

CONF 694: INTERNSHIP

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Course Description

The internship program is intended to provide students with opportunities to use and develop conflict resolution skills, integrate theory and practice of conflict analysis and resolution, and network with professions in the field to enhance employment opportunities. Experience does not necessarily have to be explicitly “hands on.” CONF 694 will require of students at least 160 hours of supervised work on a project towards the analysis and/or resolution of conflict. Such work must be spelled out in a Memorandum of Agreement to be signed by the student, the site supervisor and the Internship Coordinator, Dr. Daniel Rothbart, before the internship begins.

The typical way in which the student can fulfill the internship requirement is to enroll in CONF 694 (three credits) and CONF 697: Integrative Directed Reading (three credits.) The latter course offers students an opportunity to apply conflict theory to practical experience gained during the internship work. Alternatively, students can enroll in CONF 694 for six credits.

Course Prerequisites: completion CONF 713 and 18 hours of graduate course work on the program; or permission of internship coordinator.

Course Requirements

As part of the requirements for CONF 694, the student will submit to the internship director a 25 to 40 page report that offers a critical reflection on the experience drawing upon their knowledge for purposes of evaluation and assessment. In such a paper students integrate their field experience with relevant theories and research drawn from coursework. In effect, the paper demands a critical reflection on the practice relevant to the agency’s work. In such reflection, students retrieve some of the concepts, models, and theories they learned from other classes. Their own experiences, and the agency’s work, are assessed with respect to the insight gained from these classes. The full-length paper is due at the end of the semester in which the student is enrolled.

Finding a Site

If you need assistance in finding an internship site, please examine the list of directories of internships provided in this package. Directories of Internship Sites Idealist contains over 35,000 nonprofit and community organizations in 165 countries, which you can search or browse by name, location or mission. <http://www.idealists.org> . Alliance for Conflict Transformation also has an excellent directory. Please visit the ACT website

<http://www.conflictransformation.org>. We encourage students to enter PatriotJobWeb for an excellent set of directories for internships, job openings, and career opportunities in our field. (PatriotJobWeb is provided by University Career Services of GMU.)

Supervisor's Report

Also, upon completion of the internship, the site supervisor will submit to Dr. Rothbart a report describing what the intern did, how well he/she did it, and a grade for the student's work. (See Attached.)

Internship Agreement Between GMU and Site Supervisor. Also, student, supervisor, and Internship Coordinator must sign an Internship Agreement. Consultation among these three parties is required before the student begins their internship work. (See Attached)