INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Madison's major in International Relations trains students to think imaginatively, and in depth, about the problems of world society and about the opportunities for solving them. By design, it is a sophisticated program: its graduates have gone on to careers in the foreign service, politics, international organizations, academics, law (including international law), public relations, lobbying, economic development work, intelligence gathering and analysis, the news media, and international business. It is also, of course, an excellent preparation for law school and for graduate study in international affairs or international business.

The outstanding features of the curriculum are its breadth and depth. It is organized around the following themes: international security and conflict resolution; international political economy; global governance; foreign policy of the United States and other countries; and comparative, regional and cultural studies.

The International Relations curriculum encourages students to think creatively about a variety of issues: What constitutes “national security”? What are the social consequences of modernization? What are the causes and likely consequences of ethno-nationalism? How does the U.S. arrive at foreign policy decisions? How is that different from how foreign policies are made in other countries and which is better? What is the impact of protectionist foreign trade policies? How do national, regional and international political, social, and economic actors interact in the transition to a post-Cold War global order? What is the impact of the U.N. and other international organizations? What effects do weapons and communications technologies have on world politics? By what means have national defense policies been implemented since the end of World War II? Some classes will use case studies in which students will be examining real or hypothetical foreign policy dilemmas and developing solutions to them. Others will evidence the importance of theories and models for comprehending and influencing world events.

Requirements for a major in International Relations:

**All of the Following Courses (13 credits):**
- MC 220: International Relations I: World Politics and International Security (4 cr.)
- MC 221: International Relations II: The Politics of International Economic Relations (4 cr.)
- MC 492: Senior Seminar in Int’l Relations (5 cr.)

**Four (4) of the Following Courses (16 credits): at least one from the first three categories – no course may be counted twice**
- Security Studies and Foreign Policy Analysis: (select one but not more than two)
  - MC 318: Chinese Foreign Policy
  - MC 321: The Cold War
  - MC 322: International Security
  - MC 323: Japanese Foreign Policy
  - MC 326: U.S. Foreign Policy
  - MC 327: Comparative Analysis of Foreign Policy
  - MC 328: Russian Foreign Policy
  - MC 329: European Security
  - MC 441: Islam and World Politics
  - MC 482: Gender and Violent Conflict
  - MC 390/1/5: must have Major approved IR content

- International Political Economy & Global Governance: (select one but not more than two)
  - MC 320: Politics, Society, & Economy in the Third World
  - MC 324e: Regional Politics, Cooperation & Conflict: Europe
  - MC 361: Political Economy & Comparative Policymaking
  - MC 362: Public International Law
  - MC 363: Global Governance
  - MC 430: Applied International Development
  - MC 445: Socio-Economics of Conservation Ecology
  - MC/FW 450: International Environmental Policy
  - MC 390/1/5: must have IR approved IR content
Comparative, Regional and Cultural Studies: (select one but not more than two)
MC 320: Politics, Society, & Economy in the Third World
MC 321: The Cold War
MC 324a: Regional Politics, Cooperation & Conflict: The Middle East
MC 324b: Regional Politics, Cooperation & Conflict: Sub-Saharan Africa
MC 324c: Regional Politics, Cooperation & Conflict: Latin America & the Caribbean
MC 324d: Regional Politics, Cooperation & Conflict: Asia
MC 325: State and Society in Comparative Perspective
MC 331: Encounters with Post-Communism
MC 332: Literature and Politics in a Comparative Perspective
MC 335: Israeli Politics, Culture and Society
MC 358: Politics Of the USSR and its Successor States
MC 365: Islam & Development in Southeast Asia
MC 377: Culture, Politics & Post Colonialism
MC 385: Comparative Race & Ethnicity
MC 386: Women & Power in Comparative Perspective
MC 387: Jews & Anti-Semitism
MC 441: Islam and World Politics
MC 482: Gender and Violent Conflict
MC 390/1/5: must have IR approved IR content

New Perspectives in IR: (may select one – not required)
MC 272*: (Only Marxist Theories of Revolution)
MC 319: Asian American History
MC 337: Global Public Health
MC 369: Global Issues in Citizenship
MC 372: Comparative Black Political Thought
MC 376: Modern Political Thought in the Muslim World
MC 390: Asian Political Thought
MC 390/1/5*: must have IR approved content
MC/FW 481: Global Issues in Fisheries and Wildlife

One (1) Course from the Department of Economics (3 credits):
EC 340: Survey of International Economics (3 cr.)
EC 440: International Trade (3 cr.)
EC 441: International Finance (3 cr.)

Two (2) Courses from A & B in sequence (6-8 credits):
Course A:
I. MC 295: Research Design and Quantitative Analysis in Public Policy (4 cr.)
II. SOC 281: Methods of Social Research I (4 cr.)
III. STT 421: Statistics I (3 cr.)
IV. STT 441: Probability and Statistics I: Probability (4 cr.)
V. PLS 201: Introduction to Methods of Political Analysis (4 cr.)
VI. STT 200 or 201: Statistical Methods (3 cr.)
VII. EC 420: Intro. To Econometric Methods (3 cr.)
VIII. STT 315: Introduction to Probability and Statistics for Business (3 cr.)
IX. MC 293: Methods of Strategic Analysis of Public Affairs (4 cr.)

Course B:
I. MC 293: Strategic Analysis (4 cr.) or MC 364: Policy Evaluation (4 cr.) or
   PHL 330: Formal Reasoning (4 cr.) or STT 441: Probability and Statistics I: Probability (3 cr.)
II. SOC 282: Methods of Social Research II (4 cr.) or MC 293 Strategic Analysis (4 cr.) or
    MC 364: Policy Evaluation (4 cr.) or PHL 330: Formal Reasoning (4 cr.) or
    STT 441: Probability and Statistics I: Probability (3 cr.)
III. MC 293: Strategic Analysis (4 cr.) or STT 422: Statistics II (3 cr.) or MC 364: Policy Evaluation (4 cr.)
    or EC 420: Intro. To Econometric Methods (3 cr.) or PHL 330: Formal Reasoning (4 cr.)
IV. MC 293: Strategic Analysis (4 cr.) or MC 364: Policy Evaluation (4 cr.) or STT 442: Probability and
    Statistics II: Statistics (3 cr.) or PHL 330: Formal Reasoning (4 cr.)
Related Area Requirement

Students also complete the equivalent of one year of integrated college level coursework from one of 4 groups: History, Economics, Political Theory, or other related coursework (such as advanced foreign language) selected in consultation with their academic advisors (6-8 crs.):

Group 1: History
- HST 205A: The Ancient Mediterranean from 3000 BCE to 400 CE (4 cr.)
- HST 205B: Europe in the Middle Ages from 400 to 1500 (4 cr.)
- HST 206: Europe in the Modern Age (4 cr.)
- HST 325: History of U.S. Foreign Relations to 1900 (3 cr.)
- HST 326: History of U.S. Foreign Relations since 1900 (3 cr.)
- HST 337: Intellectual History of Modern Europe (17th, 18th, and early 19th century) (3 cr.)
- HST 338: Intellectual History of Modern Europe (1830 to Present) (3 cr.)
- HST 390: History of International Relations (3 cr.)

Group 2: Economics
- EC 302: Intermediate Macroeconomics (3 cr.)
- EC 306: Comparative Economic Systems (3 cr.)
- EC 405: Development of the American Economy (3 cr.)
- EC 406: Economic Analysis of the Soviet Union (3 cr.)
- EC 410: Principles of Economic Development (3 cr.)
- EC 411: Issues in Economic Development (3 cr.)
- EC 412: Economic Analysis of Latin America (3 cr.)
- EC 413: Economic Analysis of Asia (3 cr.)
- EC 414: Economic Analysis of Sub-Saharan Africa
- MC 340: Economic Growth (4 cr.)
- MC 341: Politics and Markets (4 cr.)

Group 3: Political Theory
- MC 270: Classical Republicanism (4 cr.)
- MC 271: Liberalism and Democracy (4 cr.)
- MC 370: Radical Challenges to Liberal Democracy (4 cr.)

Group 4:
Other related area coursework selected in consultation with and approved by a Madison advisor.

In addition to the above coursework, students are responsible for the following requirements: Integrative Studies, Math, Language, Economics, Field Experience and Electives.

TOTAL CREDITS TO GRADUATE: 120
Examples of International Relations Senior Seminars (MC 492)

Political Economy and New Capitalism - Capitalism and economic theory have been challenged as a result of recent economic and financial crises. Citizens of a number of countries, particularly in Latin America and in the euro zone, have replaced or considered replacing governments embracing capitalism with those promoting socialism. What are the limits of capitalism? What is the role of government in modern capitalist economies? Are the new challenges that have arisen minor or fundamental? This course aims to capture this debate, drawing on a variety of fields, cases, and sources. In addition to the United States, examples may include Brazil, Britain, China, Greece, India, Indonesia, Russia, and South Africa. In addition to the economic dimensions of crises, the political and social dimensions of crises will also be a focus of the course, especially in drawing comparisons to the Great Depression and other periods of economic crisis.

U.S. National Security: Strategy, Process, and Policy - This seminar will focus on the development and application of U.S. national security policy. It will consider the continuities and changes that have occurred based on the evolution of the United States’ capabilities, interests, and position in a world that has changed dramatically over the last 200 years. We will examine the changes that have occurred since the end of the Cold War and after 9/11 in light of earlier patterns of behavior. We will also examine how America’s national security institutional infrastructure has been adapted over time to meet new conceptions of threat. Throughout the course, we will focus on the interaction between the development of strategic visions, the development and execution of policy options, and the process of national security policy making.

Global Poverty and Inequality - This seminar explores the issue of global poverty and inequality, with a focus on the role of foreign aid and development assistance. What is poverty? What is inequality? What is the relationship between poverty and inequality? What are the sources of global poverty and inequality? Can foreign aid reduce poverty? What role do international organizations play in dealing with global poverty and inequality?

We begin with a critical analysis of the concepts of poverty and inequality as well as different theoretical approaches for explaining their causes. We examine the major debates that surround the effectiveness of foreign aid in alleviating poverty. We then focus on critically assessing the role of a variety of international actors, including major international organizations (U.N., World Bank, regional development banks) as well as bilateral donors (USAID), large NGOs and foundations (Save the Children, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation), in addressing poverty around the globe. We also explore the impact of new donors, such as China, on the global aid regime.

Water, Energy & Commerce: Resource Scarcity, Sustainability & Environmental Impacts - This seminar will examine comparatively the experience of states undergoing rapid economic, political, social and environmental change since the collapse of the Soviet Union. It provides an interdisciplinary analysis of the progress made and challenges faced in post-socialist era Europe, Russia, and the Eurasian successor republics to the former Soviet Union with a focus on sustainable development. It will examine the philosophical debates underlying international trade and business trends and policy, economic development and reform efforts, and the evolution of political and economic institutions. It will also examine the feasibility of alternative policy strategies in a changing and increasingly interdependent global economy. An important focus will be on the comparative analysis of natural resource challenges and conflicts, particularly as they relate to the energy-water nexus in Eurasia.
This is a checklist for students in the International Relations major who began in IR Fall 2018 or after. Transfer students who are still taking courses at other institutions should choose classes that may be applied toward MSU’s Integrative Studies requirements, such as MSU’s math requirement, if necessary, or Madison’s foreign language and economics requirements.

### Integrative Studies:

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### Foreign Language:

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### Economics:

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### Field Experience:

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### International Relations Core Program:

**All of the following:**

- **Methods:** Two courses - one from each
  - MC 220
  - Course A
  - MC 295
  - Course B
  - MC 293 or MC 364 or PHL 330 or STT 441
  - MC 292
  - SOC 281
  - MC 293 or MC 364 or PHL 330 or STT 441
  - EC 340 or EC 440
  - STT 421
  - STT 422 or MC 293 or MC 364 or EC 420 or PHL 330
  - EC 340 or EC 440
  - STT 441
  - MC 293 or MC 364 or STT 442 or PHL 330

**Writing Portfolio:**

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**STT 200/1**

- MC 293 or PHL 330 or MC 364
  - MC 293
  - PLS 201
  - EC 340 or EC 440

**Security Studies and International Political Economy:**

- Select one but not more than two
  - MC 318
  - MC 320
  - MC 324
  - MC 325
  - MC 326
  - MC 327
  - MC 328
  - MC 329
  - MC 482
  - MC 390/1/5*

**Comparative Regional and Cultural Studies:**

- Select one but not more than two
  - MC 318
  - MC 320
  - MC 324
  - MC 325
  - MC 326
  - MC 327
  - MC 328
  - MC 329
  - MC 482
  - MC 390/1/5*

**New Perspectives in IR:**

- Select one but not more than two
  - MC 390, MC 391, or MC 395 when course has Field-approved IR content (or additional MC 492)
  - MC 392

### Related Area:

Two related courses (6-8 credits), in sequence from one of the groups: History, Economics, Political Theory, or other related area coursework (such as third year foreign language) with the approval of the academic advisor. For example:

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### TOTAL CREDITS REQUIRED TO GRADUATE: 120

Minimum number of MC credits required: 51. For transfer and teacher education students: 41.

*A minimum score of 19 on MSU Placement exam or selected MTH or STT course(s)

**Teacher Education: GEO and HST requirements for all majors are listed in the MC handbook under Teacher Education**