

Master of Science in Conflict Management

The Master of Science in Conflict Management (MSCM) is designed to train students to be conflict resolution practitioners in varied environments. The curriculum includes courses in theory, research, design skills and practice skills. It offers field study opportunities. Students select a specific environment and develop a substantive specialty.

The primary objective of the MSCM is to produce students who: (1) understand the nature of conflict from the perspective of multiple disciplines; (2) understand the continuum of responses to conflict; (3) possess the necessary skills to facilitate the management of various types of conflict; (4) demonstrate the ability to analyze and research conflict in an organizational environment; (5) demonstrate the ability to design conflict intervention procedures and strategies appropriate to a particular situation or environment; (6) demonstrate the ability to evaluate the efficacy of a given intervention or system of interventions; and (7) successfully participate in conflict management on a practical level in one or more specific environments.

The Master's program prepares students to identify and pursue opportunities for a new career based on conflict management expertise. The MSCM also provides students with enhanced credentials to pursue career advancement in an existing work environment.

General Requirements for Admission to MSCM Program

The Graduate Admissions Committee of the Department of Political Science and International Affairs determines the eligibility of each person who applies for admission to the MSCM program. Admission will be granted only to students showing high probability of success in postgraduate study.

To be considered for admission to the MSCM program, the following application materials must be submitted to the *MSCM Graduate Director, Department of Political Science and*

International Affairs, Kennesaw State University, Bldg. #23 Rm. 222, 1000 Chastain Road, Kennesaw, GA 30144-5591:

1. Application Form: A special MSCM application is available online at: www.kennesaw.edu/pols/mscm/ or by calling 770-423-6299.
2. Transcripts: Official transcript for a baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university with a minimum grade point average of 2.80 on a 4.0 scale. Official transcripts for all undergraduate and graduate courses must be submitted.
3. Test Score: Applicants must submit a test score of 1400 on the General Test of the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) (verbal, quantitative and analytical); 475 on the Graduate Management Admissions Test (GMAT); or 151 on the Law School Admission Test (LSAT). Test requirement may be waived for applicants who have earned an advanced degree.
4. Evidence of Immunization: A valid Immunization Certificate for mumps, measles and rubella.
5. Letter of Intent: An application letter that states the applicant's interest and goals for the MSCM and the potential use of the degree.
6. Resume: A current resume is required.
7. Recommendations: Two letters of recommendation that address the applicant's potential for graduate study and use of the MSCM degree from employers, supervisors, or professors familiar with the applicant's ability.

Consideration is given to the applicant's academic record, test score, letters of recommendation, resume, and typed personal statement and objectives. However, when there is a conflict in the predictions of success from the GPA and test score, exceptions may be made if the applicant's educational background, excellence in performance in business and professional activities, creativity and leadership, or experience in the field of alternative

dispute resolution indicate success in the program. In reviewing the academic work of applicants, the junior/senior adjusted grade point average for all applicants will be considered. In cases where the applicant has done additional accredited undergraduate work beyond the bachelor's degree or has done accredited graduate work, the most recent two-year adjusted GPA will be used in the admissions consideration.

An applicant will not be admitted until a completed application, application letter, current resume, two letters of recommendation, valid Immunization Certificate for measles, mumps and rubella, official test score, and official transcripts for all undergraduate and graduate courses have been received and evaluated.

Non-Degree Admission

Only students classified as MSCM degree students are permitted to enroll in the regular MSCM courses. However, any student admitted to graduate study at KSU may enroll in Special Topic CM courses (CM 8900).

Grades in Graduate Courses

Since MSCM courses are 9 semester credit hours each, students who earn a grade of "C" or lower in any course will be dismissed from the program. Please be advised that this rule differs from the rule regarding grades of "C" in graduate programs offering 3-hour courses. NOTE: Individual course credit hours are being re-evaluated and changes may be made. For current information, call the Program Director.

Petition to Graduate

Each MSCM student must petition to graduate at least one semester prior to completion of program requirements. The student must contact the program director and request a petition. A petition will be prepared and mailed to the student's home address.

Financial Information and Assistance for MSCM Program

1. Premium Pricing

The cost of the program is \$19,500, which includes tuition, fees, books and class materials, meals on class weekends, travel to an international conference, membership in a professional organization and a subscription to an ADR journal. The cost includes a non-refundable reservation fee of \$500 which is due upon official notification of acceptance in order to reserve a place in the program.

2. Financial Aid

All MSCM applicants are encouraged to apply for financial aid in the event of an emergency that could prevent them from fulfilling their commitment to the program.

3. Fee Schedule and Deadlines

Tuition is pro-rated over the length of the program with a payment of \$4,750 due on or before the first day of class each semester.

4. Payment of Fees

Payment of the \$500 reservation fee is due on notification of acceptance to the program. Payment of this fee and the \$4,750 semester tuition fee can be made by check, credit card (VISA, MasterCard or Discover), or cash.

The following deadlines have been established as the refund policy for withdrawing from classes:

Deadline for Fall Semester 2002

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| October 11 | 30% |
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Deadline for Spring Semester 2003

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|------------|-----|
| February 7 | 30% |
|------------|-----|

Deadline for Summer Term 2003

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| June 13 | 30% |
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Deadline for Fall Semester 2002

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|--------------|-----|
| September 19 | 20% |
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Master of Science in Conflict Management

Credit Hours

CORE COURSES

36

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|---------|--|
| CM 7720 | Foundations and Theories of Conflict Management (9) |
| CM 7730 | Critical Knowledge and Skills of Conflict Management (9) |
| CM 7740 | Methods, Systems Evaluation and Design (9) |
| CM 7750 | Specified Environments of Conflict Management (9) |

PROGRAM TOTAL: 36

Conflict Management Course Descriptions

CM 7720. Foundations and Theories of Conflict. Nine (9) semester credit hours.

Prerequisite: Admission to the MSCM graduate program or permission of program director.

This course is designed to introduce students to foundations and theories of conflict and conflict management. The course includes an interdisciplinary introduction to conflict, sources of conflict, and conflict theory. The course introduces students to various responses to conflict and the ADR continuum. Students are introduced to negotiation theory and receive basic mediation skill training.

CM 7730. Critical Knowledge and Skills of Conflict Management. Nine (9) semester credit hours.

Prerequisite: CM 7720.

This course is designed to introduce students to critical knowledge and skills of conflict management. The course will integrate an introduction to interpersonal and intergroup conflict with an understanding of organizational, community, international, and intercultural conflict. Students will gain critical skills in multi-party and public policy facilitation and mediation, as well as skill in co-mediation.

CM 7740. Methods, Systems Evaluation and Design. Nine (9) semester credit hours.

Prerequisite: CM 7730.

This course is designed to introduce students to

design and evaluation of conflict management processes and systems. Students will have the opportunity to study existing systems for conflict management in specified environments such as the courts, government agencies, and in the corporate setting. Finally, students will receive skills training that will enable them to participate in training and coaching others in conflict management techniques.

CM 7750. Specified Environments of Conflict Management. Nine (9) semester credit hours.

Prerequisite: 27 hours in graduate CM courses and approval of program director.

This course includes field study in a specified environment chosen by the student with the guidance of faculty. The student will analyze ongoing conflict in the chosen environment and will design and plan implementation of intervention processes to manage or resolve the conflict. The student will prepare an extensive written report of this analysis, accompanied by an annotated bibliography. In addition, students will receive training in mediation in the specified environment of the family.

CM 8900. Special Topics.(repeatable) 1-3.

Prerequisite: Admission to graduate study or permission of director of MSCM.

Exploration of a specified topic in conflict management.

NOTE: Individual course credit hours are being re-evaluated and changes may be made. For current information, call the Program Director.