Sabancı Üniversitesi

M.A. in CONFLICT ANALYSIS AND RESOLUTION
Non-Thesis Track Project Guidelines

As a non-thesis track student in the CONF program, you are expected to design and execute a practice project during your third semester at Sabanci University. You have three options for accomplishing this:

1. Choose to re-write a paper you have already written for one of the core or core elective courses. Seek a CONF academic/project advisor and discuss with them how to change/add on to the existing paper. The end product should be 20 pages, double spaced/12 font without the bibliography. You might want to re-write the paper so that it can be submitted for journal publication or to present at a conference.

2. Write a new paper on a topic approved by your CONF academic/project advisor. The end product should be 20 pages, double spaced/12 font without the bibliography. Once again, you can submit it to be published as a journal article or for presentation at a conference.

3. Design your own field practice project and apply it during your third semester. Please find below more information on how to write your project proposal as well as the final analysis requirements. You will need to find a CONF academic/project advisor to approve and oversee your project.

Field Practice Project Guidelines:

Please follow these format guidelines while preparing a field project proposal. The proposal is an opportunity for you to explain a vision to a potential faculty advisor in written format. Be specific, and make sure to include all of the sections mentioned below in your proposal.

   I.   *Name of the Project:*

   II.   *Introduction and Background:* State why you are designing this project and any background work you have done on the topic. You may mention specific courses or academic articles/books that inspired you to pursue this idea.

If you are designing this project for a specific NGO or an organization, include details about the organization:
   • Description of organization
   • How you made contact
   • Name of organizational contact with whom you will be collaborating

- Contact information
- Other pertinent details

In this section, you should also mention how this project will complement all the coursework you have done so far. Since this is your final product in the program, you should relate the project to the previous work you have done. You can also cite the project as a stepping stone to a future goal of yours in the field of Conflict Analysis and Resolution. Make sure to state why you are designing this specific project if you choose to relate it to your future goals.

Goals of the Project: Use this section to state short-term, mid-term and long-term goals. You can be as specific as you want. Talk about your vision and what you want to accomplish by the end of your projected time frame.

Proposed Roadmap: Explain how you are going to accomplish the goals you mentioned in the previous section. This section will be unique to your project idea. Be specific when describing your roadmap. For example, if you are going to work with an NGO, state how many times per week you will meet with them and what kind of activities you will be performing. How many hours per week will you be spending on the project?

This section will serve as your checklist for the entire project. You can be creative and merge this section with the next one. Please keep in mind that the minimum requirement is the equivalent of 40-60 hours of "practice" time over the course of the Fall semester. (This includes writing the proposal, designing curriculum, facilitating meetings, on-site practice or initiatives, etc. Each project is unique; your project director will draw up a mutually agreed upon contract.)

Time Frame: Set yourself specific dates for delivery of activities and other things that you mentioned in the previous section. Please also include the dates that you will be meeting with your project advisor. You can get help from your advisor in preparing this time frame. Your advisor might require you to give updates at certain times during the semester.

III.   ***Final Report and Self-Evaluation:*** You are required to submit a 5-7 page (single spaced, 12 font) report describing your accomplishments. Please explain if you have met your goals or not. Think of this report as an analysis of your whole project journey. This is where you step back and examine the professional work that you have done. You should report about your findings/experience and how these are relevant to the field of Conflict Analysis and Resolution.

This report is both your analysis of the whole project and your self-evaluation. You can separate the two sections or combine them. Evaluate your own work. Answer questions like the following (but not limited to):
- What would you have done differently if you were to do the project all over again?
- What did you expect to accomplish and did you get the results you aimed for?
- How did this project add to your overall experience with the program?
- Do you see this project as a sustainable one? Why/why not?

- What did you realize about yourself as a practitioner during the course of the project?

If one of your goals were to use your project as an experiment, you can write the report like an academic journal article as well. This section is open to creativity. Feel free to submit pictures/videos of your experience along with your report.

Design a project that you are passionate about and do not forget to enjoy! Good luck!