

# International Studies, B.A.

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## Degree Offered

- Bachelor of Arts

## Nature of the Program

The international studies major is composed of internationally oriented courses drawn from several disciplinary and interdisciplinary study areas. Students take courses from departments such as economics, geography, history, political science, sociology/anthropology, and world languages.

Students who earn a degree in the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences must complete the University requirements, the College requirements for their specific degree program, and their major requirements.

## Minors

All students have the possibility of earning one or more minors; a list of all available minors and their requirements is available at <http://catalog.wvu.edu/undergraduate/minors/>. Please note that students may not earn a minor in their major field.

## Study Abroad, Internships, and Other Experiential Education Opportunities

Students are strongly encouraged to take advantage of opportunities for professional internships and study abroad, which may be undertaken for academic credit (often fulfilling specific course requirements for the major) with the approval of students' designated international studies advisers. Through internships, students gain first-hand knowledge of organizations engaged in international social, economic, and governmental affairs.

To experience another society and in many cases to improve their foreign language capabilities, students may also study abroad for a summer, one semester, or an entire academic year. Interested students should consult their international studies adviser. Additional experiential education opportunities available to international studies majors include academic simulation programs and global service-learning.

## Second Majors, Minors, and Other Coursework

Students are encouraged to work closely with their international studies advisor and faculty in the program to select relevant courses, second majors, and/or minors that will complement their work in international studies and lead to meaningful career options.

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## FACULTY

### DIRECTOR

- Clarissa Estep - Ph.D. (West Virginia University)  
Department of Political Science

### PROFESSORS

- Clarissa Estep - Ph.D. (West Virginia University)  
Department of Political Science, International Relations
- Christina Fattore - Ph.D. (Florida State University)  
Regular Graduate Faculty, Department
- Joe D. Hagan - Ph.D. (University of Kentucky)  
Regular Graduate Faculty, Barnette Professor in Political Science, International Relations and World Politics, Comparative Foreign Policy Analysis
- Daniel Renfrew - Ph.D. (Binghamton University, State University of New York)  
Regular Graduate Faculty, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Environmental and political anthropology, Social movements, Latin American cultures

### ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS

- R. Scott Crichlow - Ph.D. (Louisiana State University)  
Regular Graduate Faculty, Department of Political Science, International Relations, Foreign Policy Decision-making, Middle East Politics
- Karen Culcasi - Ph.D. (Syracuse University)  
Regular Graduate Faculty, Department of Geology and Geography, Political Geography, Middle East
- William Hal Gorby - Ph.D. (West Virginia University)  
Associate Graduate Faculty, Department of History, West Virginia, Appalachia, Immigration
- David M. Hauser - Ph.D. (University of Pittsburgh)  
Department of Political Science, International Conflict, National Security Analysis

- Mason W. Mosley - Ph.D. (Vanderbilt University)  
Regular Graduate Faculty, Department of Political Science, Comparative Politics, Latin American Politics, Comparative Political Institutions

## Admissions for 2026-2027

- First Time Freshmen are admitted directly to the major.
- Students transferring from another WVU major or from another institution with at least a 2.0 overall GPA are admitted directly to the major.

Major Code: 1453

[Click here to view the Suggested Plan of Study \(p. 4\)](#)

## General Education Foundations

Please use this link to view a list of courses that meet each GEF requirement. (<http://registrar.wvu.edu/gef/>)

NOTE: Some major requirements will fulfill specific GEF requirements. Please see the curriculum requirements listed below for details on which GEFs you will need to select.

Code	Title	Hours
<b>General Education Foundations</b>		
F1 - Composition & Rhetoric		3-6
ENGL 101 & ENGL 102 or ENGL 103	Introduction to Composition and Rhetoric and Composition, Rhetoric, and Research Accelerated Academic Writing	
F2A/F2B - Science & Technology		4-6
F3 - Math & Quantitative Reasoning		3-4
F4 - Society & Connections		3
F5 - Human Inquiry & the Past		3
F6 - The Arts & Creativity		3
F7 - Global Studies & Diversity		3
F8 - Focus (may be satisfied by completion of a minor, double major, or dual degree)		9
Total Hours		31-37

Please note that not all of the GEF courses are offered at all campuses. Students should consult with their advisor or academic department regarding the GEF course offerings available at their campus.

## Degree Requirements

Students must complete WVU General Education Foundations requirements, Eberly Edge Program requirements, major requirements, and electives to total a minimum of 120 hours.

## Departmental Requirements for the B.A. in International Studies

- **Calculation of the Major GPA:** A minimum GPA of a 2.0 is required in all courses applied to major requirements. If a course is repeated, all attempts will be included in the calculation of the GPA, unless the course is eligible for a D/F repeat.
- **Writing and Communication Requirement:** International Studies Bachelor of Arts students fulfill the Writing and Communication Skills requirement by completing ENGL 101 and ENGL 102 (or ENGL 103), and any two additional **SpeakWrite Certified Courses™** selected from: ANTH 350, ANTH 458, CHIN 301, CHIN 303, COMM 309, FCLT 310, FLIT 217, FLIT 239, FLIT 266, FRCH 301, FRCH 302, FRCH 303, FRCH 304, GEOG 243, GEOG 302, GEOG 415, GEOG 443, GEOG 455, HIST 180, HIST 209, HIST 221, HIST 225, HIST 242, HIST 318, HIST 325, HIST 439, HIST 464, INTS 300, INTS 488 (3 credit hour), POLS 230, POLS 240, POLS 250, POLS 300, POLS 355, POLS 491A, RELG 230, RELG 231, RELG 301, SPAN 312.
- **Area of Emphasis:** A minimum GPA of a 2.0 is required in all courses applied to the Area of Emphasis. Students must declare an Area of Emphasis.
- **Minor Requirement:** Students must select a minor (or second majors) approved by their INTS academic adviser.
- **Capstone Requirement:** The university requires the successful completion of a Capstone course. For International Studies majors, INTS 488 will fulfill this requirement.

## Curriculum Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
	University Requirements	46
	Eberly Edge Requirements	15
	International Studies Major Requirements	59
	Total Hours	120

## University Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
	General Education Foundations (GEF) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 (31-37 Credits)	
	Outstanding GEF Requirements 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5	19
INTS 191	First-Year Seminar	1
	General Electives	26
	Total Hours	46

## Eberly Edge Program Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
	EDG 1: Data and Society *	3
	EDG 2: Effective and Civil Communication	3
	EDG 3: Ethics and Civil Responsibility	3
	EDG 4: Global and Regional Perspectives (POLS 260)	
	EDG 5: Practicing Arts and Sciences (ARSC 380)	3
	EDG 6: High Impact Experience	3
	Total Hours	15

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International Studies majors who complete INTS 300 satisfactorily may use the course to fulfill EDG 1.

## International Studies Major Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
<b>CORE COURSES</b>		<b>11</b>
INTS 288	Professional Development: Success After International Studies	
INTS 388	Professional Development: The Job Search	
POLS 260	Introduction to International Relations	
ECON 200	Survey of Economics	
or ECON 201 & ECON 202	Principles of Microeconomics and Principles of Macroeconomics	
INTS 300	Social Inquiry in International Studies	
or POLS 300	Empirical Political Analysis	
or SUST 302	Research for Sustainable Development	

### REGIONAL AND LANGUAGE CONCENTRATION 15

Select a regional and language concentration (15 hours) from Arabic, Chinese, French, or Spanish

#### Arabic

ARBC 101  
& ARBC 102  
& ARBC 203  
& ARBC 204

Elementary Modern Standard Arabic 1  
and Elementary Modern Standard Arabic 2  
and Intermediate Modern Standard Arabic 1  
and Intermediate Modern Standard Arabic 2

Select one of the following:

FLIT 315  
or FLIT 316  
or HIST 348  
or POLS 356

Modern Arabic Literature  
Arab Women Writers  
The International Middle East  
Politics of the Middle East

or RELG 232	History and Practice of Islam	
or any ARBC course at the 300-level or above		
<b>Chinese</b>		
CHIN 101	First Year Chinese 1	
& CHIN 102	and First Year Chinese 2	
& CHIN 203	and Second Year Chinese 1	
& CHIN 204	and Second Year Chinese 2	
Select one of the following:		
or any CHIN course at the 300-level or above		
<b>French</b>		
FRCH 101	Elementary French 1	
& FRCH 102	and Elementary French 2	
& FRCH 203	and Intermediate French 1	
& FRCH 204	and Intermediate French 2	
Select one of the following:		
or any FRCH course at the 300 or 400 level		
<b>Spanish</b>		
SPAN 101	Elementary Spanish 1	
& SPAN 102	and Elementary Spanish 2	
& SPAN 203	and Intermediate Spanish 1	
& SPAN 204	and Intermediate Spanish 2	
Select one of the following:		
ANTH 350	Latin American Culture	
or FCLT 360	Latin American Cinema	
or FLIT 266	Latin American Literature	
or HIST 209	Twentieth Century Europe	
or HIST 370	Latin America and the World	
or INTS 360	The European Union and Contemporary European Affairs	
or INTS 361	European Identity and French-German Cooperation along the Rhine	
or POLS 352	Politics of the European Union	
or POLS 353	Western Democratic Governments	
or POLS 452	European Union Law/Legal Systems	
or POLS 453	European Union Law/Institutions	
or any SPAN course at the 300 or 400 level		
<b>AREA OF EMPHASIS</b>		<b>15</b>
Global Connections		
Or Security and Diplomacy		
<b>REQUIRED MINOR</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>CAPSTONE EXPERIENCE</b>		<b>3</b>
INTS 488	Capstone International Studies	
Total Hours		59

## Suggested Plan of Study

### First Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
INTS 191		1 ENGL 101 (GEF 1)	3
GEF 2 and Lab		4 EDG 2: Effective and Civil Communication	3
Language 101 (GEF 8)		3 GEF 3	3
EDG 1: Data and Society		3 GEF 5	3
POLS 260 (EDG 4; GEF 7)		3 Language 102 (GEF 8)	3
General Elective		1	
	15		15

**Second Year**

<b>Fall</b>	<b>Hours</b>	<b>Spring</b>	<b>Hours</b>
ENGL 102 (GEF 1)		3 AoE Course 1	3
INTS 288		1 Minor Course 1	3
EDG 3: Ethics and Civic Responsibility		3 Language 204	3
ECON 200 or ECON 201 & ECON 202		3 GEF 4	3
Language 203 (GEF 8)		3 GEF 6	3
General Elective		2	
		15	15

**Third Year**

<b>Fall</b>	<b>Hours</b>	<b>Spring</b>	<b>Hours</b>
Minor Course 2		3 Minor Course 3	3
AoE Course 2		3 AoE Course 3	3
Regional Concentration Course		3 AoE Course 4	3
INTS 300 or POLS 300 or SUST 302		3 ARSC 380 (EDG 5)	3
INTS 388		1 General Elective	3
General Elective		2	
		15	15

**Fourth Year**

<b>Fall</b>	<b>Hours</b>	<b>Spring</b>	<b>Hours</b>
AoE Course 5		3 INTS 488	3
Minor Course 4		3 Minor Course 5	3
EDG 6: High Impact Experience		3 General Elective	3
General Elective		3 General Elective	3
General Elective		3 General Elective	3
		15	15

Total credit hours: 120

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Students completing a second minor, a second major or a dual degree already meet F8.

**Areas of Emphasis Offered:**

Majors are required to select an area of emphasis for specialized advanced study.

**GLOBAL AFFAIRS**

- Global Connections (p. 5)
- Security and Diplomacy (p. 6)

**GLOBAL CONNECTIONS AREA OF EMPHASIS**

<b>Code</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Hours</b>
Select five of the following courses from at least two disciplines:		
ANTH 458	Environmental Anthropology	3
ECON 451	International Economics	3
ECON 455	Economic Development	3
GEOG 309	Introduction to International Development	3
GEOG 312	Migration and Human Rights	3
GEOG 409	Applied International Development	3
GEOG 415	Global Environmental Change	3
HIST 464	American Foreign Relations 1941 to Present	3
POLS 338	Environmental Policy	3
POLS 360	International Political Economy	3
POLS 361	International Law and Institutions	3
POLS 362	Comparative Foreign Policy	3

POLS 363	International Law	
POLS 364	American Foreign Relations	
POLS 376	Contentious Politics	
POLS 460	Gender and International Relations	
SOC 417	Sociology of Globalization	
SUST 202	Just Sustainable Development	
SUST 305	Sustainable Governance	
SUST 402	Climate and Environmental Justice	
SUST 403	Sustainability, Planning and Development	
Total Hours		15

## SECURITY AND DIPLOMACY AREA OF EMPHASIS REQUIREMENTS

Code	Title	Hours
Select five of the following courses from at least two disciplines:		15
CRIM 345	Terrorism	
GEOG 302	Political Geography	
GEOG 312	Migration and Human Rights	
GEOG 350	Geospatial Problem Solving	
HIST 463	American Foreign Relations to 1941	
HIST 464	American Foreign Relations 1941 to Present	
POLS 261	Introduction to National Security	
POLS 301	Introduction to Intelligence Analysis	
POLS 302	Intelligence Analysis Methods	
POLS 339	National Security Law & Policy	
POLS 359	Politics of Terrorism	
POLS 360	International Political Economy	
POLS 361	International Law and Institutions	
POLS 362	Comparative Foreign Policy	
POLS 363	International Law	
POLS 364	American Foreign Relations	
POLS 365	Foreign Policy Decision-Making	
POLS 368	Politics of War and Peace	
POLS 376	Contentious Politics	
POLS 460	Gender and International Relations	
POLS 461	Transformation of War	
POLS 462	Intelligence Failures	
Total Hours		15

## Degree Progress

### BENCHMARK EXPECTATIONS

By the third semester in the program, students should have:

- Completed or be registered for: POLS 260, ECON 200 or ECON 201, and one additional course from the core list.
- Made progress toward the world language requirement.

All majors must meet with an INTS adviser each semester (double majors should meet with both advisers).

Students who do not meet these requirements may be removed from their major.

## **Major Learning Outcomes**

### **INTERNATIONAL STUDIES**

#### **Knowledge**

- Students will apply theories and concepts drawn from appropriate disciplines such as political science, history, economics, geography, and sociology to international affairs.
- Students will display substantive knowledge of global and/or regional challenges through synthesis of the history, culture, society, geography, politics, and economy of a major world region.

#### **Skills**

- Students will demonstrate basic receptive and productive proficiency (four or more semesters) in a language appropriate for their chosen regional focus.
- Students will apply interdisciplinary social science research methods, including using library databases to find relevant literature, evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of academic arguments, and applying basic quantitative and qualitative methods to make solid, evidence-based decisions.

#### **Attitudes**

- Students will exhibit the intellectual and ethical responsibilities of active global citizenship.