91-869, Conflict Resolution: Theory and Practice

6 units

Instructor: Dr. Lola Komisin Mason

Prerequisites: None

Course Overview:

The goal of this course is to grow in your understanding of conflict and your skill in dealing with it. We have all been touched by conflict in some way; our past experiences become the basis for the many personal ways in which we think and feel about conflict. Our approach to conflict, in turn, determines our behaviors and responses in conflict situations, whether we are disputants or interveners.

By the end of this course, you will:

- Be familiar with key theories of conflict
- Be cognizant of your own and others’ conflict styles
- Understand the sources and dynamics of conflict in dyads and in groups
- Understand how differences in personalities, gender roles, generational differences and cultural expectations can contribute to conflict
- Increase awareness of factors that contribute to intercultural conflict
- Learn how emotions and intellect interact in conflict situations
- Be more skilled in resolving personal and professional conflicts

Concepts will be developed through a mix of readings, case-studies, discussion, assessments, simulation exercises (role plays), and lecture.

Course Materials


Evaluation:

You will be evaluated on the following basis:

- Class participation (attendance and participation)
- Brief reaction papers based on readings
- Mini Quizzes (2) based on readings and course discussions
- Group project