BA in International Studies

Degree Program Description

The Bachelor of Arts in International Studies is an individually designed major with a strong multicultural and global focus. Students in the major have the opportunity to design a major that reflects their own interests and goals. The increased level of flexibility requires a higher level of commitment than is typical of traditional majors because students MUST do the work of building their own degree. International Studies majors acquire analytical skills and knowledge that will enable them to understand and contribute to shaping the quickly evolving global community. The program prepares students for graduate study and careers in academia, teaching, law, business, public policy, humanitarian aid, non-profit organizations, government, and diplomacy. Students in the program will study advanced foreign language and participate in a study abroad experience to fulfill degree requirements.

Major Program Requirements

A student majoring in the BA in International Studies must complete 18 hours of specified Core coursework to fulfill Arts and Science Foundation Requirements, an additional 42 hours minimum for the major, and a study abroad experience. D-range grades are not allowed in the major. In addition, students must complete all university graduation requirements and Arts and Science Foundation Requirements. The information below pertains to the BA in International Studies and additional information can be found at https://omd.missouri.edu/?q= intl-st/index. Students interested in the dual degree in International Business, which is a different major, should find additional information at https://omd.missouri.edu/?q= intl-bus/index.

Required Core Coursework

Complete the following courses:

ANTHRO 2030 Cultural Anthropology 3
GEOG 1100 Regions and Nations of the World I 3
or GEOG 1200 Regions and Nations of the World II 3
POL_SC 1400 International Relations 3
or POL_SC 2700 Comparative Political Systems 3

In addition, complete 3 of the following courses and at least one of the courses completed must come from the Humanities section:

Biological and Physical Sciences Core Courses

ANTHRO 2050 Introduction to Biological Anthropology with Laboratory 5
ANTHRO 2051 Introduction to Biological Anthropology 3
ATM_SC 1050 Introductory Meteorology 3
ATM_SC 2150 Natural Hazards 3
ATM_SC 3600 Climates of the World 3
BIO_SC 1060 Basic Environmental Studies 3
BIO_SC 1400 Evolution for Everyone 3
GEOl 1050 Planet Earth 3
GEOl 1100 Principles of Geology with Laboratory 4
GEOl 1200 Environmental Geology with Laboratory 4
GEOl 1250 The World’s Oceans 3

Behavioral Sciences Core Courses

ANTHRO 1000 General Anthropology 3
PEA_ST 2000 Exploration in Social and Economic Justice 3

Social Sciences Core Courses

SOCIOL 1000 Introduction to Sociology 1-3
or RU_SOC 1000 Rural Sociology
SOCIOL 2200 Social Inequalities 3
WGST 2040 Perspectives on Empowerment 3
WGST 2250 Perspectives on Gender, Race, Class and Sexuality in the Americas 3

Humanities Core Courses (at least one course from the list below is required)

ARCHST 1600 Fundamentals of Environmental Design 3
AR_H_A 1110 Ancient and Medieval Art 3
AR_H_A 1120 Renaissance through Modern Art 3
ENGLISH 2155 Introduction to World Literatures 3
ENGLISH 2156 Introduction to World Literatures, Beginnings to 1603 3
ENGLISH 2157 Introduction to World Literatures, 1603 to 1789 3
ENGLISH 2158 Introduction to World Literatures, 1789 to 1890 3
ENGLISH 2159 Introduction to World Literatures, 1890 to Present 3
FILM_S 2820 Trends in World Cinema 3
GN_HON 2112H The Middle Ages and the Renaissance 3
GN_HON 2113H The Early Modern World: The 17th-19th Centuries Enlightenment 3
GN_HON 2114H The Modern Era 3
JOURN 1000 The News Media: Journalism and Advertising in a Democratic Society 3
MUSIC_NM 1310 Masterpieces of Western Music 3
MUSIC_NM 1313 Introduction to World Music 3
PEA_ST 2410 Philosophies of War and Peace 3
PEA_ST 2810 Think Global: Fundamentals of Globalization and Digital Technologies 3
PHIL 2100 Philosophy: East and West 3
PHIL 2430 Contemporary Moral Issues 3
REL_ST 1100 Introduction to Religion 3
REL_ST 2100 Indigenous Religions 3
REL_ST 2110 Religions of the World 3
REL_ST 2310 Religions of China and Japan 3
WGST 2080 Perspectives on Sexual and Gender Diversity 3

Major Requirements (42 hours minimum)

Language Requirements (6 hours minimum)

For the major, students must complete 6 hours minimum of conversation and/or composition courses in a single foreign language, beyond the elementary level.

Regional/Cultural Area (12 hours minimum)

Could include additional language and literature courses from the language of major study, as well as coursework with an international

BA in International Studies
focus from Philosophy, Religious Studies, Art History, Film Studies, and Civilization courses.

Social/Behavioral Sciences Area (12 hours minimum)
Could include coursework with an international focus from Geography, History, Political Science, Economics, Anthropology, Sociology, Rural Sociology, Women's and Gender Studies and Peace Studies.

Focus Area (12 hours minimum)
Course work with an international focus from an area of the student’s choice allowing the study of one area in depth. The focus area must be related to the foreign language the student is studying. Students are encouraged to take 9 credits from a single department or area. The 3-credit capstone experience will equal 12 hrs. of credit. See information on the capstone options below. The focus area options are: East Asian Studies, Environmental Studies, European Studies, Latin American Studies, Peace Studies, or South Asian Studies.

Capstone Options

Policies
- The Capstone must be completed in the final 45 hours of coursework.
- Students must earn a C- or higher to fulfill the Capstone requirement.
- Students must have a Capstone approved by their academic advisor.
- Students may complete an Internship or Readings that is not used as a Capstone.
- Students may not earn retroactive credit for internships.

Internships 4940
- Students must have a 2.0 cumulative GPA to apply for approval of an internship project.
- Students must not have any active Student Conduct holds.
- Students may not complete an internship at an existing position.
- Students must work 50 hours for each credit hour earned.
- Only internships in the United States can be approved.
- During the Internship period, students must submit the following assignments:
  - a well-written proposal outlining the details of the internship must accompany the application
  - a carefully-prepared factual report about the internship which addresses the questions outlined in the student’s internship proposal
  - a résumé which includes the student's internship experience and documents the tangible skills they attained while working
  - an interpretative essay in which students connect what they have learned from their internship experience with their academic work in their individualized major
  - Internship supervisors must submit a performance evaluation.
- Internships receive a grade of S or U (pass/fail).
- The Office of Multidisciplinary Degrees reserves the right to deny internship project approval to any student it believes will not be a good representation of the University.

Readings 4960
Students work independently with MU faculty on research and/or professional projects. A student finds a campus professor with whom to work. Together, they create concrete objectives for a meaningful project.

The professor guides and supervises the student towards completion of the project and is responsible for awarding a letter grade for the course.

Service-Learning 4970
Service-Learning provides hands-on experience in service experiences that are coordinated in collaboration with MU and the community. Service-Learning experiences create valuable learning environments for students as they connect with the community in partnerships that provide effective and far-reaching assistance to those in need. To apply, students must have a 2.5 GPA or higher.

4000-level Capstone course
Students can select a 4000-level course in the Focus Area to fulfill the Capstone requirement. This course does not need to be a departmental Capstone in order to fulfill the requirement.

Study Abroad Experience Requirement
- Students should study abroad for a minimum of 4 weeks.
- If a program is less than 4 weeks, it must be approved by the academic advisor.
- Credit earned during a study abroad experience may be used to fulfill major requirements.
- Students should complete their study abroad experience prior to their last year.
- Preparation for a study abroad experience should begin a year in advance.
- Information on study abroad is available at the International Center website (http://international.missouri.edu/study-outside-the-us).

Semester Plan

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Total Credits: 120