



international affairs

MASTER OF ARTS

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The International Affairs (IA) Graduate Program is one of two graduate programs offered by the Department of Government at CSUS. It is a professional two-year interdisciplinary program of graduate studies leading to a Master of Arts degree in International Affairs (MIA). Our students come from diverse backgrounds and undergraduate majors, including the natural, social and engineering sciences, as well as business and the humanities. The program has undergone a major restructuring designed to prepare students for a variety of careers in public and private organizations engaged in international interactions, including governmental agencies, the foreign service, international organizations, non-governmental organizations, international business and trade, multinational corporations, as well as the academy. The newly revised curriculum offers a broad range of options and opportunities for students to concentrate on issues and areas of their interests while obtaining a solid foundational knowledge of international relations and international political economy. The program is particularly suitable for students seeking a curriculum with an applied thrust emphasizing practical training through a combination of flexible electives and internship options that permits tailoring the program to each student's career needs.

FACULTY

Buzz Fozouni, *Coordinator*

All faculty members are drawn from the College of Social Sciences and Interdisciplinary Studies, College of Arts and Letters and College of Business.

Carolann Forseth, *Administrative Support Assistant*
 Department Office, Tahoe Hall 3104, (916) 278-6202

GRADUATE PROGRAM

Admission Requirements

Admission as a classified graduate student in International Affairs requires:

- a baccalaureate degree from an accredited four-year college or university;
- a minimum of 3.0 GPA;
- scores in the 50th percentile range or higher on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) General Test (verbal, quantitative and analytical abilities);
- competence in the English language, as demonstrated by academic achievement as well as the verbal score of the GRE. Applicants from non-English speaking countries must have a score of 570 (230 computer-based) or higher in the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL);
- three letters of recommendation from individuals (preferably academics), who can best evaluate the applicant's potential for success in the program. The letters must be prepared on forms accompanying the IA application packet;
- a written statement by the applicant explaining his or her purpose and goals in pursuing the master's degree in International Affairs;
- introductory courses in micro and macro economics with grades of "B-" or better within seven years of program entry; students who do not meet this admission requirement will be required to complete equivalent coursework (ECON 001A and ECON 001B, or ECON 204) with a grade of "B-" or better prior to taking IA 216; these courses cannot be applied to electives;
- an introductory course in statistics (similar to STAT 001) with a grade of "B-" or better within seven years of program entry; students who do not meet this admission requirement will be required to take STAT 001 (or SOC 101) and receive a grade of "B-" or better prior to taking IA 214; this course cannot be applied to electives.

Students who have deficiencies in admission requirements whose qualifications are otherwise acceptable may be granted either conditional or unclassified admission while

they complete coursework to remove those deficiencies. All such courses are treated as prerequisites and cannot be counted towards degree requirements. No more than six units of coursework completed under unclassified status can be applied towards degree requirements.

Admission Deadlines:

The IA program operates on a “rolling admission” basis. Applications are accepted for both the Fall and Spring semesters as long as room for new students exists. However, students are strongly urged to apply by April 1 for the following Fall and by November 1 for the following Spring to allow sufficient time for application processing. Applicants are urged to contact the IA Graduate Coordinator by e-mail, telephone, or in person to discuss admission and the program. Approximately six weeks after receipt of all items listed above, a decision regarding admission will be mailed to the applicant.

Admission Procedures:

To receive an application packet, applicants should contact the International Affairs Coordinator, Government Department, CSUS, 6000 J Street, Sacramento, CA 95819-6089, Tel. (916) 278-6380, Fax (916) 278-6488, e-mail: fozounib@csus.edu.

All applicants, including international students, must submit an International Affairs (IA) Application. The IA application material includes:

- an IA Application form;
- three letters of recommendation;
- applicant’s written statement of purpose and goals; and
- Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores (General test: verbal, analytical and quantitative parts).

The above must be directly mailed to the IA Coordinator, **NOT** to the Graduate Center.

All applicants (including CSUS graduates), **EXCEPT** international students, must also submit the CSU Application for Admission and the Application for Graduate Admission (Parts A and B in the CSU application booklet), and two sets of official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended, other than CSUS.

International Students must submit an International Student Application, available from the International Admissions Office. This application must be filed with the Coordinator of International Admissions, Admissions and Records, CSUS, 6000 J Street, Sacramento, CA 95819-6048, **NOT** with the Graduate Center.

Advancement to Candidacy

Each classified student must file an application for Advancement to Candidacy, including a proposed program of graduate studies specifying elective courses, tracks, and choice of culminating experience. The student should initiate the advancement to candidacy upon satisfying the following requirements:

- completion of 18 units of IA core courses and 9 units of electives (track) with a minimum 3.0 GPA overall; and

- fulfilling all university-wide graduate requirements for advancement, including the Writing Proficiency Exam (WPE).

Students electing the thesis option for culminating experience must submit an approved thesis prospectus; students choosing the comprehensive examination option must identify an approved elective field of exam; students electing the internship option must submit an approved internship project.

Advancement to Candidacy form must be obtained from the Graduate Center. The student must complete the form after planning the degree program in consultation with the IA Coordinator. The completed form is then returned by the program office to the Graduate Center for approval.

Degree Requirements

The Master of Arts in International Affairs (MIA) is a two-year program requiring completion of at least 39 units of academic credit with a minimum 3.0 grade point average and no grade below “C” (not “C-”) for graduate courses, and “B-” for undergraduate upper division elective courses. The academic units consist of 18 units mandatory core courses, 18 units elective courses (tracks), and 3 units culminating experience.

Courses in parentheses are prerequisites.

A. Required Core Courses (18 units)

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|-----|--------|---|
| (3) | IA 210 | International Relations - Theory, Scope and Methods |
| (3) | IA 214 | Research Methods in International Studies (STAT 001 or equivalent) |
| (3) | IA 216 | Foundations of International Economic Affairs (Economics background or ECON 204) |
| (3) | IA 220 | International Organization |
| (3) | IA 221 | Seminar in International Political Economy (An upper division course in the field and/or instructor permission) |
| (3) | IA 222 | Seminar in Comparative Politics |

B. Elective Courses and Tracks (18 units)

Elective courses should be chosen in consultation with the IA Coordinator. Each student should choose a minimum of one track. A track consists of 9 or more units of related courses dealing with a particular regional area or functional issues. Every effort should be made to choose an interdisciplinary combination of courses to enhance the interdisciplinary quality of the program. Students may select up to a maximum of 9 units of approved upper-division undergraduate courses toward satisfying the elective/track requirements. The following is the list of elective courses and some possible tracks:

Elective Courses

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|-------|----------|--|
| (3) | IA 212 | United States Foreign Policy 1945-Present |
| (3) | IA 230 | Globalization and International Relations |
| (1-6) | IA 295 | Internship in International Affairs |
| (1-3) | IA 299 | Special Problems |
| (3) | GOVT 127 | Elements of International Law (GOVT 001 or equivalent) |
| (3-6) | GOVT 138 | U.N. Simulation (Junior standing or above, a minimum 3.0 GPA in the major, GOVT 130 and/or GOVT 140, or instructor permission) |

Elective Tracks (9 or more units)

Below are some examples of elective tracks:

(9) American Foreign and Domestic Policy Track:

This track provides an in-depth analysis of foreign and domestic policies of the United States after the post-WWII period. Students should expect to learn the complex interconnections between domestic and foreign policies and identify the domestic determinants of the U.S. foreign policy.

- (3) IA 212 United States Foreign Policy 1945-Present
- (3) GOVT 270 Public Policy and the Political Processes (An upper division course in the field and/or instructor permission) **OR**
- GOVT 250 Basic Issues of American Government (An upper division course in the field and/or instructor permission)
- (3) HIST 159 History of U.S. Foreign Relations

(9) Middle East Studies Track:

This track introduces students to the politics, history and culture of the countries in the Middle East. Students choosing this track should expect to gain a sophisticated understanding of the contemporary issues and the causes of conflicts in the region.

- (3) GOVT 148 Governments and Politics in the Middle East.
- (3) HIST 143B The Modern Middle East **OR**
- SOC 163 Conflict, Oil and Development in the Middle East
- (3) SOC 260 Contemporary Issues of the Middle East and North Africa

(9) International Economics and Development Track:

This track provides students with a solid foundation in international economic relations, focusing on development economics and international finance. Students should expect to become familiar with the economic challenges and obstacles confronting the less developed nations.

- (3) ECON 151 International and Comparative Industrial Relations
- (3) ECON 192 International Finance: Theory and Practice (ECON 001A, ECON 001B)
- (3) ECON 193 Economics of Underdeveloped Countries (ECON 001A)

(9) International Environmental Problems Track:

The aim of this track is to introduce students to international and global dimensions of environmental problems and issues. The track is designed to broaden students' understanding of contemporary international issues beyond the conventional political and economic problems, by intensively focusing on the environmental challenges that transcend national borders.

- (3) ENVS 110 Contemporary Environmental Issues **OR**
- ENVS 128 /GOVT 128 Environment and the Law (ENVS 111, or instructor permission)
- (3) ENVS 112 International Environmental Problems (Passing score on the WPE)
- (3) ENVS 296 Experimental Offerings in Environmental Studies (Instructor permission)

(9) International Business Track:

The primary aim of this track is to introduce students to the basic concepts of international business. Students should expect to learn about international trade, the role of multinational corporations in international business, and international investment and finance.

- (3) MGMT 172 International Business
- (3) MGMT 174 Multinational Business Finance (MGMT 133 or instructor permission)
- (3) MGMT 222 Management of International Operations

(14-16) International Business and Management Track:

This track may be dubbed as the "Mini MBA." It is appropriate for students who desire to obtain an intensive business background to complement their international studies. The courses in this track emphasize the key business concepts, including accounting, finance, management, and marketing, and applying these concepts to international/multinational business operations.

- (2) ACCY 201 Accounting
- (2) MGMT 207 Finance (ECON 204, ACCY 201, MIS 206) **OR**
- MGMT 133 Business Finance
- (2) MGMT 208 Marketing (ECON 204, ACCY 201, OBE 203) **OR**
- MGMT 223 Marketing Management
- (3) MGMT 222 Management of International Operations
- (3) MGMT 173 Multinational Marketing (MGMT 120 or instructor permission) **OR**
- MGMT 174 Multinational Business Finance (MGMT 133 or instructor permission)
- (2) OBE 204 Management and Organization Concepts

Notes:

- No more than 9 units of upper division undergraduate courses can be applied to the elective requirements.
- Up to 6 units of internship (IA 295) (excluding the culminating experience) can be applied to elective requirements.
- Up to 6 units of approved Independent Study (IA 299) can apply to elective requirements.
- No more than 9 units of combined internship and independent study (excluding the culminating experience) can apply to the program.
- All internships and independent studies must be approved by the IA Coordinator.
- Up to 6 units of credit may be earned based upon Peace Corps Service.
- Lower division undergraduate courses and English composition courses may not be applied to elective requirements.

C. Culminating Requirement (3 units)

(3) IA 500 Culminating Experience.
Open only to students who have been advanced to candidacy and have satisfied all program requirements except the culminating experience. Students have a choice of three options for their culminating experience: thesis, comprehensive examination, or internship project. A minimum overall GPA of 3.5 is required for those who choose the thesis option. All other students must either pass a comprehensive examination or complete an approved internship project and submit an internship report for approval. Credit will be given upon successful defense of a thesis, passing of a comprehensive examination, or acceptance of the internship project report. Graded Credit/No Credit.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Foreign Language

The MIA program does not have a foreign language requirement. However, we strongly recommend that students who plan to work abroad or seek admission to a Ph.D. program take foreign language courses.

Internships

All IA students are strongly urged to include an internship (IA 295) toward satisfying their elective requirements. The IA Coordinator will assist in identifying and placing students in public and private agencies offering internship programs to graduate students. While most internships will be in the Sacramento area, students may seek internship opportunities elsewhere, including San Francisco, New York, Washington, D.C., etc. Within Sacramento some of the organizations where IA students have interned include: Northern California World Trade Center; California Trade and Commerce Agency, and the Center for International Trade and Development. Internship credits require 16 hours work per week, for a total of 240 hours per semester for 3 units of academic credit (or 80 hours per unit). Upon completion of the internship, students must submit an internship report (15 pages minimum, excluding appendices). The report must be analytical, not descriptive. The second 3 units of internship cannot be approved prior to the completion of the first 3 units. Approval of the second 3 units of internship is contingent on the analytical quality of the internship report for the first 3 units.

Overseas Study

Students interested in overseas experience may choose up to 9 units of elective courses (or one track) in an accredited university abroad. IA core courses cannot be completed abroad. To receive graduate credit for overseas coursework, both the university and the courses must be approved by the IA Coordinator prior to enrollment in the overseas university. Students interested in overseas study should contact the Office of Global Education, CSUS, Tel. (916) 278-6686, for information and assistance regarding overseas opportunities.

Financial Aid

Students seeking assistance should contact the CSUS Financial Aid office. The International Affairs Graduate Program and the Department of Government are unable to offer financial assistance to their graduate students.

GRADUATE COURSES

IA 210. International Relations - Theory, Scope and Methods. Examines the theoretical literature of international relations and the various methodologies or approaches employed in the study of international relations. It also introduces the student to the scope of the field by identifying the major areas of study occupying the attention of scholars. Cross-listed as GOVT 230; only one may be counted for credit. Fall only. 3 units.

IA 212. United States Foreign Policy 1945-Present. A chronological examination and analysis of the major issues in the conduct of United States foreign policy from 1945 to the present. After a brief introduction to U.S. foreign policy prior to 1945, will focus upon those issues since WW II that have been central to the evolution of United States relations with the rest of the world. Fall only. 3 units.

IA 214. Research Methods in International Studies. An evaluation of research strategies and methodologies oriented toward familiarizing students with the basic concepts of research, hypothesis formulation, specification of causal relationships, and methods of analysis and evaluation. Students will be expected to formalize a research project or problem and to prepare a research design and bibliography pertaining to their project or thesis. **Prerequisite:** STAT 001 or a statistics background. Spring only. 3 units.

IA 216. Foundations of International Economic Affairs. An interdisciplinary approach to understanding the functioning of the international economic system with particular reference to current trends, problems and policy options. **Prerequisite:** ECON 204 or Economics background. Spring only. 3 units.

IA 220. International Organization. Examines the purpose, structure, administration and role of international organizations in the global system. The interaction of the United Nations, its affiliates, regional organizations, non-governmental international organizations and their impact on security, economic, social and environmental issues will be addressed. Fall only. 3 units.

IA 221. Seminar in International Political Economy. This seminar is a graduate-level introduction to the theory and substance of international political economy (IPE). It examines the various theoretical approaches to IPE; considers the role of trade, money, and finance in the international political economy; analyzes the pattern and structure of global production, with an emphasis on multinational corporations; surveys international development issues, including Third World economic development strategies, the debt crises, structural adjustment, and economies in transition; and investigates the politics of globalization. **Prerequisite:** An upper division course in the field and/or instructor permission. Cross-listed as GOVT 236; only one may be counted for credit. 3 units.

IA 222. Seminar in Comparative Politics. This seminar is the program capstone course in which students study the works of major theorists and methodologists in the field of comparative politics, sample representative literature of area specialists and apply an appropriate methodology to a brief original work. Cross-listed as GOVT 240; only one may be counted for credit. Spring only. 3 units.

IA 295. Internship in International Affairs. A planned program of work with an approved agency such as the United Nations, governmental embassy, international business or local/state government operation. **Prerequisite:** Permission of Graduate Coordinator. Graded Credit/No Credit. 1-6 units.

IA 299. Special Problems. Independent research. **Note:** Open only to International Affairs graduate students. Graded Credit/No Credit. 1-3 units.

IA 500. Culminating Experience. Credit given upon successful completion of the thesis or project. **Note:** Open only to the graduate student who has advanced to candidacy in International Affairs. Graded Credit/No Credit. 3 units.