disciplines to the study of conflict. The B.S. degree focuses more specifically on the technologies and practice of Conflict Analysis & Resolution.

Is a Minor available?

Yes. The minor requires 15 hours of course work distributed in several areas plus 3 hours of field experience.

What are recent graduates doing?

Recent graduates of Conflict Analysis & Resolution programs are working in a wide range of occupations. Teaching, law enforcement, and mediation are possibilities stemming from a focus on *micro* level conflict. *Mezzo* level concentrations are appropriate for business, federal and state agencies, labor unions, and non-profits. At the *macro* level students are employed by a variety of international governmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, international business, international law firms, and diplomatic corps

What kinds of practical experience are recommended to explore Conflict Analysis & Resolution further?

Students are required to participate in three credits of fieldwork, which may take the form of an internship, study abroad, or a service learning opportunity (coordinated by the Center for Service and Leadership in the New Century College). Students can take advantage of Mason’s proximity to Washington, DC by interning at one of the many national and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) that have offices in the National Capital Area. Study abroad is encouraged for students in this major (particularly those in the macro concentration) and should be coordinated through the Center for Global Education.

Career Library Resources – Go to <http://careers.gmu.edu/careerlibrary/wheretostart/conf.pdf> to see resources located in the Career Services Library in room 348, SUB I

Major, Career & Job Hunting Information Online (links to the academic department, associations and other useful sites) – Go to <http://careers.gmu.edu/onlineresources/conflictresolution.html>

Whom should students contact for further information?

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