

International Relations

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The Department of International Relations offers two advanced degrees: a Master of Arts in International Studies and a Doctor of Philosophy in International Relations. The Department emphasizes a multi-disciplinary approach to graduate education. This emphasis reflects the many disciplines and perspectives represented in the Department, and it results in a vital and challenging exchange of ideas among students and faculty members. Together they investigate a stimulating range of topics, from the traditional concerns of foreign policy and national security to contemporary global issues such as democratization, the environment, human rights, refugees, and social movements. These scholarly inquiries are generally informed by an engagement with social and political theory, to which students are exposed through a closely coordinated set of graduate reading seminars. Many members of the Department have longstanding regional interests, as do many other members of the University faculty. The program boasts of strengths in Africa, Central Asia, East Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, the Middle East, and Europe.

The Department of International Relations is an affiliate member of the Association of Professional Schools of International Affairs.

Master of Arts in International Studies

The MA program draws on the curricular resources of all the University's social science departments. It is designed to prepare students for careers in government, the private sector, or international agencies, or for doctoral studies.

The College of Arts and Sciences offers certificate programs in African-New World Studies, Asian Studies, Latin American and Caribbean Studies, and Transnational and Regional Studies, among other. The graduate program encourages its MA students to pursue regional certification in conjunction with their work in the MA program.

Admission Requirements

To be considered for admission to the MA program, applicants must have a GPA of 3.0 in upper-level work, or its equivalent, from a recognized institution of higher education, and a combined score of 1000 on the verbal and quantitative sections of the Graduate Record Examination. International graduate student applicants whose native language is not English are required to submit a score for the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or for the International English Language Testing System (IELTS). A total score of 80 on the iBT TOEFL or 6.3 overall on the IELTS is required. Admissions requirements are minimums and even if the minimums are met, admission is not assured. Scholarships and renewable assistantships are available.

Degree Requirements

The MA program requires a minimum of 36 semester hours of credit at the graduate level. Undergraduate courses taken to satisfy prerequisites for graduate courses will not count toward the 36 hour minimum requirement. The Graduate Advisory Committee may approve the transfer of a maximum of six graduate credits earned in another recognized institution of higher education.

Core Sequence (15 credits)

All MA students must complete a core sequence of five courses (15 credits), each of which reflects a distinctive disciplinary point of view. These courses are:

GEO 6473	Space, Place and Identity
INR 6706	Political Economy of International Relations
INR 5609	Contemporary Dynamics of International Relations
INR 5615	Research Design in International Relations
INR 6017	Comparative Approaches to Area Studies and Global Issues

Major Field (9 credits)

MA students also must select a major field of study in (1) Global Institutions and Issues, or (2) International Relations and Foreign Policy, by taking three courses (9 credits) from an extensive list of approved courses in the social sciences. Students must take at least two courses offered by the Department of International Relations to satisfy the field requirement.

Electives (6 credits)

To satisfy the program's elective requirement, students may take two additional courses (6 credits) from the field lists. Students wishing to elect other graduate-level courses offered by the University may do so with permission of the Graduate Director.

Thesis and Alternatives (6 credits)

To complete degree requirements, MA students have the option of (a) writing a thesis or (b) taking a comprehensive examination. Before electing any of these options, students must demonstrate competence in the use of a foreign language other than English.

Any student electing (a) to write a thesis will normally take 6 credit hours of thesis supervision and prepare a thesis proposal subject to the approval of three members

of the University graduate faculty. A graduate faculty member of the Department of International Relations must chair any thesis committee thus constituted. No thesis may be approved until the writer has defended it in a public examination. Any student electing (b) to take a comprehensive examination must have 6 semester hours of course work in preparation for the exam. One half of the comprehensive examination will cover the core sequence of courses, and the other half will cover the student's major field.

Doctor of Philosophy in International Relations

The Ph.D. program is designed to prepare students for careers as scholars and teachers. It provides students with a solid theoretical foundation while allowing individual latitude for rigorous research on a wide range of subjects. Students work closely with dedicated, internationally recognized scholars.

Admission Requirements

To be considered for admission to the Ph.D. program, all applicants must have a bachelor's degree, or its equivalent, from a recognized institution of higher education, or have received a bachelor's degree before they matriculate in the program.

Applicants should have a minimum undergraduate grade point average of 3.2, or its equivalent, a minimum grade point average of 3.5 for all combined graduate work and a combined score of 1120 on the first two sections of the Graduate Record Examination. International graduate student applicants whose native language is not English are required to submit a score for the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or for the International English Language Testing System (IELTS). A total score of 90 on the iBT TOEFL (equivalent to 575 on the paper-based version, or 232 on the computer-based version of the Test of English as a Foreign Language) is required.

Applications will be reviewed only in the spring term for fall admission.

Degree Requirements

The Ph.D. requires a minimum of 90 semester hours of credit at the graduate level.

Undergraduate courses taken to satisfy prerequisites for graduate courses will not count toward the 90 hour minimum requirement. Students earning a MA degree within the last five years may count 36 credits toward the 90 hour minimum requirement. The Graduate Advisory committee may approve the transfer of a maximum of 12 graduate credits earned in a non-degree capacity at FIU.

Core Sequence (18 credits)

All Ph.D. students must complete a core sequence of six courses (18 credits). These courses are:

GEO 6473	Space, Place, and Identity
INR 5609	Contemporary Dynamics of International Relations
INR 5615	Research in International Relations
INR 6604	International Relations Theory I
INR 6608	International Relations Theory II
INR 6706	Political Economy of International Relations

Major and Minor Fields (21 credits)

Students must select a major field of study in (1) Global Institutions and Issues (2) Comparative Area Studies (3) Foreign Policy and Security Studies, or (4) International Law by taking four courses (12 credits) from a list of approved courses. Students must also offer a minor field of study consisting of at least three courses (9 credits), (a) by choosing a second field from the above list, (b) by taking a Ph.D. field in some other teaching unit of the University, or (c) by creating a field in consultation with the Graduate Director and three members of the University faculty.

Electives (27 credits)

To satisfy the Ph.D. program's elective requirement, students must take 27 credits of additional course work, including independent study courses. Students wishing to elect a course or courses offered in the University may do so with permission of the Graduate Director. Students must demonstrate an ability to use a foreign language other than English for scholarly purposes.

Comprehensive Exams

Within 6 months of completing the foreign language requirement and 66 hours of course work, students must sit for written comprehensive examinations on the core sequence and in both of their fields. Students may sit for their comprehensive examination during the term in which they complete these requirements. After passing all three parts, students are examined orally on all parts.

Dissertation

Within 3 months of passing written and oral examinations, students should publicly present a dissertation proposal that is acceptable to a committee of at least four qualified scholars. Three members of the committee, including the dissertation supervisor, must be graduate faculty members of the Department of International Relations. One must be from outside the department, but inside FIU. Other members must be approved by the Graduate Director.

To complete program requirements, Ph.D. degree candidates must enroll for 24 dissertation credits and maintain matriculation until the dissertation has been completed.

Course Descriptions

Definition of Prefixes

GEA-Geography-Regional (Area); GEO-Geography-Systemic; INR-International Relations;

GEA 6409 Landscapes of Violence and Healing in the Americas (3). Nation building in the Americas cycles between violence (political, economic, cultural) and healing (through magic, rituals, religion or the arts). Prerequisite: Graduate standing.

GEO 5135 Surveillance, Intelligence, and Inter-national Relations (3). This seminar focuses on the role of advanced technology in obtaining information via orbital or land-based surveillance systems on issues of international relations such as warfare and globalization. Prerequisites: Graduate standing or permission of the instructor.

GEO 5136 Remote Sensing (3). Satellite image and aerial photo interpretation and analysis fundamentals.

GEO 5177 Topics in Geographic Information Systems

(3). Geographic concepts are studied in a computer-based mapping environment. Both social and physical data are used. Students receive a background in spatial analysis and basic cartography.

GEO 5415 Topics in Social Geography (3). Topics discussed include geographic aspects of population and ethnicity, with emphasis on sources and analysis of data and pertinent concepts. Prerequisites: GEA 2000, graduate standing, or permission of the instructor.

GEO 5557 Globalization (3). Examines the transformation of the world economy and of global finance, the changing significance of sovereignty and territoriality, the effects of space-time compression on everyday life, and associated shifts in culture and identity.

GEO 6473 Space, Place and Identity (3). Explores space, place and identity in international relations. Focus is on the importance of the spatial relations in structuring the politics of nationalisms, ethnicities, and genders.

GEO 6478 Critical Geopolitics (3). Explains to students new methods of and approaches to critical geopolitical analysis. Provides students with analytical tools to start investigation of geopolitical issues relevant to their research. Prerequisite: Graduate standing.

INR 5012 Global Issues and Human Rights (3). Identification, articulation and clarification of global issues that affect Human Rights and the global strategies used to challenge and overcome obstacles. Prerequisite: Graduate standing.

INR 5036 Politics of Globalization (3). Intensive examination of state and global institutions that have shaped process of economic globalization. Topics include impact on sovereignty, human rights, labor and agenda-setting of large and small nation-states.

INR 5062 War, Peace and Conflict Resolution in INR (3). Explores the genesis of interstate conflict, the evolution of crisis, the outbreak of war and peace. Analyzes conflict resolution and post-conflict reconstruction processes in international relations.

INR 5072 The Media and International Relations (3). Explores impact of visual and print media on practice and theory of international relations. Encourages students to question how representation of international relations issues are produced by everyday media culture. Prerequisite: Graduate standing.

INR 5086 Islam in International Relations (3). Analysis of the role of Islam in shaping the dynamics of contemporary international relations. Emphasis on the ideological, cultural, and political role of Islamic movements and states, and their relations with the West.

INR 5087 Ethnicity and the Politics of Development (3). This course examines the conceptual and substantive dimensions of ethnicity in the context of world politics and political development. The course will highlight ethnicity and ethnic groups as critical factors in North-South politics.

INR 5088 Feminism and International Relations (3). Familiarizes students with major theoretical traditions of feminist thinking and surveys feminist literature in the sub-fields of security studies, political economy, and global

governance. Prerequisites: Graduate standing or permission of the instructor.

INR 5255 Seminar in African Development (3). Examines political, economic and social development in Sub-Saharan Africa in an international context. Introduces students to sources for research in African international development. Prerequisite: Graduate standing.

INR 5275 International Relations of the Middle East (3). Focuses on IR of the contemporary Middle East, the foreign policy of major regional states, regional conflicts, and the US and other great powers' involvement, and dynamics of social and religious movements and revolutions. Prerequisites: Graduate standing or permission of the instructor.

INR 5315 Foreign Policy Analysis (3). Comparative examination of theories of foreign policy making, emphasizing the international, domestic, and organizational contexts in which national policies are formulated and enacted. Prerequisites: Graduate standing or permission of the instructor.

INR 5352 Environment and Security (3). Examines the relationship between environmental issues and international security. Surveys such topics as resource scarcity, environmental degradation, and deforestation and their implications for national and regional security. Considers such topics as international environmental law, and international environmental regimes.

INR 5409 International Law I (3). Role of international law in the relations of states; nature, development, theory, sources of law; international personality; jurisdiction, including territory and nationality; dispute settlement.

INR 5507 International Organizations I (3). Study of international organizations and their role in international relations. Emphasis on their legal status, rule-making capacities and role in dispute settlement and maintenance of peace.

INR 5544 The New Asian Century (3). Critically examines Asian regional identity, Asia's role in the modern world economy, national and regional institution building, new security challenges, and the legacy of the past. Prerequisites: Graduate standing or permission of the instructor.

INR 5607 International Relations and Development (3). An analysis and conceptualization of the process of development as it takes place in the international context. Special attention given to the role of international organizations in promoting development and the manner in which differences in developmental levels conditions international relations.

INR 5609 Contemporary Dynamics of International Relations (3). Surveys the 20th century's large events and important tendencies decade by decade, as registered by intellectual and policy elites at the time.

INR 5615 Research Design in International Relations (3). Introduces graduate students to the principles of formulating and defending a compelling research design, gathering and analyzing evidence, and producing scholarship.

INR 5906 Independent Study (VAR). Directed independent research. Requires prior approval by instructor. Prerequisite: Graduate standing.

INR 5935 Topics in International Relations (3). Varies according to the instructor. Prerequisites: Graduate standing or permission of the instructor.

INR 5943 Internship in International Relations (1-6). Permits student to gain direct experience with analysis and conduct of international affairs. Work required for internship must be determined in consultation with instructor. Prerequisites: Graduate standing and permission of the instructor.

INR 5945 Graduate Pedagogy (1). The development of teaching skills required by graduate assistants, including classroom skills, designing examinations, etc. Prerequisite: Graduate Assistants.

INR 6008 Colloquium in International Studies (3). A systemic and International Relations theory supplemented with a consideration of legal, institutional and developmental issues. Prerequisite for MIB students: INR 6603 (World Politics).

INR 6010 Global Governance (3). Surveys contemporary writings on international regimes, global civil society, the relationship of global economics and politics, changing models of world order, and intergovernmental organizations. Prerequisite: Graduate standing.

INR 6017 Comparative Approaches to Area Studies and Global Issues (3). Provides students the necessary tools to approach global issues from the comparative perspective of how they play out in different regions of the world.

INR 6019 Seminar in Comparative Area Studies (3). Examines contemporary issues in area studies, with focused attention on the interplay between domestic and international forces and the conditioning effects of global structures. Topics vary by instructor. Prerequisite: Graduate standing.

INR 6056 Environment and Development (3). Examines the relationship of development and the environment from a social theory perspective. Emphasizes Third World problems such as deforestation and soil erosion.

INR 6089 International Relations and Human Rights (3). Examination of national and international factors affecting respect for human rights. Special emphasis on international human rights groups, foreign policy, and politics of policy implementation.

INR 6107 U.S. Foreign Policy (3). Examines the structures and processes that shape U.S. policy toward other nations. Topics include: systemic constraints, state/society relations, interest groups, bureaucracy, and leadership.

INR 6209 Comparative Foreign Policy of Latin America (3). Theories, history, and political-economic dynamics of Latin American foreign policies and international relations. (S)

INR 6245 The Military, Latin America and International Security (3). Explores the supra-nationalization of the military institution in Latin America and how this has caused a transformation of its functional missions in the

international and regional security and peace. Prerequisite: Graduate standing.

INR 6266 Seminar in Russian Foreign Policy (3). Close analysis of the theoretical foundation and policy evolution of Soviet/Russian role in international affairs of the 20th century.

INR 6338 Seminar in Strategic Studies (3). Close analysis of key traditional and non-traditional concepts of the field of Strategic Studies, i.e. the genesis of power, war and peace, security and their relevance to and impact on International Relations.

INR 6406 International Law II (3). The course, which is the second of a two course graduate sequence, focuses on special topics, e.g., treaties, state responsibility, force and jurisdiction. Prerequisites: INR 5409 or permission of the instructor.

INR 6604 International Relations Theory I (3). An analysis of the traditional approaches to international relations theory, beginning with the classic works in the field. Emphasizes the philosophical and normative underpinnings of realism, idealism, liberalism and radicalism.

INR 6605 Contemporary International System (3). Study of synthetic review of theories of development and approaches to the study of development as a process of social, political, and economic change. Prerequisites: CPO 5036 and ESC 5025.

INR 6606 Political Psychology of International Relations (3). Study of psychological explanations for political behavior in international relations. Topics include: cognitive, motivational, and bureaucratic decision theories; leadership; and public opinion.

INR 6608 International Relations Theory II (3). Surveys contemporary theories of International Relations, including neorealism, theories of cooperation among states, approaches to international political economy, and critical theories.

INR 6706 Political Economy of International Relations (3). Examines contemporary theoretical and policy debates in the area of international political economy. Reviews key concepts, theories and approaches used in the study of IPE. Prerequisites: INR 6604 or permission of the instructor.

INR 6967 Preparation: Comprehensive Examination (1-9). Students prepare for comprehensive examination under the direction of a faculty member.

INR 6975 Thesis (1-6). Registration for students working on their thesis. Prerequisite: All other course work for the Master's in International Studies.

INR 7910 Pre-Dissertation Research (1-9). Students develop a dissertation proposal under the direction of a faculty member.

INR 7980 Ph.D. Dissertation (1-12). Supervised research on an original research project to be submitted in partial fulfillment of doctoral degree requirements. Prerequisites: Permission of the Major Professor and Doctoral Candidacy.