

B.A. IN INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

Overview

The International Studies major provides a focused educational experience aimed at familiarizing students with the key structural features and dynamics of the international system and preparing them to enter the growing international job market. Processes of globalization, in part driven by global capital flows, expanding trade and the unrelenting development of communication and information technologies, have affected virtually everyone in every country, often in ways we are just beginning to understand. These developments often pose serious problems for government and other societal institutions, while also creating a demand for individuals who understand international processes. Jobs in virtually all sectors have acquired a decidedly international dimension, whether in trade, tourism, finance, public policy, government, or education. INS Graduates have moved on to the corporate world, the public sector, started their own businesses, or have continued their studies at the graduate level (i.e. Law, Business, and International Studies).

Curriculum Requirements

| Code | Title | Credit Hours |
|---|--|--------------|
| Core Requirements | | |
| INS 101 or INS 103 | Global Perspectives ¹ World in Crisis | 3 |
| INS 102 | Global Economics | 3 |
| INS 201 or GEG 110 | Globalization and Change in World Politics ¹ Introduction to Human Geography | 3 |
| INS 202 | INS Methodology | 3 |
| Thematic Core | | |
| Select a total of 6 courses from the following listed below: ² | | 18 |
| INS 321 | International Development | |
| INS 322 | Economics of Development and the Environment | |
| INS 357 | Global Food: A Hands-On Approach | |
| INS 359 | Culture, Civilizations and Religion in International Relations | |
| INS 460 | United Nations Seminar | |
| INS 501 | Capstone in International Studies | |
| INS 519 | Internship: Knowledge Partnership Civic Engagement | |
| INS 533 | Transnational Social Movements | |
| INS 561 | Negotiation and Bargaining | |
| INS 566 | U.S.-Latin American Relations | |
| INS 569 | Global Issues and Film Making: A Trans-disciplinary Approach | |
| INS 584 | Latin American Thought | |
| INS 591 | The European Union | |
| INS 592 | European Union and the World | |
| INS 594 | European Topics | |
| GHS 570 | Globalization and Health | |
| GHS 571 | Global Health and International Development | |
| GHS 573 | Disasters, Terrorism and Global Public Health | |
| POL 340 | Civil Wars | |
| POL 384 | Postcommunist Russian Politics | |
| GEG 306 | Geographic Research Methods | |
| GEG 310 | Geographic Information Systems I | |
| GEG 312 | People, Plagues Pandemics | |
| GEG 321 | Remote Sensing of the Environment | |
| GEG 331 | Sustainable Development | |
| GEG 335 | Sustainable Food Systems | |
| GEG 337 | Climate Change, Sea Level Rise and Society | |
| GEG 338 | Landscape Character, Dynamics, Evolution; Influence on Societal Habitation and Risks | |
| GEG 341 | Population, Health, and Environment | |

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| GEG 343 | Population, Sustainability, and the Media | |
| GEG 345 | Global Water Security Sustainability | |
| GEG 346 | Immigrant and Refugee Health | |
| GEG 348 | Climate Change and Public Health | |
| GEG 351 | Geopolitics and Peacebuilding | |
| GEG 366 | Cities in Time and Space | |
| GEG 382 | Political Geography of the Middle East | |
| GEG 386 | China in the 21st Century | |
| GEG 410 | Geographic Information Systems II | |
| GEG 414 | Crime Mapping and Analysis | |
| GEG 432 | Climate Change and Security | |
| GEG 520 | Sustainable Cities | |
| INS Electives and Interdisciplinary Options | | |
| Select six credit hours of electives at the 300 level or above. ³ | | 6 |
| General Education Requirements | | |
| Written Communication Skills: | | |
| WRS 105 | First-Year Writing I | 3 |
| WRS 106 or ENG 106 | First-Year Writing II Writing About Literature and Culture | 3 |
| Quantitative Skills: | | |
| MTH 113 | Finite Mathematics | 3 |
| Areas of Knowledge: | | |
| Arts and Humanities Cognate | | 9 |
| People & Society Cognate (9 credits) (fulfilled through the major) | | |
| STEM Cognate | | 9 |
| Additional Required Courses | | |
| UMX 100 | The University of Miami Experience | 0 |
| Language Requirement | | 3-9 |
| Minor Requirement | | 15 |
| General Electives | | 33 |
| Total Credit Hours | | 120 |

¹ These courses must be completed before taking the Thematic Core courses. Students may take either INS 101 or INS 103.

² Additional classes will be counted toward the elective portion of the INS major, if taken. Other courses, including classes in other disciplines, may be taken with the approval of the INS Advisor.

³ With the approval of the INS Advisor, students may take courses from other departments outside of INS such as Geography and Regional Studies, History, Anthropology, Sociology, Political Science, Economics, Religion, Art History, Foreign Languages, Environmental Science, et cetera. Appropriate study abroad courses, an approved internship (INS 519), or an honors thesis (INS 418 & INS 419) may also be used to fulfill elective credit hour requirements.

Important Advising Notes for all International Studies Majors

- Double Counting:** Of the combined courses in the INS Electives, no more than 6 credit hours may count double towards a second major. Any course used to fulfill the requirements of a minor may not be used to fulfill the requirements of the INS major.
- Study Abroad:** Students are strongly encouraged to study abroad for a summer, a semester, or an entire year, depending on the program. Study abroad at carefully selected institutions will complement the student's curriculum and area of specialization, will enhance fluency in the foreign language, and will result in heightened affinity for a foreign culture. The study abroad experience need not result in credit hour overloads or extended time spent in the program.
- Internship Credit Hour:** Students are encouraged to find a suitable internship during their undergraduate career. Upon approval by an advisor in the International Studies Undergraduate Program Office, 3 credit hours may be earned with an internship (INS 519), either toward the major or as elective credit hours (depending on the relevance of the particular internship to the INS major). The University's Toppel Career Planning and Placement Center regularly advertises internships.
- Academic Standing:** Only courses in which a grade of C- or better is attained, may be counted towards the International Studies major and students must maintain a GPA of 2.75 or better in all major requirements (30 credit hours).

Suggested Plan of Study

| Year One | | Credit Hours |
|------------------------------------|--|---------------------|
| Fall | | |
| WRS 105 | First-Year Writing I | 3 |
| MTH 113 | Finite Mathematics | 3 |
| UMX 100 | The University of Miami Experience | 0 |
| INS 101 | Global Perspectives | 3 |
| Language 101 Course | | 3 |
| STEM Cognate Course | | 3 |
| Credit Hours | | 15 |
| Spring | | |
| WRS 106 or ENG 106 | First-Year Writing II or Writing About Literature and Culture | 3 |
| INS 103 | World in Crisis | 3 |
| INS 201 | Globalization and Change in World Politics | 3 |
| Language 102 Course | | 3 |
| Arts and Humanities Cognate Course | | 3 |
| Credit Hours | | 15 |
| Year Two | | |
| Fall | | |
| INS 394 | European Topics | 3 |
| Arts and Humanities Cognate Course | | 3 |
| Language 201 Course | | 3 |
| STEM Cognate Course | | 3 |
| INS Elective 300 level or higher | | 3 |
| Credit Hours | | 15 |
| Spring | | |
| Arts and Humanities Cognate Course | | 3 |
| INS Elective 300 level or higher | | 3 |
| Minor Course | | 3 |
| STEM Cognate Course | | 3 |
| Thematic Core Course | | 3 |
| Credit Hours | | 15 |
| Year Three | | |
| Fall | | |
| Thematic Core Course | | 3 |
| Thematic Core Course | | 3 |
| General Elective | | 3 |
| Minor Course | | 3 |
| Minor Course | | 3 |
| Credit Hours | | 15 |
| Spring | | |
| Thematic Core Course | | 3 |
| Thematic Core Course | | 3 |
| Minor Course | | 3 |
| General Elective | | 3 |
| General Elective | | 3 |
| Credit Hours | | 15 |
| Year Four | | |
| Fall | | |
| Thematic Core Course | | 3 |
| Minor Course | | 3 |

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|------------------|--|------------|
| General Elective | | 3 |
| General Elective | | 3 |
| General Elective | | 3 |
| | Credit Hours | 15 |
| Spring | | |
| INS 519 | Internship: Knowledge Partnership Civic Engagement | 3 |
| General Elective | | 3 |
| General Elective | | 3 |
| General Elective | | 3 |
| General Elective | | 3 |
| | Credit Hours | 15 |
| | Total Credit Hours | 120 |

Mission

The INS Program promotes, through its interdisciplinary reach, the exploration of various theoretical and analytical approaches and methodological techniques intended to offer students a broad program of study focused on the interaction between the local and the global, from the historical to the contemporary, while tracking possible alternative future scenarios and developments in the international system.

Goals

- International Studies seeks to provide students with the ability to understand international politics within the context of interstate relations and foreign policy.
- International Studies seeks to provide students with the ability to understand international economics and its sub-discipline international political economy, including such issues as trade and production, money and finance, and development.
- International Studies seeks to provide students with the ability to understand social science research methods including qualitative, quantitative, comparative case study and formal modeling.

Student Learning Outcomes

- Students will demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of international studies within the context of interstate relations and foreign policy.
- Students will be encouraged to explore interdisciplinary options that further their understanding of international studies and will produce a paper project that demonstrates competencies in presenting interdisciplinary approaches to international studies. (This type of coursework can be taken in other disciplines offered at the university or taken outside the institution, either through exchange programs or other inter-institutional options provided by UM).
- Students will demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of international economics and its sub-discipline international political economy. Specific issues such as trade and production, money and finance, and development are categories for students to demonstrate their level of knowledge.
- Students will demonstrate the ability to design and conduct social science research after an introduction to qualitative, quantitative, and comparative case study, and formal modeling methods.
- Students will demonstrate the ability to write critical essays (average 25 pages) in all classes except those emphasizing economics and methodology.