International Affairs

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Print Version of Catalog

International Affairs Program

Mission

The major in international affairs provides a cross disciplinary understanding of foreign cultures and societies, the dynamics of world politics and other nations’ world views and their consequent actions.

A liberal arts program (B.A. degree), the international affairs major combines cross disciplinary, intercultural and multilingual education. It offers students a choice between two concentrations: international relations and comparative study. The courses for these concentrations stem from a broad variety of traditional liberal studies disciplines. The major also allows students to incorporate a minor in Africana, Asian, Latin American, Middle Eastern, Modern European or Russian studies, as well as the studies abroad programs. Because of limited course offerings, certain specializations may require language training from another university.

Major and Degree Requirements

Bachelor of Arts in International Affairs

International affairs is a 50-credit hour major, with a 32-credit common core and 18 credits of concentration study. For further information and a complete list of the distribution requirements and eligible courses, contact the coordinator.

Degree Requirements

Required Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required Courses</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Education(^1)</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign Language classes (intermediate level required)(^2)</td>
<td>0-14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philosophy course (in addition to General Education courses)(^3)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University electives</td>
<td>12-26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^1\) General Education required for the major.

\(^2\) Intermediate level required.

\(^3\) Philosophy course must be in addition to General Education courses.
1 The **General Education** program contains a set of requirements each student must fulfill. The number of credit hours necessary to fulfill these requirements may vary.

2 The foreign language requirement may be satisfied by successful completion of the second semester of the intermediate level of the student’s chosen language (typically 232), or by placing out of that language through the **Department of Foreign Languages, Literatures and Cultures’ placement test**. The international affairs major requires an additional year of language study. That is, students must have three years of a foreign language appropriate to their course of study in the major. Students majoring in international affairs who use proficiency in a native language to meet the INTA language requirement must make the following substitutions for the two 300-level foreign language courses: AMST 200 and one of the following courses: HIST 225, ENG 247 or ENG 248. Such students who have a diploma from a U.S. high school may take six credits of any foreign language, at any level, instead of the above two courses. These courses must focus on grammar, oral and written communication; they cannot be literature, cinema or civilization courses.

3 If students have taken a PHIL course to meet their General Education requirements, they must take an additional course to meet the B.A. degree philosophy requirement. **PHIL 120** and **PHIL 150** cannot be used to fulfill the B.A. philosophy requirement.

**Major Requirements**

Students may choose either the comparative study or international relations concentration. The international affairs major requires that all students complete a common core. Students should be aware that it is not always possible to offer courses on their regular rotation and that new courses may be added and existing ones deleted. Therefore, key requirements should not be left until just before graduation. Any course substitutions must be approved by the international affairs coordinator in consultation with other faculty members.

**Core Courses**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ECON 201</td>
<td>Principles of Economics (Micro)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 270</td>
<td>International Economics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 200</td>
<td>Introduction to Macroeconomics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INTA 295</td>
<td>Cross-National Research Skills</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INTA 489</td>
<td>Seminar in International Affairs</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POSC 230</td>
<td>International Relations</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POSC 240</td>
<td>Comparative Politics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Choose one of the following:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 330</td>
<td>U.S. Diplomatic History</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POSC 370</td>
<td>U.S. Foreign Policy</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FL 300</td>
<td>Grammar and Communication</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FL 320</td>
<td>Oral and Written Communication</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Credit Hours**: 32
1 Students should complete these core economics requirements before enrolling in upper-level economics courses. Students double-majoring in economics and international affairs may substitute ECON 370 for ECON 270 to meet their core requirement.

2 Students should note that MATH 220 is a prerequisite for INTA 295. If taken in the summer from an INTA faculty member, POSC 295 will count as INTA 295.

3 This course fulfills the College of Arts and Letters writing-intensive requirement for the major. Prerequisites: Completion of all courses in the core requirement of the major and senior standing.

4 Students in the international relations concentration must count POSC 370 in the core. HIST 330 must be taken as an international relations requirement (listed under the international relations concentration requirements). In other words, students who are following the international relations concentration must take both POSC 370 and HIST 330.

5 Students must be proficient at the third-year level of a foreign language. In most languages this will require the completion of courses numbered 300 and 320. Some languages may not use this course numbering. In this instance, students must take two 300-level courses that focus on grammar, oral and written communication. The second 300-level course may not be a literature, cinema or civilization course. Some languages cannot be completed through the 300 level at JMU. Students studying these languages may have to complete course work during the summer or abroad at a specialized language program. Students should consult with the Department of Foreign Languages, Literatures and Cultures on this point. Each student’s foreign language must be appropriate for their track. French is acceptable for the Africa and Middle East tracks.

Concentrations

International Relations Concentration

The following international relations, cross area and area courses are required in addition to the core courses listed under Major Requirements. Students in the international relations concentration must complete the requirements for all four headings.

Students may use three credits of INTA 301W for cross area, area or international relations credit. INTA 301W will always count as a political science course. The precise manner in which INTA 301W will count toward the major will be determined in consultation between students wishing to take INTA 301W and the international affairs coordinator.

Cross-Area Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
<th>Course</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>INTA 301W</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Complete one course:
- Anthropology: ANTH 195, Cultural Anthropology
- ANTH 340, The Invention of Race
- Communication Studies: SCOM 248, Intercultural Communication
- Economics
ECON 312. Comparative Economic Systems

Geography
GEOG 280. Human Geography: The Cultural Landscape
GEOG 300. Population Geography
GEOG 325. Environmental Ethics
GEOG 344. Economic Geography and Development Issues
GEOG 345. Geography of Poverty
GEOG 380. Cultural Geography

Political Science
POSC 340. Political Development in the Third World
POSC 347. Comparative Public Policy
POSC 348. The Politics of Cultural Pluralism
POSC 349. Comparative Political Behavior
POSC 371. Topics in Comparative Politics

Sociology
SOCI/ANTH 313. Processes of Social and Cultural Change
SOCI 336. Race and Ethnicity
SOCI/SOWK 348. Introduction to Developing Societies

1 When course topic is appropriate for the chosen concentration. Students should consult with the INTA coordinator about the suitability of a particular course.

Area Courses
Complete one course:

Africa
HIST 263. Africa
HIST 361. Class and Ethnicity in Africa
HIST 470. Modern Africa
POSC 353. African Politics

Asia
HIST 274. Modern East Asia, 1600 to the Present
HIST 371. India
HIST 375. History of Modern Southeast Asia
HIST 377. History of Korea
HIST 378. China in the Modern World
HIST 460. Modern Japan
POSC 355. East Asian Politics

Europe
HIST 301. European Military History
HIST 321. European Women’s History
HIST 384. England and the Empire-Commonwealth
HIST 386. Russia since 1855
HIST 475. Modern Russia
HIST 478. Eastern Europe
HIST 486. Europe since 1914
POSC 337. Politics of Russia and the Former Soviet Union
POSC 344. Politics of the European Union
POSC 345. Politics of Western Europe
POSC 346. Politics of Central and Eastern Europe
Latin America

**ANTH/HIST 436.** Afro-Latin America  
**HIST 444.** Revolution and Social Change in Latin America  
**HIST 445.** Latin America and the United States  
**HIST 447.** South America  
**POSC 350.** Latin American Politics

The Middle East

**HIST 270.** Modern Middle East  
**HIST 473.** The Islamic World  
**HIST 485.** Colonialism in the Greater Middle East  
**POSC 354.** Politics of the Middle East

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**International Relations Courses**

Complete four courses:

(These courses must come from at least three fields of study. One of these courses must be **HIST 330**. The potential fields are listed below.)

Economics

**ECON 365.** Economic Development  
**ECON 370.** International Trade and Trade Policies  
**ECON 372.** International Finance and Payments

Geography

**GEOG 375.** Political Geography

History

**HIST 330.** U.S. Diplomatic History  
**HIST 456.** The Global Economy and Nationalism

Humanities

**HUM 252.** Gandhi, Nonviolence and Global Transformation

Justice Studies

**JUST/POSC 331.** Human Rights in Theory and Practice  
**JUST/POSC 372.** Ethics and International Politics  
**JUST 375.** Genocide in the 20th Century  
**JUST 377.** Global Futures  
**JUST/POSC 392.** Peace Studies

Political Science

**POSC 361.** Topics in International Politics  
**POSC 395.** International Law  
**POSC 396.** International Organizations  
**POSC 397.** The Politics of International Economic Relations  
**POSC 398.** Simulations  
**POSC 430.** International Security and Conflict Management  
**POSC 435.** International Terrorism  
**POSC 458.** International Political Analysis

Religion

**REL/IA 363.** Apocalypticism, Religious Terrorism and Peace
1. No course taken for this requirement may be used to fulfill a requirement elsewhere in the major.

2. HIST 330 must be one of the courses taken to fulfill the international relations courses for the international relations concentration.

3. HUM 252 will only count here when the topic is "Gandhi, Nonviolence and Global Transformation."

4. When course topic is appropriate for the chosen concentration. Students should consult with the INTA coordinator about the suitability of a particular course.

**Comparative Study Concentration**

The following international/cross area courses and area courses are required in addition to the core courses listed under Major Requirements. Students in the comparative study concentration must complete the requirements for all three areas. Students may use three credits of INTA 301W for international/cross-area or area credit. INTA 301W will always count as a political science course. The precise manner in which INTA 301W will count toward the major will be determined in consultation between students wishing to take INTA 301W and the international affairs coordinator.

**International and Cross-Area Courses**

(Each course must come from a different field of study. The potential fields are listed below.)

**Cross-Cultural**

- ANTH 195, Cultural Anthropology
- SOCI/ANTH 313, Processes of Social and Cultural Change
- SOCI 336, Race and Ethnicity
- SOCI/SOWK 348, Introduction to Developing Societies
- ANTH 340, The Invention of Race
- SCOM 248, Intercultural Communication

**Economics**

- ECON 312, Comparative Economic Systems
- ECON 365, Economic Development

**Geography**

- GEOG 280, Human Geography: The Cultural Landscape
- GEOG 300, Population Geography
- GEOG 325, Environmental Ethics
- GEOG 344, Economic Geography and Development Issues
- GEOG 345, Geography of Poverty
- GEOG 375, Political Geography
- GEOG 380, Cultural Geography

**History**

- HIST 330, U.S. Diplomatic History
- HIST 456, The Global Economy and Nationalism

**Humanities**

- HUM 252, Gandhi, Nonviolence and Global Transformation

**Political Science**

- POSC 340, Political Development in the Third World
Area Requirements

Students may choose from five tracks to fulfill the area requirement: Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America or the Middle East. Students must complete four courses for their specific area. These courses must come from at least three fields of study. The potential fields are listed below. At least one of these courses must be a history course. Students with advanced language skills may also enroll in a 400-level literature course to meet the culture requirement. The following lists the potential courses for each of these areas.

Africa Track

Area Courses

Complete four courses:¹
(These courses must come from at least three fields of study. The potential fields are listed below.)
Africana Studies
AFST 200. Introduction to Africana Studies
Culture
ANTH 280. Peoples and Cultures of Sub-Saharan Africa
ANTH 395. Special Topics in Anthropology²
ARTH 210. African Art and Culture in the Humanities

¹ No course taken for this requirement may be used to fulfill a requirement elsewhere in the major.
² Students double-majoring in economics and international affairs may count ECON 372 (International Finance and Payments) as an international and cross-area course, in the economics box.
³ HUM 252 will only count here when the topic is "Gandhi, Nonviolence and Global Transformation."
⁴ When course topic is appropriate for the chosen concentration. Students should consult with the INTA coordinator about the suitability of a particular course.
ARTH 310. African Art: The Sahara and Northern Sahel
ARTH 312. African Art: Sub-Saharan
ARTH 419. Topics in African Art
ARTH 424. Arts of Ancient Egypt
ENG 432. Studies in African Literature
REL 300. Selected Topics in Religion
REL 305. Islamic Religious Tradition
REL 330. African and African-American Religion
SOCI/SOWK 348. Introduction to Developing Societies
Economics
ECON 365. Economic Development
Geography
GEOG 335. Geography of Africa
History
HIST 263. Africa
HIST 341. Selected Themes in World History
HIST 361. Class and Ethnicity in Africa
HIST/ANTH 436. Afro-Latin America
HIST 470. Modern Africa
HIST 473. The Islamic World
HIST 489. Selected Topics in World History
Political Science
POSC 353. African Politics
POSC 371. Topics in Comparative Politics

1 No course taken for this requirement may be used to fulfill a requirement elsewhere in the major.

2 May be taken only when the subject matter is appropriate for this geographic concentration. Students should consult with the INTA coordinator about the suitability of a particular course.

3 This course is found in the university catalog but is taught very infrequently. As such, students should not count on this course being available for scheduling in a timely fashion.

The following course is taught abroad only and is accepted for culture credit in the Africa track:
ANTH 391. Study Abroad (in Kenya only)

**Asia Track**

**Area Courses**

Complete four courses:
(These courses must come from at least three fields of study. The potential fields are listed below.)

Culture
ANTH 295. Peoples and Cultures of East Asia
ANTH 395. Special Topics in Anthropology

Credit Hours: 12
**Europe Track**

**Area Courses**

Complete four courses:¹

(These courses must come from at least three fields of study. The potential fields are listed below. All students in this track must complete **POSC 344**, Politics of the European Union.)

Political Science

**POSC 344**, Politics of the European Union

**POSC 337**, Politics of Russia and the Former Soviet Union³

**POSC 345**, Politics of Western Europe

**POSC 346**, Politics of Central and Eastern Europe

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¹ No course taken for this requirement may be used to fulfill a requirement elsewhere in the major.

² May be taken only when the subject matter is appropriate for this geographic concentration. Students should consult with the INTA coordinator about the suitability of a particular course.

³ This course is found in the university catalog but is taught very infrequently. As such, students should not count on this course being available for scheduling in a timely fashion.
POSC 371. Topics in Comparative Politics
Culture
ARTH 206. Survey of World Art II: Renaissance to Modern
ENG 340. Modern British and Irish Literature
ENG 341. Contemporary British Novel
ENG 375. Introduction to Anglo-Irish Literature
ENG/FR 435. Studies in French Literature
ENG 436. Studies in German Literature
ENG 437. Studies in Italian Literature
ENG 438. Studies in Russian Literature
FL 446. Special Topics in Literature
FL 447. Special Topics in Civilization and Culture
FR 308. Contemporary French Civilization
FR 375. Business in Society in France
FR 425. Twentieth Century French Literature
FR 466. Contemporary French Cinema
GER 308. Contemporary German Civilization
GER 425. Modern German Literature
GER 465. German Cinema
ITAL/HIST 308. Contemporary Italian Civilization
ITAL 375. Business and Society in Italy
ITAL 425. Modern Italian Literature
ITAL 465. Italian Cinema
RUS 266. Contemporary Russian Literature in Translation
RUS 308. Introduction to Russian Civilization
RUS 405. Russian Literature of the 19th Century
RUS 406. Russian Literature of the 20th Century
SPAN 307. Spanish Civilization
SPAN 390. Spanish Poetry of the 20th Century
SPAN 405. Spanish Novels of the 19th and 20th Centuries
SPAN 406. Spanish Drama of the 19th and 20th Centuries
SPAN 460. Postwar Literature in Spain
Economics
ECON 301. Economies in Transition
Geography
GEOG 332. Geography of Europe
GEOG 333. Geography of Russia and the Former Soviet Union
History
HIST 301. European Military History
HIST 321. European Women's History
HIST 341. Selected Themes in World History
HIST 382. Europe in the 20th Century
HIST 384. England and the Empire-Commonwealth
HIST 386. Russia since 1855
HIST 388. Germany since 1871
HIST 462. The Rise and Fall of Nazi Germany, 1918-1945
HIST 475. Modern Russia
**Latin America Track**

**Area Courses**

Complete four courses:¹

(These courses must come from at least three fields of study.
The potential fields are listed below.)

**Culture**

- **ANTH 265.** People and Cultures of Latin America and the Caribbean

- **ANTH 395.** Special Topics in Anthropology²

- **ENG 431.** Studies in Caribbean Literature

- **ENG/SPAN 434.** Latin American Literature in Translation

- **SPAN 308.** Latin American Civilization

- **SPAN 385.** Latin American Drama and Short Stories

- **SPAN 395.** Latin American Poetry of the 20th Century

- **SPAN 408.** Aspects of Latin American Civilization

- **SPAN 415.** The Spanish-American Novel

- **SPAN 446.** Special Topics in Spanish Literature²

- **SPAN 447.** Special Topics in Spanish Civilization and Culture²

**Geography**

- **GEOG 337.** Geography of Latin America³

**History**

- **HUM 252.** Latin American Cultures⁴

- **HIST 341.** Selected Themes in World History²

- **ANTH/HIST 436.** Afro-Latin America

- **HIST 437.** Latin America and Latin Americans Through Film
1. No course taken for this requirement may be used to fulfill a requirement elsewhere in the major.

2. May be taken only when the subject matter is appropriate for this geographic concentration. Students should consult with the INTA coordinator about the suitability of a particular course.

3. This course is found in the university catalog but is taught very infrequently. As such, students should not count on this course being available for scheduling in a timely fashion.

4. HUM 252 will only count here when the topic is Latin American Cultures.

**Middle East Track**

**Area Courses**

Complete four courses:¹
(These courses must come from at least three fields of study. The potential fields are listed below.)¹

**Culture**
- ANTH 395. Special Topics in Anthropology²
- ARTH 332. Islamic Art and Architecture
- ARTH 424. Arts of Ancient Egypt
- ARAB 446. Special Topics in Arabic Literature²
- ARAB 447. Special Topics in Arabic Civilization and Culture²
- ENG 433. Studies in Arabic Literature
- REL 300. Selected Topics in Religion²
- REL 305. Islamic Religious Traditions
- REL 320. Judaism
- REL 350. Islamic Law and Society
- SOCI 342. Muslim Movements in the Middle East
- SOCI/SOWK 348. Introduction to Developing Societies

**Economics**
- ECON 365. Economic Development

**History**
- HIST 270. Modern Middle East
- HIST 341. Selected Themes in World History²
- HIST 473. The Islamic World
- HIST 485. Colonialism in the Greater Middle East
- HIST 489. Selected Topics in World History²
1 No course taken for this requirement may be used to fulfill a requirement elsewhere in the major.

2 May be taken only when the subject matter is appropriate for this geographic concentration. Students should consult with the INTA coordinator about the suitability of a particular course.

**Internships**

A maximum of three credits in the major may be earned through an internship. Students must consult with the international affairs coordinator PRIOR to doing an internship to check on its applicability to the major.

**Study Abroad and Washington Semester**

Many of the courses available to students through JMU’s Office of International Programs and the Washington Semester program can be used to fulfill requirements in the INTA major. Students planning to go abroad should keep this in mind in working out their schedules and must consult the INTA coordinator for course approvals and substitutions.

If you have questions about the Washington Semester, review the program website (http://www.jmu.edu/polisci/washington.shtml) and contact the program director, Dr. David Jones.