



Program Description

The International Affairs (IA) Graduate Program is one of two graduate programs offered by the Department of Government at Sacramento State. 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.

Faculty

Faculty and other members in the College of Social Sciences and Interdisciplinary Studies, College of Arts and Letters and College of Business.

Smile Dube, *Economics* ; Patrick Cannon, Ron Fox, Buzz Fozouni, Nancy Lapp, *Government*

Contact Information

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Graduate Program

This Master of Arts 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.

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 a minimum 4.0 analytical writing);
- 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 **may be** admitted to the program, however, they will be required to complete equivalent course work (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; and
- 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 may be admitted to the program, however, they 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 course work to remove those deficiencies.

All such courses are treated as prerequisites and cannot be counted towards degree requirements. No more than six units of course work completed under unclassified status can be applied towards degree requirements.

Admission Deadlines

The IA program accepts applications 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

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 forms for the IA application, letters of recommendation, and statement of purpose are available in downloadable forms on our website: www.csus.edu/ia.

All of the above must be directly mailed to the IA Coordinator, **NOT** to the Office of Graduate Studies.

All applicants (including Sacramento State graduates), **EXCEPT** international students, must also submit:

- an online Application for Graduate Admission; and
- two sets of official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended, *other than Sacramento State*.

These must be mailed to the Office of Graduate Studies at: Sacramento State, 6000 J Street, Sacramento, CA 95819-6112; e-mail: gradctr@csus.edu.

Note: International Students must submit an International Student Application, available from the Office of Global Education. This application must be filed with the Coordinator of International Admissions, Office of Global Education, Sacramento State, 6000 J Street, Sacramento, CA 95819-6012; e-mail: intlprg@csus.edu, **NOT** with the Office of Graduate Studies.

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:

- removed any deficiencies in admission requirements or incomplete grades;
- completion of 18 units of IA core courses and 9 units of electives (track) with a minimum 3.0 GPA overall; and
- passed the Writing Proficiency Examination (WPE) or secured approval for a WPE waiver.

Students electing the thesis option for culminating experience must submit an approved thesis prospectus; students choosing the internship option must submit an approved internship project proposal.

Advancement to Candidacy form must be obtained from the Office of Graduate Studies. 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 Office of Graduate Studies for approval.

Requirements • Master of Arts Degree

Total units required for MA: 39

Minimum required GPA: 3.0 with no grade below "C" (not "C-") for graduate courses or "B-" for undergraduate upper division elective courses.

Courses in parentheses are prerequisites.

Note: The academic units consist of 18 units of mandatory core courses, 18 units of elective courses (tracks), and 3 units of culminating experience.

A. Required Core Courses (18 units)

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|-----|--------|---|
| (3) | IA 210 | Theories of International Relations |
| (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 Organizations |
| (3) | IA 221 | Seminar in International Political Economy (An upper division course in the field and/or instructor permission) |
| (3) | IA 230 | Globalization and International Relations |

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 222 | Seminar in Comparative Politics |
| (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 status 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 possible choices of elective tracks. Students may propose other track choices by combining 9 or more units of related courses, subject to the approval of the program coordinator.

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) GOVT 249A Middle East Politics and the U.S.
 (3) HIST 159 History of U.S. Foreign Relations

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 249A Middle East Politics and the U.S.
 (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

Asian Studies Track

This track introduces students to the history and culture of China, Japan, and other countries in Asia. Students choosing this track will gain an in-depth understanding of the issues that faced Asia during the twentieth century as Asia opened up to the West, as well as a sophisticated understanding of the issues facing Asian nations today.

- (3) ASIA 198 Asia in the World Today
 (3) HIST 146B Modern Japan, 1800-present
 (3) HIST 148B China, 1600 to Present **OR**
 GOVT 145 China: Politics of Rule and Change

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 190 International Trade (ECON 001A, ECON 001B)
 (3) ECON 192 International Finance (ECON 001A, ECON 001B)
 (3) ECON 193 Development Economics (ECON 001A, ECON 001B)

International Affairs and Public Management Track

This track aims at incorporating expertise in public management into students' international affairs training. Many key foreign policy decisions are made within government agencies. For this reason, it is beneficial to understand how the policy process operates generally as well as how government agencies are organized and managed. Additionally, it is helpful to consider how organizational culture and other organizational features affect decisions.

- (3) PPA 200 Introduction to Public Policy and Administration
 (3) PPA 240A Public Management and Administration I
 (3) PPA 240B Public Management and Administration II **OR**
 GOVT 270 Public Policy and the Political Process

Students wishing to pursue this track in more depth may take all four of the above specified courses and should also consider taking PPA 230, although that course is largely focused on budgeting at the state and local levels of government.

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 / Environment and the Law (ENVS 110,
 GOVT 128 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)
 (3) SOC 238 Investigation of Environment and Society

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) IBUS 190 International Business
 (3) FIN 190 Multinational Business Finance (FIN 101
 or instructor permission)
 (3) MBA 270 Management of International Operations

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) MBA 201 Accounting
 (2) MBA 207 Finance
 (ECON 204, MBA 201, MBA 206) **OR**
 FIN 101 Business Finance
 (2) MBA 208 Marketing
 (ECON 204, MBA 201, MBA 203) **OR**
 MBA 240 Marketing Management
 (3) MBA 270 Management of International Operations
 (3) MKTG 190 Multinational Marketing (MKTG 101 or
 instructor permission) **OR**
 FIN 190 Multinational Business Finance (FIN 101
 or instructor permission)
 (2) MBA 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 (see above) and have satisfied all program requirements except the culminating experience. Students have a choice of either a thesis or internship project. A minimum overall GPA of 3.5 is required for thesis option. All internship projects must be approved prior to the start of the project. Credit will be given upon successful defense of a thesis or 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 course work, 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, Sacramento State, (916) 278-6686, for information and assistance regarding overseas opportunities.
- **Financial Aid:** Students seeking assistance should contact the Sacramento State 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. Theories of International Relations. 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. 3 units.

IA 212. United States Foreign Policy 1945-Present. Chronological examination and analysis of the major issues in the conduct of U.S. 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 U.S. relations with the rest of the world. 3 units.

IA 214. Research Methods in International Studies. 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. 3 units.

IA 216. Foundations of International Economic Affairs. Interdisciplinary approach to understanding the functioning of the international economic system with particular reference to current trends, problems and policy options. **Prerequisite:** ECON 001A, ECON 001B, or ECON 204. 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. 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 focuses on 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. 3 units.

IA 230. Globalization and International Relations. Introduction to the theories and substance of globalization. It examines alternative theories of globalization; considers globalization's political impact on the territorial state, regionalism, the welfare state, the military, immigration, and the environment; investigates the politics of the anti-globalization backlash; and concludes with an assessment of the future political trends of globalization. **Prerequisite:** An upper division course in international relations or instructor permission. Cross-listed as GOVT 239; only one may be counted for credit. 3 units.

IA 295. Internship in International Affairs. 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. Completion of the thesis or project approved for the Master's degree. **Note:** Advanced to candidacy in International Affairs. Graded Credit/No Credit. 3 units.