



INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

INTERDISCIPLINARY PROGRAM B.A. IN INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

Participation in the international studies program provides students with the ability to read beyond the headlines and to see world events in terms of how they got to be that way, how they fit into broader issues and systems and how one might imagine their place in shaping the future. Students are introduced to methods of conceptualizing international and global issues and encouraged to carefully examine a society other than their own. They learn to think critically about contending and complementary methods and theories, and develop an appreciation for both traditional disciplinary and newer cross-disciplinary approaches. The international studies program faculty strongly recommend that students participate in at least one of several off-campus programs, which will enhance the international perspective: junior year abroad, summer internship in Washington, D.C. or professional practicum experiences in Cleveland that involve an international context.

A background in international studies provides excellent practical preparation for careers that deal with the emerging needs of the modern world. The skills, analytic abilities and critical approaches developed by international studies also equip students for new employment patterns that may not fit into existing career descriptions.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS AND COURSE OFFERINGS

The major in international studies requires a minimum of 33 credit hours selected from the list of approved topical and area studies courses, plus satisfaction of a language competency requirement. Each student prepares an individual program of study in consultation with a faculty advisor drawn from the program faculty. Among courses selected, at least one will develop skills in computer applications, economic analysis, statistics, or other quantitative methods. The program requires:

1. Multidisciplinary foundations.

These courses provide an introduction to four major disciplinary understandings of society and culture, principles of economics, change over time and interactions among nations.

ANTH 102 Being Human: An Introduction to
Social and Cultural Anthropology

ECON 102 Principles of Microeconomics

HSTY 113 Introduction to Modern World
History

POSC 27 Introduction to International
Relations

2. Area focus. Two courses that concentrate on a single geographic or culture area.

3. Topical focus. A related pair of courses to constitute a discrete perspective on global issues and to foster an appreciation for complexity through study of particular world issues and the methods appropriate to them.

4. Elective area or topical courses. Two additional courses within the topical or area studies course listing, providing an opportunity to experiment or tailor the program toward particular interests.

5. Senior colloquium. This required three-credit course integrates prior topical and area foci in a colloquium taken in the fall semester of the senior year, and involves the writing of a substantial research paper. Exceptional papers may be considered for honors.

6. Language competency. This requirement may be fulfilled by completing a language course at the 300 level or above, or by demonstration to the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures a non-native language competency equivalent to the completion of a 300-level or above course, or by the completion of four semesters in a single language.

Please see the General Bulletin (www.case.edu/bulletin) for a complete list of course offerings and detailed course descriptions.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Many international studies programs at other universities are lodged within a single department. The Case program is truly interdisciplinary, with students also pursuing majors in political science, economics, international business and engineering. Through electives, students also have the unique opportunity to acquire skills in global and regional modeling from world-renowned professors in the area of systems engineering.

RECENT GRADUATES

A recent survey of post graduation plans among graduates of the College of Arts and Sciences found that 55 percent went on to graduate or professional school and the remainder pursued other plans.

International studies majors go on to careers in international marketing and management, diplomatic service, health, law, social services and journalism as well as careers in academia.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

General Bulletin

www.case.edu/bulletin

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