

Concentration in International Affairs (IAS)

The Major in International and Area Studies — Concentration in International Affairs

Why do states, nations, and societies cooperate, compromise, and fight? Living and working in our rapidly changing global arena presents great opportunities to advance the human condition, improve political and civil liberties, recast bargains between governments and their societies, transform social welfare, and advance the boundaries of knowledge and scientific exploration. Alternatively, this same context presents great risks as people fear loss of identity, worry about economic subordination and loss to those beyond their borders, encounter the export of environmental degradation, and confront potential decline in personal and social autonomy. Students can explore the heightened economic, political, social, cultural, and environmental interdependence that generates prospects for cooperation but that also results in serious challenges that create the possibility of both conflict and compromise.

Concentration objectives: The IAS concentration in international affairs offers an interdisciplinary approach to understanding relations between societies. It provides opportunities to examine complex global issues and processes from multiple perspectives and to help understand the fundamental processes of cooperation, compromise, and conflict in the global arena. The program provides students with knowledge and skills for understanding and working with difficult international and cross-cultural problems that states, societies, and communities face.

This concentration requires 36 units of course work:

- 3 units of Research Methods course work (any level)
- 6 units of introductory course work (100-200 level) from two different academic disciplines
- 9 units of advanced course work from the Core Courses list (300-400 level)
- 15 units of advanced course work from a minimum of three different academic disciplines (at least two courses must be at the 400 level)
- 3 units of additional course work (any level)

Additional requirements and regulations:

- Students must receive a grade of C+ or higher in all IAS courses. All courses taken for IAS credit must be taken for a letter grade, including language courses.
- Students must fulfill the standard IAS foreign language requirement: the successful completion of four semesters of one language appropriate to their concentration (more details below).
- Students must complete one semester of language before declaring the major.
- We strongly encourage students to study abroad (<https://ias.wustl.edu/study-abroad/>). For those students who do not study abroad, an additional 3-unit course at the 300 or 400 level is required.
- We strongly prefer students to select a study abroad location consistent with their chosen language of study (e.g., students who wish to study in Latin America must satisfy their language requirement with either Spanish or Portuguese).
- Throughout the course of completing the major, students must show depth in at least one world area by taking a minimum of two courses focused on the same area, and they must show breadth by taking a third course focused on a different area. We consider world areas to be Africa, East Asia, Europe, Latin America, the Middle East, North America, and South Asia.
- Students must choose their upper-level course work from a minimum of three academic disciplines (e.g., anthropology, economics, history, political science).
- No more than 12 total credits earned outside of the day school of Washington University may be applied to a student's IAS major. This limit includes credits from study abroad experiences (never more than 6 credits from a single semester, 3 from a summer, or 12 from a year), University College, summer school from another U.S. university, or any combination thereof. (All 400-level credits must be earned on campus or in Washington University courses taught abroad.)
- All advanced credits counting for the IAS major must be unique to the IAS major.
- At least 6 credits must be at the 400 level.

Note: A single course may satisfy more than one of the distribution requirements (i.e., disciplinary or world area). Some of these requirements may be completed while abroad.

Introductory courses (choose two from this list, for a total of 6 units):

Code	Title	Units
AFAS 178	First-Year Seminar: Imagining and Creating Africa: Youth, Culture, and Change	3
AFAS 255	Introduction to Africana Studies	3

AMCS 250	Topics in Asian American Studies: Intro to Asian American & Pacific Islander Studies	3	History 2356	From St. Louis to Shanghai: Cities and Citizens in Global Urban History	3
Anthro 132	First-Year Seminar: Past Tense, Future Imperfect: The Rise and Fall of Societies & Global Civilization	3	History 270	Globalization and its Discontents	3
Anthro 160B	Introduction to Cultural Anthropology	3	IPH 207C	Ampersand: Modern Political Thought: Text and Traditions	3
BEYOND 160	Gender, Youth, and Global Health	3	IAS 103B	First-Year Seminar: International Public Affairs	3
Biol 2950	Introduction to Environmental Biology	3	IAS 111	First-Year Seminar: The Vietnam Wars	3
Chinese 227C	Chinese Civilization	3	IAS 127	Migration in the Global World: Stories	3
Chinese 270	Sophomore Seminar: U.S.-China Relations: Perceptions and Realities	3	IAS 135	First-Year Seminar: Chinatown: Migration, Identity, and Space	3
EPSc 111	Introduction to Global Climate Change in the 21st Century	3	IAS 140	East Asia in the World	3
EPSc 116A	Resources of the Earth	3	IAS 155	First-Year Seminar: Mapping the World: Introduction to Human Geography	3
EPSc 201	Earth and the Environment	4	IAS 160	World Politics and the Global Economy	3
EPSc 219	Energy and the Environment	3	IAS 207	Crossing Borders: An Introduction to Institutions and Concepts in International and Area Studies	3
EPSc 221A	Human Use of the Earth	3	IAS 229	Modern European History: Migrations, Nation States, Identities	3
Econ 1011	Introduction to Microeconomics	3	IAS 244	Introduction to European Studies	3
Econ 1021	Introduction to Macroeconomics	3	IS 210	Bugs, Drugs and Global Society: Topics in Global Health (U43)	3
Econ 208	First-Year Seminar: Economics and Society	3	JIMES 210C	Introduction to Islamic Civilization	3
EnSt 110	Environmental Issues	3	Korean 223C	Korean Civilization	3
EnSt 290	Sophomore Seminar in Sustainability and the Environment	3	LatAm 165D	Latin America: Nation, Ethnicity and Social Conflict	3
FYP 116	Ampersand: Geographies of Globalization and Development	3	Math 2200	Elementary Probability and Statistics	3
FYP 117	Ampersand: Global Population on the Move: Refugees, Resettlement, Education, and Advocacy	3	MEC 290	Microeconomics	3
GIS 200	Introduction to GIS (U90)	3	MEC 292	Global Economy	3
History 102C	Western Civilization	3	Phil 100G	Logic and Critical Analysis	3
History 1500	Silver, Slaves and the State: Globalization in the 18th Century	3	Phil 131F	Present Moral Problems	3
History 164	Introduction to World History: The Second World War in World History	3	Phil 233F	Biomedical Ethics	3
History 1640	Health and Disease in World History	3	Phil 235F	Introduction to Environmental Ethics	3
History 2093	Sophomore Seminar: Mobilizing Shame: Violence, the Media, and International Intervention	3	Physics 171A	Physics and Society	3
History 2119	First-Year Seminar: Race and Ethnicity in Latin America: Myths, Realities and Identities	3	Pol Sci 102B	Introduction to Comparative Politics	3
History 2157	First-Year Seminar: The Meaning of Pakistan: History, Culture, Art	3	Pol Sci 103B	International Politics	3
History 2171	Who Died and Made Them Kings? People, Politics and Power in the Atlantic World, 1500-1800	3	Pol Sci 106	Introduction to Political Theory	3
			Pol Sci 2010	Introduction to Environmental Policy	3
			SOC 106	Social Problems and Social Issues	3
			SOC 2010	The Roots of Ferguson: Understanding Racial Inequality in the Contemporary U.S.	3
			SOC 2030	Social Movements	3
			SOC 2110	Social Inequality in America	3

URST 101	First-Year Seminar: Introduction to Urban Studies	3
WGSS 100B	Introduction to Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies	3
WGSS 206	Sexuality and the State: Introduction to Sexuality Studies	3

Core courses at the 300-400 level (choose three from this list, for a total of 9 units):

Code	Title	Units
Anthro 3206	Global Gender Issues	3
Anthro 3283	Introduction to Global Health	3
Anthro 3391	Economies as Cultural Systems	3
Anthro 3612	Population and Society	3
Anthro 3874	International Public Health	3
Anthro 4022	Transnational Reproductive Health Issues: Meanings, Technologies, Practices	3
Econ 451	Environmental Policy	3
History 3593	The Wheels of Commerce: From the Industrial Revolution to Global Capitalism	3
History 3741	History of United States: Foreign Relations: 1920-1989	3
History 3743	History of U.S. Foreign Relations Since 1920	3
IA 511	International Law and the Use of Force (U85)	3
IA 519	International Growth and Development (U85)	3
IA 535	American Foreign Policy (U85)	3
IA 5571	Politics of Global Finance (U85)	3
IA 574	International Relations (U85)	3
IA 5772	State Failure, State Success and Development (U85)	3
IAS 3040	International Law and Politics	3
IAS 314B	International Politics	3
IAS 328B	Gateway to Development	3
IAS 3575	U.S. Foreign Policy: Theory and Practice	3
IAS 376	International Economics	3
IAS 402	The Meaning of National Security in the 21st Century	3
IAS 4246	State Failure, State Success and Development	3
IAS 4622	Labor and Labor Movements in Global History	3
IAS 4761	Politics of Global Finance	3
Pol Sci 3171	Topics in Politics	3

Pol Sci 332B	Environmental and Energy Issues	3
Pol Sci 339	Topics in Politics	3
Pol Sci 373	International Political Economy	3
Pol Sci 4070	Global Justice	3
Pol Sci 4731	Global Political Economy	3
Pol Sci 4792	Globalization and National Politics	3
SOC 3001	Social Theory	3
SOC 4810	Global Structures and Problems	3

Research methods (choose one from this list, for a total of 3 units):

Code	Title	Units
Anthro 3284	Public Health Research and Practice	3
Anthro 4123	Argumentation Through Ethnography	3
Anthro 4253	Researching Fertility, Mortality and Migration	3
Anthro 4455	Ethnographic Fieldwork: The Politics of Schooling	3
Anthro 4481	Writing Culture	3
Anthro 4803	Advanced GIS Modeling and Landscape Analysis	3
ARCH 307X	Community Building	3
CFH 400W	Merle Kling Undergraduate Honors Fellowship Seminar	3
Comp Lit 394	Worldwide Translation: Language, Culture, Technology	3
DAT 120	Managerial Statistics I	3
DAT 121	Managerial Statistics II	3
Econ 413	Introduction to Econometrics	3
Econ 414	Econometric Techniques (U07)	3
Educ 4111	Linguistics and Language Learning	3
EnSt 380	Applications in GIS	3
GIS 200	Introduction to GIS (U90)	3
GIS 300	Advanced GIS (U90)	3
GIS 303	Digital Cartography (U90)	3
GIS 421	Spatial Data Modeling and Design (U90)	3
History 301T	Historical Methods — Transregional History	3
IA 524	Methods and Research Design in International Studies (U85)	3
IA 5410	Alternative Analytic Techniques for International Affairs (U85)	3
IAS 318	Learning to Use GIS in Development, Area Studies and International Affairs	3
IAS 3248	Intercultural Communication	3
IAS 4005	Directed Research in IAS	3

IAS 4414	Gender Analysis for International Affairs	3
Math 2200	Elementary Probability and Statistics	3
Math 3200	Elementary to Intermediate Statistics and Data Analysis	3
Math 475	Statistical Computation	3
NPM 450	Social Entrepreneurship	3
Phil 321G	Philosophy of Science	3
Pol Sci 3011	Computational Modeling in the Social Sciences	3
Pol Sci 362	Politics and the Theory of Games	3
Pol Sci 363	Quantitative Political Methodology	3
Pol Sci 4043	Public Policy Analysis, Assessment and Practical Wisdom	3
Pol Sci 495	Research Design and Methods	3
Psych 300	Introduction to Psychological Statistics	3
SOC 3050	Statistics for Sociology	3

Advanced courses: Choose five courses from current, relevant, internationally-focused course offerings in the following departments.* All courses must be approved by the student's IAS adviser in order to count for the major. Visit the concentration webpage (<http://ias.wustl.edu/international-affairs/>) and master course list for the full list of options.

- African and African-American Studies
- Anthropology
- Chinese
- Comparative Literature
- East Asian Languages and Cultures
- Economics
- Environmental Studies
- Film and Media Studies
- Finance (Business School)
- German
- History
- International and Area Studies
- Italian
- Jewish, Islamic and Middle Eastern Cultures
- Latin American Studies
- Political Science
- Religious Studies
- Russian
- Sociology
- University College — Geographic Information Systems; International Affairs; International Studies; Sustainability
- Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

* Students may submit a request to add a course by following the instructions for the Petition Process (<https://ias.wustl.edu/ias-course-petition/>).

Additional Information

Language Requirement for the Major in International Affairs/International and Area Studies: All IAS majors must satisfy a foreign language requirement that entails the successful completion of four semesters of one modern language appropriate to their concentration while at Washington University. For some students, this may mean the first four semesters of a modern language; for others who place into advanced language classes and who receive approval from IAS language faculty, this may include literature, culture, oral communication, or linguistics courses in the target language, once such students complete the basic language sequence. Students must complete one semester of language to be eligible to declare the major in IAS.

Students are encouraged to study more than one language at Washington University, but they must satisfy their IAS language requirement by demonstrating competence in at least one modern language through the fourth semester. Available languages include Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Hebrew, Hindi, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Persian, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish and Swahili. Students should consult the course listings (<https://acadinfo.wustl.edu/Courselistings/Courses.aspx?Mode=ILE>) for details about the language sequences. (On the "A&S IQ" tab, click on "Courses," and then toggle "Area Requirement" to "LS Language & Cultural Diversity-Language" and click "Search" to see a list of available language courses.)

Special note for Spanish speakers: The following Spanish courses are **not** part of the regular sequence that are counted toward the four semesters of foreign language: Intermediate Spanish Conversation and Culture (Span 223), Business Spanish (Span 351), Medical Spanish (Span 353), and Spanish for the Social Sciences (Span 355). Some students might find these courses valuable for other reasons. For questions about this, students should consult with their major adviser.

Advanced foreign language courses in literature and culture used to satisfy the foreign language requirement may be counted as advanced credit for IAS majors as long as they are cross-listed with or approved for study abroad credit for the student's IAS concentration **and** provided the courses are not being counted toward any other degree.

Language courses taken to fulfill the IAS language requirement may count toward another major or minor unless they are being counted as advanced elective units for the IAS major requirement.

Students With Prior Language Experience

Native speakers of a foreign language: Students must satisfy the four-semester requirement in another language appropriate to their concentration.

Heritage speakers who do not have a native level of fluency: Students must seek appropriate placement by the coordinator of the language program and complete the four-semester requirement.

Transfer students who have taken language courses: Students may receive credit for the courses as part of the four-semester IAS foreign language requirement only if a placement exam is taken upon arrival at or return to Washington University and the foreign language department determines that the student may progress to the next highest level of language instruction.

Students who take a foreign language course at another institution (whether in the United States or abroad): Students may receive credit for the course as part of the four-semester IAS foreign language requirement only if (1) the credit is transferred back as Washington University credit; and (2) students take a placement exam upon their return to Washington University and the foreign language department determines that they may progress to the next highest level of language instruction.

Study Abroad: Majors are strongly encouraged to study abroad in one of Washington University's Overseas Programs during junior year or the summer. Some credit for courses taken abroad may be applied toward the major. For those students who do not study abroad, an additional 3-credit course at the 300 or 400 level is required.

Senior Honors: Students must confidently expect to graduate with an overall grade-point average of 3.65 or higher in order to qualify for Senior Honors. Students should enroll in Preparation for IAS Honors Thesis (IAS 485) during the fall of senior year and in IAS Senior Honors Thesis (IAS 486) during the spring of senior year (under the corresponding section number of the faculty member overseeing the student's thesis).

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