

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS BACHELOR OF ARTS

Program Overview

The Department of Political Science administers a major in Politics and an interdisciplinary major in International Relations, as well as a minor in Politics and a minor in International Relations. Our programs offer the rigor and depth of disciplinary training with intellectual breadth firmly grounded in the liberal arts tradition.

We provide a learning environment that produces liberally educated citizens who are fluent in the language of politics and political analysis both within the United States and abroad and thereby have the foundation for both citizenship in a democratic society and successful training in a job, in a graduate school, or in a professional school.

Our degrees prepare students for graduate school in political science, international relations, and related fields. Our degrees also prepare students for careers in government (at the local, state, national and international levels), political campaigns, law, political journalism, business, non-profit organizations, and academics. We offer students opportunities to integrate experiential learning with their academic coursework. Examples include Model United Nations, Model European Union, mock trial, study abroad and internships with Federal and state governments, political campaigns, and non-profit organizations in Central Iowa or overseas.

B.A. Degree Requirements

The undergraduate B.A. degree in International Relations includes coursework that is designed to train students for responsible global citizenship and entry into internationally related jobs in government, business, international organizations, and non-governmental organizations. The curriculum is designed to provide greater breadth than is possible by majoring in a single discipline, yet permit sufficiently focused study in international affairs to prepare the student for direct entry into the field of international work or continued post-graduate study.

Students begin their course of study with a set of required core courses in international security, international law, international political economy and language. Students also take a required number of elective coursework involving comparative and thematic perspectives on international relations. Students should work closely with their advisors to select courses that are most compatible with their academic and professional goals.

Code	Title	Hours
Required Courses		
POLS 065	COMPARATIVE POLITICS	3
POLS 075	WORLD POLITICS	3
POLS 176	INTERNATIONAL SECURITY	3
POLS 177	POLITICAL ECONOMY OF GLOBALIZA	3
POLS 178	INTERNATIONAL LAW	3
POLS 197	SENIOR SEMINAR IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS THEORY	3
Comparative Perspectives		
Select three of following:		9
ECON 135	DEVELOPING ECONOMIES	

HIST 060	AFRICA IN WORLD HISTORY
HIST 123	MODERN MEXICO
HIST 125	COLONIAL LATIN AMERICA
HIST 126	MODERN LATIN AMERICA
HIST 129	MODERN CHINA
HIST 132	MODERN JAPAN
HIST 140	AFRICA'S COLONIAL MOMENT
HIST 161	AFRICA, AFRICANS, AND ATLANTIC SLAVERY
POLS 131	GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS OF DEVELOPING NATIONS
POLS 132	THE POLITICS OF INEQUALITY
POLS 133	CASE STUDIES IN COMPARATIVE AND TRANSNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS
POLS 134	COMPARATIVE POLITICAL PARTIES AND INTEREST GROUPS
POLS 135	SUPREME COURTS & ELECTIONS
POLS 136	INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES
POLS 137	POLITICS & PARLIAMENTS
POLS 140	COMPARATIVE ASIAN POLITICS
POLS 141	GOVERNMENT & POLITICS OF CHINA
POLS 142	GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS OF JAPAN
POLS 144	MODERN EUROPEAN POLITICAL SYSTEMS
POLS 146	POLITICS IN RUSSIA AND FORMER SOVIET UNION

Global Perspectives

Select three of the following:		9
ECON 130	INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS	
POLS 130	TRANSITIONS TO DEMOCRACY	
POLS 137	POLITICS & PARLIAMENTS	
POLS 143	JAPAN AND THE WORLD: ISSUES OF WAR AND MEMORY	
POLS 150	HUMAN RIGHTS AND WORLD POLITICS	
POLS 151	TRANSNATIONAL ADVOCACY NETWORK	
POLS 152	TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE	
POLS 153	RACIAL JUSTICE & HUMAN RIGHTS	
POLS 154	HUMAN TRAFFICKING	
POLS 156	GLOBAL HEALTH	
POLS 160	THE UNITED NATIONS AND GLOBAL SECURITY	
POLS 161	GENDER AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS	
POLS 162	GENDER AND WAR	
POLS 163	SIMULATING CRISIS DECISION-MAKING IN U.S. FOREIGN POLICY	
POLS 164	U.S.-CHINA RELATIONS	
POLS 166	REVISITING VIETNAM	
POLS 167	THE US AND IRAN	
WLC 148	INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION	

Total Hours 36

In addition to programmatic requirements, students are responsible for satisfying all requirements of the Drake Curriculum (<https://catalog.drake.edu/archive/2024-2025/undergraduate/academic-information/drake-curriculum/>), including Areas of Inquiry (AOI)

Student must also satisfy university graduation requirements (<https://catalog.drake.edu/archive/2024-2025/undergraduate/academic-information/graduation-requirements/>) for all undergraduate students..