

**PACS 626 Conflict Resolution Skills
Course Syllabus and Procedures
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PACS 626 Course Advisor

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Course Description

The Conflict Resolution Skills course provides an opportunity for Master of Peace and Conflict Studies students to gain academic credit for practical skills training workshops.

The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop practical competencies necessary for effective peace work. Topics will vary and may include workshops such as Understanding Conflict, Transformative Mediation, Conflict Coaching, or Facilitation Skills, offered by the Certificate Program in Conflict Management (uwaterloo.ca/conflict-management); or other workshops offered by credible training organizations. (Minimum 14 hours of training. Not applicable to conference attendance)

Taught by professional trainers with practical experience, students will join a cohort of co-learners, most of whom are engaged in employment relevant to the issue discussed. The theory presented will be balanced by the practical experience of the learning community, with role plays and exercises used to solidify and illustrate principles taught. The knowledge and perspective gained during the workshop will be further informed by additional reading conducted with guidance from a faculty supervisor, culminating in a research paper that demonstrates a capacity for critical reflection on the relevant peace skills and their most suitable applications.

Course Objectives

By the end of a Conflict Resolution Skills workshop a student will be able to:

- Demonstrate a sophisticated understanding of the theory and principles underlying the skills training workshop, informed by additional readings and a research paper.
- Analytically summarize workshop content and integrate this content with research findings in the research paper.
- Demonstrate critical reflection on themes pertaining to theory and practice.
- Draw connections among workshop content, critical reflections on that content, and the student's current or desired area of peacemaking practice

Course Requirements

To complete the requirements for PACS 626, a student must:

- In consultation with the Certificate Program Manager, determine an appropriate and available workshop.
 - Budget for additional workshop fees (above course tuition fees).
 - Enroll in PACS 626 through Quest with permission number, provided by Course Administrator.
 - Attend the workshop and actively participate. Once enrolled in a workshop a student must attend **all hours** of the workshop. *Most workshops are offered for two or three days in sequence, with seven hours of training per day from 8:30 am – 4:30 pm. There is a one-hour break for lunch each day and some workshops require Saturday attendance. A student must arrange their schedule so that full-time workshop attendance is completed.*
 - **Many workshops are offered synchronously online. Please check the website for the dates and hours. Most workshops are offered 9:00 to 12:30 over 4 mornings. Full time attendance is required. Please check out the Certificate Program website for more information about our workshop delivery and relevant requirements.**
 - Meet with the Course Advisor to discuss options for a research paper that will place content from the workshop within a broader or more specific context, allowing critical reflection on the practices in question. See timing for this meeting under registration process #3.
 - Develop a bibliography and complete the necessary reading (**see guidelines below**).
 - Submit a research paper and bibliography to the course supervisor to be graded (see guidelines below).
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Assignments

Students will complete additional academic work as a Directed Study supervised by a Peace and Conflict Studies faculty member or adjunct representative.

Reading and Bibliography

Additional reading on the workshop topic is required to support the workshop training. Some workshops already have recommended reading associated with the workshop which might serve as a starting point for your bibliography and research.

The amount of reading and the number of resources required for the bibliography varies according to the duration of the workshop:

A two-day workshop will require 600 pages of reading.

A three-day workshop will require 500 pages of reading.

A four-day workshop will require 400 pages of reading.

You are encouraged to use a mix of resources including books, scholarly journal articles, related articles in professional publications and/or reputable online resources as sources for your bibliography and research paper.

Research Paper

You are required to write a research paper on a topic related to the skills workshop(s) undertaken for credit. This is an opportunity for you to explore the body of research (theory, underlying principles, critical examinations of how the peace skills can be practiced most effectively) available on the skill addressed in the workshop, and to analyze how this research relates to the content of the workshop. You are welcome to include a reflective component on your experience in the workshop or your previous experience with this skill. The topic of the paper will be chosen in consultation with the supervising faculty member. A general guideline of length for the research paper is 10-15 pages (2,500 to 3,750 words) per 0.25 credit hour.

Workshop Scheduling, PACS 626 Enrollment, and Assignment Due Dates

Certificate Program in Conflict Management workshops are offered on a schedule that does not always dovetail with the academic schedule. Normally, you will enroll in PACS 626 in the term you take the workshop. ***Due dates for the academic work will be the last day of the term in which you are enrolled in PACS 626.***

Student spaces in workshops are not guaranteed. Workshop selection is made in consultation with the Certificate Program Manager and finalized by the payment of the additional fee.

Students may receive academic credit for up to two workshops (0.25 CR each), therefore you can enroll in PACS 626 two times.

Academic work for PACS 626 is graded by a Course Advisor, assigned by the PACS Faculty. The student will receive a grade of CR/NCR.

Registration Process for PACS 626 with Conflict Management Certificate Program (CMCP) workshop:

1. Check availability for Certificate Program workshops with Program Manager. The upcoming workshop schedule can be found on the Certificate Program Website, under All Workshops Summary.
2. Confirm attendance with Certificate Program Manager.
3. **Arrange a meeting with the Course Advisor (Naren Kumarakulasingam,) prior to commencing any academic work.** The meeting will generally be scheduled immediately following workshop attendance. A paper submitted without having had this meeting will not be accepted.

4. **Do not register through the Certificate Program online registration system.** You will be registered directly into the workshop by the Program Manager and an invoice will be created and emailed to you. Payment will then be made through bank transfer, similar to paying a utility bill. Payment will not be accepted at Grebel Reception.
5. You will receive a confirmation of registration upon receipt of payment, which you can forward to the Course Administrator in order to complete step 6.
6. Register for class PACS 626 01 &/or PACS 626 -02 via a permission number from Course Administrator.
7. Tuition fees for PACS 626 will be calculated by UW Student Accounts and posted to your student account.
8. Request a *Conflict Management Certificate Program Bursary* from CP Program Manager by email. Up to \$400 per workshop is available for Grebel Owned workshops (not applicable to workshops offered in partnership with other organizations).
9. Workshop fee balance is paid directly to Conrad Grebel University College (See #4)
10. Bursary fees are transferred internally to the Certificate Program (See #8)
11. HST is not included on workshop fees when a workshop is completed for academic credit.
12. In recognition of Covid-19 and financial limitations for academic students, for Grebel Owned Workshops the base fee we are using is the UW employee rate (a 25% discount).

Registration Process for PACS 626 with NON-Conflict Management Certificate Program workshop:

1. Obtain PACS approval for a workshop by submitting a course petition to PACS Advisory Group through the Course Administrator and if applicable confer with Course Advisor.
2. All registration is directly with the workshop provider. No funding is available to cover workshop costs.
3. Once approved, obtain a permission number for PACS 626 from the Course Administrator
4. Tuition fees for PACS 626 will be calculated by UW Student Accounts and posted to your student account.
5. Arrange a meeting with the Course Advisor (Naren Kumarakulasingam) prior to commencing any academic work. The meeting will generally be scheduled immediately following workshop attendance. A paper submitted without having had this meeting will not be accepted.