



Pre-Master's at UMass Boston

International Relations, MSPA

The MSPA in International Relations is a two-year degree program that explores theories and policies that are relevant to our global and intertwined world. Students are trained to think theoretically and apply tools and methodologies to analyze a wide range of international public policy issues.

The Master's focuses on three broad areas:

- Understanding of classic International Relations Theory in a historical and contemporary context; and the concepts, structures and institutions, both governmental and non-governmental, that define the global system
- Firm knowledge of the current international system and the political, economic, and cultural factors that influence policy formulation
- Critical understanding of international political economy, the effects of globalization, problems and prospects in the developing world, the role of regionalism and of regional integration, the dynamics of international conflicts and conflict resolution

Curriculum

Students are required to complete 36 graduate credits:

DID YOU KNOW:

A UMass Boston professor is part of the Scientific Advisory Board of the United Nations!

These select few are chosen to examine how the UN can use science, technology and innovation to devise new solutions for global problems.

Seven required core courses (21 credits)

- Theories and Concepts of International Relations
- Contemporary Issues in World Politics
- Research Methods and Analysis in International Relations
- International Political Economy
- Globalization and International Development
- Political Economy of Regional Systems
- Advanced Studies in International Relations

Three elective courses (9 credits)

Chosen from offerings in the department of Conflict Resolution, Human Security, and Global Governance

**Capstone Seminar and Paper, or
Master's Thesis (6 credits)**



Conflict Resolution, MA

The Master of Arts in Conflict Resolution is a two-year, interdisciplinary, degree program that trains students in conflict resolution, collaborative decision making, and problem solving.

- Established in 1986, it was among the first programs in conflict resolution established in the United States.
- Students are exposed to nonviolent, collaborative resolution methods including facilitation, negotiation, mediation, dialogue, and consensual decision making.
- Courses are designed to help students understand causes and characteristics of conflict and to equip students with the skills to effectively intervene in a variety of conflict situations.
- Graduates are employed in such varied fields as business, education, elder-affairs, environmental and public policy, health care, human resources, labor relations, law, ministry, and public and private sector management.

Curriculum

The MA program comprises 36 credit hours with three options for completing the requirements. Students can choose to produce a master's thesis, design a capstone final project unique to their individual interests and goals, or complete an intensive Integrative Seminar based on the theoretical concepts and approaches to practice that have been studied in their coursework.

Students take interesting courses such as:

- Cross Cultural Conflict
- Conflict in Workgroups
- Mediation Internship
- Mediating Multi-party conflicts

Concentrations for the Conflict resolution degree

- International Conflict
- Organizational Conflict

Students may pursue a concentration in either Organizational Conflict or International Conflict by taking a minimum of three courses in each of these subject areas.

Alumni of our Conflict Resolution program are currently working at:

- United Nations Headquarters
- U.S. State Department's Bureau of Conflict Stabilization Operations
- Multi-Door Dispute Resolution Division of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia
- World Bank
- Delta Airlines
- American Red Cross
- Federal Ministry of Energy, Nigeria



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