

## Derek Sweetman

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<b>Education</b>	<b>Ph.D. Conflict Analysis and Resolution</b> George Mason University Dissertation Title: "Chasing Tails: Peace and Conflict Resolution Failing to Stop American State Violence" Dissertation Committee: Dr. Richard Rubenstein (chair), Dr. Sara Cobb, and Dr. John Dale Areas of Engagement: Critical Conflict Resolution, Social Movements, Structural Violence, Community Organizing, Peacebuilding, Peace Education, Radical Pedagogy, Peace History, violence and conflict in the United States	<i>Anticipated May 2016</i>
	<b>M.S. Conflict Analysis and Resolution</b> George Mason University Thesis title: "Doing Good, Doing Well, or Just Doing: Business-based Peacebuilding and Conflict Resolution" Thesis advisor: Dr. Dennis Sandole (chair), Dr. Sara Cobb, and Amb. John McDonald	<i>May 2006</i>
	<b>B.A. Political Science</b> Colorado State University	<i>December 1997</i>
<b>Teaching Positions</b>	<b>School for Conflict Analysis and Resolution, George Mason University</b> <i>Graduate Lecturer</i>	<i>August 2012-present</i>
	<b>New Century College, George Mason University</b> <i>Graduate Lecturer</i> <i>Adjunct Instructor</i>	<i>January 2010-present</i> <i>August 2007-January 2010</i>
	<b>Communications Department, George Mason University</b> <i>Graduate Lecturer</i>	<i>January 2012-May 2012</i>
<b>Professional Practice</b>	<b>Dispute Resolution Director/Foundation Director, Better Business Bureau of Metropolitan Washington, DC and Eastern Pennsylvania</b> <i>Alternative Dispute Resolution:</i> Manage and administer a consumer/business and business/business dispute resolution program for a service area of 13 million people in the mid-Atlantic region; recruit, train, and certify arbitrators and mediators; develop and market new ADR programs; and mediate disputes as needed. <i>Foundation Director:</i> Manage the BBB's affiliated 501(c)3 charity. Correspond with donors. Identify ways for the Foundation to contribute to the BBB's mission. <i>Information Technology:</i> Manage computer network for DC headquarters and assist with development of BBB online dispute resolution tools..	<i>October 1998-present</i>
	<b>Panel Member, DC Bar Association Attorney-Client Fee Dispute Program</b>	<i>August 2009-present</i>
	<b>Arbitration Board Member, Washington New Automobile Dealers Association</b>	<i>October 2001-present</i>
	<b>Consulting</b> Advised on online dispute resolution (ODR) for Japanese Ministry of Justice	<i>February 2013</i>
	Assisted with development of permanent dispute center, Cross-border Consumer Dispute Center, Japan	<i>December 2012</i>

**ODR system development and testing, Adeptis, Inc.**  
**(Boston, MA)**  
**Developed and presented a model of ODR services for**  
**AOL Time Warner (Reston, VA)**

2004-2010

November 2008

## **Courses Taught**

### **COMM 326: Rhetoric of Social Movements and Political Advocacy (Sp2012)**

An upper-division synthesis course for Communications students that examines social movements through a persuasion-focused lens. This course analyzes how technology and globalization have changed the rhetorical environment in which actors seek social change and how actions are related to messages. Students are expected to develop their own approaches to persuasion for movements and causes they support.

### **CONF 101: Conflict in Your World (Sp2014)**

An introductory course for conflict analysis and resolution students and others seeking general education credit that addresses conflict on the interpersonal, intergroup, and international levels.

### **CONF 330: Community, Organizational, and Group Conflict Analysis and Resolution (Fa2012, Sp2013, Fa2013, Sp2014, Fa2014)**

An upper-division required course for conflict analysis and resolution majors that addresses intervention on the community and group level as well as systemic violence and inequality. The course is structured as a semester-long exercise in community-building, with the students leading their own learning community.

### **CONF 375: Special Programs Field Experience (Sp2012)**

Mentoring and evaluation for a student developing a peace plan for Afghanistan.

### **CONF 399: Peace Studies (Sp2015)**

A modified version of NCLC 475 for conflict students, taught as a special topics course.

### **CONF 695: Critical Conflict Resolution (Fa2012, Fa2013, Sp2015)**

A co-taught graduate course for M.S. and Ph.D. students that explores the theoretical foundations of critical work in conflict resolution and their connections to conflict resolution practice within the context of systemic violence.

### **NCLC 304: Social Movements and Community Activism (Sp2009, F2010, Su2012, Fa2012, Su2013, Su2014, Fa2014, Sp2014)**

An upper-division learning community with experiential learning credit that introduces students to the academic study of social movements and community organizing as well as enabling them to develop practical skills for self-advocacy and movement participation. Students work in groups to develop movement strategies, tactics, and messaging.

### **NCLC 305: Conflict Resolution and Transformation (F2009, F2011, Sp2013)**

An upper-division, 6-credit learning community with experiential learning credit that pairs the academic study of conflict and conflict resolution with workshops where students develop the skills necessary for effective responses to conflict. Students work with transformative, narrative, and insight mediation as well as reconciliation and forgiveness. Specific emphasis is placed on developing the students' sense of conflict in their own lives and the ways this mindfulness can promote positive change.

### **NCLC 331: The Nonprofit Sector (F2008)**

An upper-division learning community with experiential learning credit that addresses the study of the nonprofit sector and civil society, primarily within the United States, and the process through which students can participate in or start nonprofit organizations of their own. Students work as a class to identify a social need and develop a simulated nonprofit organization to address this need.

**NCLC 422: An Experiential Approach to American Foreign Policy (Su2008, Su2009, Sp2011, Sp2012, Fa2013, Sp2014)**

An upper-division learning community with experiential learning credit focused on exploring and evaluating American foreign policy. Special emphasis is placed on representing individuals on the receiving end of American foreign policy and empowering students to have their own opinions on these policies. The course seeks to develop a citizenship orientation toward foreign policy. Students take responsibility for studying a country for the semester and providing updates and analysis to the learning community.

**NCLC 475: Peace Studies (F2007, Sp2010)**

An upper-division learning community with experiential learning credit that introduces undergraduates to peace studies. The course investigates violence in students' own experiences and lives to develop an understanding of direct, structural, and cultural violence. Specific emphasis is placed on mindful media consumption, peace education, and the history, and the practice of nonviolence.

**NCLC 495: Independent Studies (various)**

An independent course that worked with students pursuing nonprofit careers, teaching experience, and one who completed a research project on community conflict while on active duty in Iraq.

**Major Books,  
Papers, and  
Publications**

- Business, Conflict Resolution, and Peacebuilding: Contributions from the Private Sector to Address Violent Conflict.* Routledge. 2009
- “Critical Conflict Resolution: Notes on Its Development and Key Concepts”** *Unrest Magazine* October 2013
- “Realism Isn’t Real: The Need for Fantasy in Conflict Resolution Education”** *Unrest Magazine* April 2013
- “Occupy and the Absence of Systemic Conflict Resolution”** *Unrest Magazine* March/April 2012
- “Revolutionary Insight”** *Unrest Magazine* November 2011
- “Bradley Manning, Collateral Murder, Truth, and Power”** *Unrest Magazine* July 2011
- “Heterogenous Conflicts: One Role for Critical Conflict Theory”** *Unrest Magazine* January 2011
- “The Peacemaker’s Dilemma”** *Unrest Magazine* September 2010
- “The Benign Subjugation of Conflict Resolution”** *Unrest Magazine* June 2010
- “The Pedagogy of the Oppressor in 2010: Reflections on George Kent”** *Unrest Magazine* June 2010
- “Doing Good, Doing Well, or Just Doing: Business-based Approaches to Peacebuilding and Conflict Resolution”** M.S. Thesis May 2006
- “Conflict Resolution in the Age of Terror”** *OJPCR: The Online Journal of Peace and Conflict Resolution* October 2001

<b>Conferences</b>	<p><b>Roundtable Presentation</b>  Conflict Resolution and Civil Rights in U.S. Communities: The Next 50 Years  US Department of Justice, Community Relations Service &amp; School for  Conflict Analysis and Resolution, George Mason University</p> <p><b>“Critical Conflict Resolution: Practice in the New Normal”</b>  Association for Conflict Resolution  Minneapolis, MN (co-presenter with Michael D. English)</p> <p><b>“On the Myth of Exposure in Inter- and Transdisciplinary Transactions  in Peace and Conflict Studies”</b>  Cultural Studies Association  Chicago, IL (chair &amp; presenter)</p> <p><b>“Engaging and Sometimes Ridiculous’ - Teaching Conflict  Analysis and Resolution through Fantastic Mr. Fox”</b>  Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association  Washington, DC (presenter)</p> <p><b>“Using Violence to Teach Peace: Inglorious Basterds as a Tool for  Producing Insights in an Undergraduate Peace Studies Course”</b>  Southwest/Texas Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association,  Albuquerque, NM (presenter)</p> <p><b>“Success Stories”</b>  Panelist, DCACR Professional Development Forum, Washington, DC</p> <p><b>“The (non-)Utility of Documentary for Conflict Resolution”</b>  Midwest Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association,  St. Louis, MO (presenter)</p> <p><b>“Humanist Just War Theory”</b>  American Humanist Association Annual Meeting  Washington, DC (presenter)</p>	<p><i>November, 2014</i></p> <p><i>October 2013</i></p> <p><i>May 2013</i></p> <p><i>March 2013</i></p> <p><i>February 2013</i></p> <p><i>October 2005</i></p> <p><i>October 2005</i></p> <p><i>May 2003</i></p>
<b>Professional Affiliations</b>	<p>Association for Conflict Resolution  Peace History Society  Cultural Studies Association  Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association</p>	
<b>Service Positions</b>	<p>Ph.D. Student Representative, S-CAR Advisory Board  Board Member, Association for Conflict Resolution, DC Chapter  Editorial Board, <i>Unrest Magazine</i>  Editor-in-Chief, <i>OJPCR: The Online Journal of Peace and Conflict  Resolution</i>  President, Families with Children from China, Capital Area</p>	<p><i>2010-2013</i>  <i>2005-2010</i>  <i>2010-2014</i>  <i>1998-2006</i>  <i>2006-2012</i></p>
<b>Honors and Awards</b>	<p>GMU Adjunct Teaching Excellence Award  Selected to participate in the GMU Center for Teaching and Faculty  Excellence Social Justice Education learning community</p>	<p><i>2014</i>  <i>2013-2014</i></p>