

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 meaningfully engage with a 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 second 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 45 hours of coursework in the following categories: Core, Language, Regional/Cultural Humanities, Social/Behavioral, and an Emphasis Area. Students are also required to complete a capstone course within the Emphasis Area, and a 4-week minimum study abroad.

The information below pertains to the BA in International Studies and emphasis areas other than International Business. Students interested in the emphasis area of International Business and a dual degree option with the BSBA in Business Administration, can find additional information on the International Business page (<https://catalog.missouri.edu/collegeofartsandscience/internationalstudies/ba-international-studies-emphasis-international-business/>).

In addition to University (<https://catalog.missouri.edu/academicdegree/requirements/universityrequirements/>), general education (<https://catalog.missouri.edu/academicdegree/requirements/generaleducationrequirements/>), and College of Arts and Science (<https://catalog.missouri.edu/collegeofartsandscience/#undergraduatetext>) requirements, students must also meet the following major program requirements. All major requirements in the College of Arts and Science must be completed with grades of C- or higher unless otherwise indicated.

Required Core Coursework (18 Hours)

Complete the following courses:

ANTHRO 2030	Cultural Anthropology	3
GEOG 1100	Regions and Nations of the World I	3
or GEOG 1100H	Regions and Nations of the World I - Honors	
or GEOG 1200	Regions and Nations of the World II	
or GEOG 1205H	Regions and Nations General Honors	
POL_SC 1400	International Relations	3
or POL_SC 2700	Comparative Political Systems	

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

ATM_SC 3600	Climates of the World	3
GEOL 1050	Planet Earth	3
GEOL 1100	Introduction to the Earth with Laboratory	4

or GEOL 1100H	Introduction to the Earth with Laboratory - Honors	
GEOL 1200	Environmental Geology with Laboratory	4
or GEOL 1200H	Environmental Geology with Laboratory - Honors	
Behavioral Sciences Core Courses		
ANTHRO 1000	Introduction to Anthropology: Human Biology, Prehistory, and Culture	3
or ANTHRO 1000H	Introduction to Anthropology: Human Biology, Prehistory, and Culture - Honors	
ANTHRO 1300	Multiculturalism: An Introduction	3
PEA_ST 1052	Global Warming, Climate Change, Catastrophic Climate Destabilization	3
or PEA_ST 1052W	Global Warming, Climate Change, Catastrophic Climate Destabilization - Writing Intensive	
PEA_ST 2000	Exploration in Social and Economic Justice	3
or PEA_ST 2000W	Exploration in Social and Economic Justice - Writing Intensive	
SOCIOL 1000	Introduction to Sociology	3
or SOCIOL 1000H	Introduction to Sociology Honors	
SOCIOL 2200	Social Inequalities	3
Social Sciences Core Courses		
ECONOM 1000	General Economics	5
ECONOM 1014	Principles of Microeconomics	3
or ECONOM 1014H	Principles of Microeconomics-Honors	
or ABM 1041	Applied Microeconomics	
ECONOM 1015	Principles of Macroeconomics	3
or ECONOM 1015H	Principles of Macroeconomics - Honors	
ECONOM 3224	Introduction to International Economics	3
ECONOM 4326	Economics of International Trade	3
or ECONOM 4326W	Economics of International Trade - Writing Intensive	
PEA_ST 1050	Introduction to Peace Studies	3
or PEA_ST 1050W	Introduction to Peace Studies - Writing Intensive	
PEA_ST 3780	World Political Geography	3
PEA_ST 4230	Women, Development and Globalization	3
or BL_STU 4230	Women, Development, and Globalization	
or WGST 4230	Women, Development, and Globalization	
POL_SC 4410	Politics and War	3
POL_SC 4411	Genocide, Terrorism and Civil War	3
POL_SC 4415	Peacekeeping and Intervention	3
POL_SC 4420	Politics of International Economic Relations	3
or POL_SC 4420H	Politics of International Economic Relations - Honors	
POL_SC 4430	Global Human Rights	3
POL_SC 4550	Environmental Conflict	3
PEA_ST 4810	Case Studies in an Inter/Multicultural World	3
SOCIOL 3210	Sociology of Globalization	3
WGST 1120	Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies	3
Humanities Core Courses (at least one course from the list below is required)		
ARCHST 1600	Fundamentals of Environmental Design	3
or ARCHST 1600W	Fundamentals of Environmental Design - Writing Intensive	
ARH_VS 1130	Introduction to the History of Art	3
or ARH_VS 1130W	Introduction to the History of Art - Writing Intensive	
ENGLSH 2155	Introduction to World Literatures	3

FILMS_VS 2820	Trends in World Cinema	3
GN_HON 2112H	Here Be Monsters	3
or GN_HON 2112HW	Here Be Monsters - Honors/Writing Intensive	
GN_HON 2113H	Reasonable Devils and Dark Visions	3
GN_HON 2114H	Diagnosing the Dark	3
or GN_HON 2114HW	Diagnosing the Dark - Honors/Writing Intensive	
LG_LT_CT 3510	Think Global: Fundamentals of Globalization and Digital Technologies	3
or LG_LT_CT 3510H	Think Global: Fundamentals of Globalization and Digital Technologies - Honors	
or LG_LT_CT 3510HW	Think Global: Fundamentals of Globalization and Digital Technologies - Honors/Writing Intensive	
or LG_LT_CT 3510W	Think Global: Fundamentals of Globalization and Digital Technologies - Writing Intensive	
or PEA_ST 3510	Think Global: Fundamentals of Globalization and Digital Technologies	
or PEA_ST 3510H	Think Global: Fundamentals of Globalization and Digital Technologies - Honors	
or PEA_ST 3510W	Think Global: Fundamentals of Globalization and Digital Technologies - Writing Intensive	
or PEA_ST 3510HW	Think Global: Fundamentals of Globalization and Digital Technologies - Honors - Writing Intensive	
LG_LT_CT 4810	Case Studies in an Inter/Multicultural World	3
LG_LT_CT 4850	Revolution and Media in a Global Perspective	3
or LG_LT_CT 4850H	Revolution and Media in a Global Perspective - Honors	
or LG_LT_CT 4850W	Revolution and Media in a Global Perspective - Writing Intensive	
LINGST 3620	Languages of the World	3
or ENGLSH 3620	Languages of the World	
MUSIC_NM 1313	Introduction to World Music	3
NEP 1310	Food and Cultures of the World	3
or NEP 1310W	Food and Cultures of the World - Writing Intensive	
PEA_ST 2410	Philosophies of War and Peace	3
or PEA_ST 2410W	Philosophies of War and Peace - Writing Intensive	
or PHIL 2410	Philosophies of War and Peace	
or PHIL 2410W	Philosophies of War and Peace - Writing Intensive	
PHIL 2100	Philosophy: East and West	3
REL_ST 1100	Introduction to Religion	3
or REL_ST 1100H	Introduction to Religion - Honors	
REL_ST 2100	Indigenous Religions	3
or REL_ST 2100H	Indigenous Religions - Honors	
REL_ST 2110	Global Religions	3
or REL_ST 2110H	Global Religions - Honors	
REL_ST 2630	History of Christian Traditions	3
or REL_ST 2630H	History of Christian Traditions - Honors	
or REL_ST 2630W	History of Christian Traditions - Writing Intensive	
or REL_ST 2630HW	History of Christian Traditions - Honors/Writing Intensive	
REL_ST 2700	Islam	3
REL_ST 4750	Women, Religion and Culture	3

Additional Requirements (27 hours minimum)

Language Requirements (6 hours minimum)

For the major, students must complete 6 hours minimum in a single second language, beyond the elementary level.

International students whose native language is other than English may petition the International Studies Program to substitute the language requirement with courses that deepen their English language ability or upper-level International Studies courses.

Non-international students who can demonstrate proficiency in a language other than English comparable to a student who has completed 6 hours beyond the Elementary sequence at MU may petition the International Studies Program to substitute upper-level International Studies courses for the language requirement. If the student is proficient in a language offered at MU: the student may be evaluated by that language program. The evaluation must test the student's ability in all the modalities appropriate for that language (reading, writing, listening, and/or speaking). If the student is proficient in a language not offered at MU, the student is responsible for finding a qualified examiner in that language, who must then be approved by the International Studies director. The evaluation must test the student's ability in all the modalities appropriate for that language (reading, writing, listening, and/or speaking) at the mid-intermediate level or higher as defined by ACTFL proficiency guidelines.

Regional/Cultural Area (6 hours minimum)

Could include additional language and literature courses from the language of major study, as well as coursework with an international focus from Philosophy, Religious Studies, Art History, Film Studies, and Civilization courses.

Social/Behavioral Sciences Area (6 hours minimum)

Could include coursework with an international focus from Geography, History, Political Science, Economics, Anthropology, Sociology, Women's and Gender Studies and Peace Studies.

Emphasis Areas (9 hours minimum)

Students must complete coursework in an emphasis area of their choice. The emphasis area options are: East Asian Studies (<https://catalog.missouri.edu/collegeofartsandscience/internationalstudies/ba-international-studies-emphasis-east-asian-studies/>), Environmental Studies (<https://catalog.missouri.edu/collegeofartsandscience/internationalstudies/ba-international-studies-emphasis-environmental-studies/>), European Studies (<https://catalog.missouri.edu/collegeofartsandscience/internationalstudies/ba-international-studies-emphasis-european-studies/>), Latin American Studies (<https://catalog.missouri.edu/collegeofartsandscience/internationalstudies/ba-international-studies-emphasis-latin-american-studies/>), Peace Studies (<https://catalog.missouri.edu/collegeofartsandscience/internationalstudies/ba-international-studies-emphasis-peace-studies/>), or South Asian Studies (<https://catalog.missouri.edu/collegeofartsandscience/internationalstudies/ba-international-studies-emphasis-south-asian-studies/>). The emphasis area is typically related to the second language the student is studying. Students are encouraged to take 9 credits from a single department or area. The 3-credit capstone experience will complete the 9 hours of credit in the emphasis area. Students also have the option to pursue International Business (<https://catalog.missouri.edu/collegeofartsandscience/internationalstudies/ba-international-studies-emphasis-international-business/>), which is a dual degree program with a separate set of requirements. For details on requirements in an emphasis area, refer to each degree page.

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.

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 40 hours for each credit hour earned.
- Students may not earn retroactive credit for internships.

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 2.0 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.
- 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.
- International students may count their time in the U.S. towards their study abroad requirement.
- Information on study abroad is available at the International Center website (<https://international.missouri.edu/studyabroad/>).

Minimum Grade, College, and University Requirements

A minimum grade of C- is required for courses taken for the major. A minimum cumulative GPA in all major coursework is 2.0. In addition, students must complete all College of Arts and Science and University graduation requirements (<https://catalog.missouri.edu/academicdegree/requirements/universityrequirements/>), including University general education (<https://catalog.missouri.edu/academicdegree/requirements/general/educationrequirements/>).

Semester Plan

First Year			
Fall	CR	Spring	CR
ENGLSH 1000		3 Math and Quantitative Reasoning	3
Second Language Requirement		4 Second Language Requirement	4
Missouri State Law Requirement: Social Science from Arts and Science		3 POL_SC 1400 or 2700	3
Behavioral Science from Arts and Science		3 ANTHRO 2030 ()	3
GEOG 1100		3 I.S. major choice core humanities course	3
			16
Second Year			
Fall	CR	Spring	CR
Second Language Requirement		4 I.S. major language requirement	3
Social Science, 2000+ level		3 I.S. major choice core course	3
Behavioral Science, 2000+ level		3 Biological or Physical Science Lab	3
Biological, Physical, or Mathematical Science		3 First Writing Intensive	3
I.S. major choice core course		3 Humanities from Arts and Science	3
			16
Third Year			
Fall	CR	Spring	CR
I.S. major language requirement		3 I.S. major social/behavioral course	3
I.S. major social/behavioral course		3 I.S. major regional/cultural humanities course	3
Humanities, 2000+ level		3 I.S. major, 3000+ Writing Intensive	3
Biological, Physical, or Mathematical Science		3 Social Science	3
Second Major, Minor, Certificate, or Elective		3 Second Major, Minor, Certificate, or Elective	3
			15
Fourth Year			
Fall	CR	Spring	CR
I.S. major regional/cultural humanities course		3 I.S. major emphasis area course	3
I.S. major emphasis area course		3 Humanities	3
I.S. major emphasis area course, 4000+ level		3 Second Major, Minor, Certificate, or Elective	3
Humanities		3 Second Major, Minor, Certificate, or Elective	3
Second Major, Minor, Certificate, or Elective		3	
			15
Total Credits: 120			12