



Academic Learning Compact

International Studies

Program Mission Statement

The International Studies Program seeks to enable students to think critically about the contemporary world from a variety of disciplinary perspectives, and to endow them with set of competencies needed for success in graduate programs and as professionals and leaders in a diverse range of professions within government, business and the non-profit sector.

Student Learning Outcomes

Graduates will be able

Content/Discipline-Specific Knowledge/Skills

- Demonstrate structural knowledge of the international system, including: roles and structures of state, intergovernmental, and nongovernmental actors; the system's historical evolution; and prevailing political, economic, social, and geographic debates about the system.
- Demonstrate awareness of the variety of political, economic, geographic, cultural, and environmental orientations visible in the international system, such as nationalism, capitalism, globalization, etc.

Communication Skills

- Demonstrate the ability to effectively communicate program-specific knowledge, both verbally and in writing. This includes the ability to effectively argue and defend a position.
- Demonstrate proficiency in a foreign language at the intermediate level.

Critical Thinking Skills

- Employ the discipline's theories, approaches, and/or methods in order to examine and understand past, present, and/or possible future international interactions.
- Analyze the effects of conflict and cooperation in historical, political, geographical, economic, social, and cultural international interactions.

Other Skills (Opt.)

- Apply classroom concepts to the "real world" through participation in a required study abroad program.

Assessment Approaches

The International Studies Program assessment is carried out in INS4930 International Studies Senior Research Seminar, and considers the in-depth research project that students conduct as the culminating experience in the major. Students are evaluated on the written paper produced through this process, as well as their oral presentation of their ideas, both through in-class presentations and as participants in a research exhibit held at the end of each semester.