

# MS Requirements

## The Master of Science in Conflict Analysis And Resolution

The Master of Science in Conflict Analysis and Resolution, offered by the School for Conflict Analysis and Resolution (S-CAR), is a two-year professional program that prepares students for practice and further academic work by integrating conflict analysis and resolution theory, research, and practical techniques. Students study the theory, methods, and ethical perspectives of the field and apply this knowledge in laboratory simulations and workshops, internships, and

field practice. Graduates of the program work in a variety of settings where conflict resolution is useful such as, businesses, unions, government agencies, religious groups, court systems, education institutions, community centers, international relief and development organizations, conflict resolution consulting firms and where interest groups are in conflict with current and emergent public policy. The MS program is offered in fall and spring admission cycles. Students can study either part-time or full-time and have a 6-year (from the first term of enrollment) time limit to complete the degree requirements.

**A total of 41 credits are required:** 15 credits of required courses, 20 credits of electives, and 6 credits of integrative work. The choice of electives can vary significantly according to each student's individual goals or needs. Students should develop a program of study with their advisors.

### REQUIRED COURSES

Students take 15 credits of required course work:

**CONF 501** Introduction  
**CONF 610** Research Methods  
**CONF 713** Reflective Practice  
**CONF 601** Theories of Conflict  
**CONF 642** Integration of theory and practice (capstone course)

### ELECTIVE COURSES

Students take 20 credits of elective courses.

Student can choose to take S-CAR elective courses, courses at other Mason departments or through the Consortium\*.

\*A max of 6 credits of graduate courses outside of S-CAR including other Mason departments as well as Universities within or outside of the Consortium can be counted towards the MS degree. Transfer of credit is decided once one is enrolled as a student at S-CAR.

### INTEGRATION COURSES

Students must complete 6 credits (2 courses) of integrative work, choosing one of the following options\*:

**CONF 694** Internship  
**CONF 798/799** Thesis  
**CONF 690** Applied Practice & Theory (APT)

\*Descriptions below.

### INTEGRATION OPTIONS DESCRIPTIONS

#### INTERNSHIP

This option is available throughout the academic year to MS and PhD students as opportunities to apply theory to practice. Students have interned with government agencies, NGOs, schools and private organizations.

#### APPLIED PRACTICE & THEORY (APT)

The APT program is a 6-credit course running yearlong. It is designed to take the concepts presented in class into real conflict situations. Students work in teams integrating research and practice with theory development and applied ethics. There are domestic and international projects.

#### THESIS

This option is recommended (but not always required) for those who want to pursue a PhD or career in research.

## Deadlines & Admission

**Fall Admission: January 15; Spring Admission: October 1**

Applications can be found online at: [admissions.gmu.edu/grad](http://admissions.gmu.edu/grad). For more information on S-CAR, please visit: [scar.gmu.edu](http://scar.gmu.edu) or call 703-993-3655 to speak with an admissions representative.



School for Conflict Analysis  
and Resolution

Arlington, Virginia  
Fairfax, Virginia  
Mason Neck, Virginia

Phone: (703) 993-1300  
Fax: (703) 993-1302  
E-Mail: [scarinfo@gmu.edu](mailto:scarinfo@gmu.edu)  
Web: <http://scar.gmu.edu>

*Advancing Theory, Working for Change*