

International Relations BA

Bachelor of Arts in International Relations

General Education Requirements

Majors must satisfy the university and college general education requirements (<http://bulletin.umsl.edu/generaleducationrequirements/>). Political science courses may be used to satisfy the social sciences requirement. The foreign language requirement for the B.A. degree may be satisfied in any language.

Departmental Honors

The department awards honors to students having a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 3.2 in the major, a minimum overall GPA of 3.2 (except in extraordinary circumstances), and successfully completed an honors thesis, project, or report.

Degree Requirements

All majors must complete at least 15 hours in Political Science at the 3000 level or above.

Core Courses

| | | |
|--------------|--|---|
| POL SCI 1800 | World Politics (MOTR POSC 201) | 3 |
| POL SCI 1500 | Introduction to Comparative Politics (MOTR POSC 202) | 3 |
| POL SCI 1820 | | 3 |
| POL SCI 3000 | Political Analysis | 3 |
| POL SCI 4950 | Senior Seminar in Political Science | 3 |

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Select four of the following:

| | | |
|--------------|--|--|
| POL SCI 2820 | United States Foreign Policy | |
| POL SCI 2510 | The Politics of European Union | |
| POL SCI 2850 | Gender, Power and International Politics | |
| POL SCI 3800 | Media, Film, and International Politics | |
| POL SCI 3830 | International Political Economy | |
| POL SCI 3850 | International Organizations and Global Problem-Solving | |
| POL SCI 3860 | Studies in War and Peace | |
| POL SCI 3880 | Diaspora Politics, Transnational Remittances, and Global Citizenship | |
| POL SCI 3890 | Workers and Globalization | |
| POL SCI 3900 | Special Readings (with consent of instructor and advisor) | |
| POL SCI 4850 | International Law | |

Comparative Politics 9

Select three of the following:

| | | |
|--------------|--|--|
| POL SCI 2500 | Comparing Different Worlds | |
| POL SCI 2530 | Political Systems of South America | |
| POL SCI 2540 | Political Systems of Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean | |

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|--------------|--|----|
| POL SCI 2550 | East Asian Politics | |
| POL SCI 2580 | African Politics | |
| POL SCI 2590 | Globalization: Prospects and Problems | |
| POL SCI 3500 | The Politics of the Middle East: International and National Dynamics | |
| POL SCI 4950 | Senior Seminar in Political Science | |
| POL SCI 4520 | Mega-Cities and Diasporas: Understanding Global Migration | |
| Total Hours | | 36 |

It is recommended that majors take POL SCI 1500, (<http://bulletin.umsl.edu/artsandsciences/politicalscience/>)POL SCI 1800, POL SCI 1820, and POL SCI 3000 as early as possible since these courses are designed to provide a substantive foundation as well as conceptual and analytical tools for subsequent course work.

Majors are strongly encouraged to broaden their academic experience by including relevant curricular experiences including study abroad, and minors or certificates in areas such as economics and foreign languages.

B.A. degree students may take a maximum of 3 hours of political science on a satisfactory/ unsatisfactory basis; this can include any course except the four required courses in the core curriculum.

Departmental Honors

The department awards honors to students having a grade point average (GPA) of 3.2 in the major, an overall GPA of 3.2 (except in extraordinary circumstances), and successfully completed an honors thesis, project, or report.

Learning Outcomes

Graduates of this program will be able to:

- Identify key trends in international relations that are expected to impact life in the United States and other countries in the foreseeable future.
- Demonstrate cross-cultural competence and a global worldview.
- Apply major international relations theories and concepts to contemporary issues in global affairs.
- Analyze the foreign policy behavior of the United States and other major actors in world politics.
- Compare and contrast the major political, economic, cultural, and geographic features of different regions of the world.
- Assess international relations issues, formulate evidence-based recommendations, and communicate them with clarity and coherence.
- Plan, execute, and defend a major research project.

First Year

| Fall | Hours | Spring | Hours |
|--|-------|--|-------|
| INTDSC 1003 ¹ | | 1 POL SCI 1500 | 3 |
| POL SCI 1100 | 3 | CORE-Communication Proficiency | 3 |
| CORE-Mathematics Proficiency | 3 | EXPLORE-Mathematics and Natural/ Life Sciences | 3 |
| ENGL 1100 | 3 | EXPLORE- Humanities and Fine Arts | 3 |
| EXPLORE-Humanities and Fine Arts | 3 | Elective or minor | 3 |
| EXPLORE - Mathematics and Life/ Sciences | 3 | | |

Second Year

| Fall | Hours | Spring | Hours |
|--|-------|---|-------|
| POL SCI 1800 | | 3 POL SCI 2800 | 3 |
| POL SCI XXXX Comparative Politics Course | | 3 Foreign Language 1002 | 5 |
| Foreign Language 1001 | | 5 EXPLORE - Mathematics and Life/ Natural Sciences | 3 |
| EXPLORE- Humanities and Fine Arts | | 3 Elective or minor | 3 |
| | | Elective or minor | 1 |
| | 14 | | 15 |

Third Year

| Fall | Hours | Spring | Hours |
|---|-------|--|-------|
| POL SCI 3000 | | 3 POL SCI XXXX Comparative Politics Course | 3 |
| POL SCI XXXX International Relations Course | | 3 POL SCI XXXXX International Relations Course | 3 |
| Foreign Language 2101 | | 3 ENGL 3100 | 3 |
| Elective or minor | | 3 Elective or minor | 3 |
| Elective or minor | | 3 Elective or minor | 3 |
| | 15 | | 15 |

Fourth Year

| Fall | Hours | Spring | Hours |
|---|-------|---|-------|
| POL SCI XXXX International Relations Course | | 3 POL SCI 4950 | 3 |
| POL SCI XXXX Comparative Politics Course | | 3 POL SCI XXXX International Relations Course | 3 |
| Elective or minor | | 3 Elective or minor | 3 |
| Elective or minor | | 3 Elective or minor | 3 |
| Elective or minor | | 3 Elective or minor | 3 |
| | 15 | | 15 |

Total Hours: 120

¹ INTDSC 1003 is required only for first-time freshmen and transfer students with less than 24 college credits.

Please Note: This plan is an example of what a four year plan could look like for a typical student. Placement exam scores in math as well as the completion of coursework may change the plan. It should not be used in the place of regular academic advising appointments. All students are encouraged to meet with their advisor each semester. All requirements are subject to change.