Masters of Science in Negotiation and Dispute Resolution

Werner Institute

Diversity, change, and growth are all major issues in today’s college and university settings. In areas from campus life to student services, conflict is an ever growing part of the landscape and collaborative practices are a key to more effective leadership. The graduate program at the Werner Institute provides a comprehensive set of knowledge and skills in conflict resolution methods, cross-cultural understanding, and collaborative problem solving. In addition, students can focus on coursework in our education track which offers specialized training and practical opportunities in:

- Mediation of individual and group conflicts applicable to the university setting
- Developing listening, reflecting, and summarizing skills
- Identifying and systematizing the different needs, motivations, desires, and demands of students, instructors, administrators, parents, and surrounding communities to develop plans for constructive collaboration and conflict management
- Initiating constructive responses to such issues as alcohol and drug use, interpersonal conflict and violence, student conduct policy violations, rising levels of anxiety, and high-risk behavior among students and establishing clear operational, student life, and crisis management procedures
- Collaborating with stakeholders to enhance the educational experience of students who live off campus and working productively to improve town/gown relations
- Understanding leadership for collaboration and conflict management including ways to partner with faculty and administrators to develop student leadership capacity and blend academic study with the practice of leadership
- Establishing student culture where diversity is valued and where students learn to respect differences
- Advancing systems for student conduct, adjudication, restorative justice and other approaches to resolving serious disputes
- Applying concepts and skills learned in the program through a practicum project in a university setting