International Studies

The International Studies major is an interdisciplinary program drawn from the departments of political science, history, economics, languages, sociology, and anthropology. There are three programs in International Studies: a regular undergraduate major leading to the B.A. degree in four years, and two accelerated programs leading to a B.A. and M.A. degree in five years. One of the accelerated programs is in partnership with the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies in Washington, D.C., and the other with political science institute Sciences Po in Paris. All three programs are described below. (For information on more advanced international study, see Political Science.)

Julia Galan, Associate Director.

Requirements for the B.A. Degree

(See also General Requirements for Departmental Majors (http://e-catalog.jhu.edu/archive/2013-14/undergrad-students/academic-policies/requirements-for-a-bachelors-degree).)

Students who are thinking of majoring in International Studies should complete as many of the basic degree requirements as possible and make a decision by the middle or end of sophomore year. All prospective majors should include the following among their basic courses: an introductory history course at the 100-level, AS.180.101 Elements of Macroeconomics-AS.180.102 Elements of Microeconomics, and one of the following gateway courses: AS.190.209 Contemp Int’l Politics, AS.190.213 International Politics, or AS.190.229 Introduction to Comparative Politics.

Many of the policies are spelled out in greater detail on the International Studies website at http://krieger.jhu.edu/internationalstudies. In addition to the distribution requirements for departmental majors, the requirements for the B.A. degree with a major in International Studies are as follows:

Foreign Language

Proficiency in one major foreign language. This requirement may be met either by a year’s work beyond the intermediate level or by special examination. If the student can demonstrate proficiency through examination, s/he must take an additional two semesters of either a new language or upper-level literature and culture courses taught in the language of proficiency.

Core Courses

- Five courses in history, including one introductory course at the 100-level from the History Department at Johns Hopkins University. Three out of the five courses must be non-Western history (some introductory courses may count toward the non-Western history requirements). Two out of the five courses must be taken at the 300-level. Approved non-Western history courses are published on the International Studies website.
- One course in international politics, designated (IR) on the International Studies website, in addition to one of the core gateway courses listed above (AS.190.209 Contemp Int’l Politics, AS.190.213 International Politics, or AS.190.299).
- One course in American politics, designated as (AP) on the International Studies website.
- Two courses in comparative politics, designated (CP) on the International Studies website.
- One course in political theory, designated (PT) on the International Studies website.
- Four courses in economics. One must be an internationally-oriented course listed on the International Studies website. Two must be basic micro and macro (AS.180.101 Elements of Macroeconomics-AS.180.102 Elements of Microeconomics). The final course may be of the students’ choosing, taken in the Economics Department.

Concentration

Every major in International Studies selects a concentration field for intensive and specialized work. The field of interest may be organized in terms of area (Latin America, East Asia) or function (security studies, international economics). The student, in other words, has the widest possible choice. It consists of four semester courses or the equivalent that add up to a coherent field of interest.

Tracks and Focus Areas

In lieu of a concentration, students may pursue one of International Studies’ unique tracks or focus areas. These brand-new tracks and focus areas are offered in conjunction with affiliated departments, and allow students to gain an in-depth specialization within a specific department or program, while simultaneously benefiting from the interdisciplinary training offered by the International Studies major.

Students pursuing a track will receive a double major in International Studies and the affiliated department or program (for example, students pursuing the Global Social Change and Development track will receive a double major in International Studies and Sociology). The student’s faculty advisor will be a faculty member from the affiliated department or program.

Students pursuing a focus area will receive a major in International Studies and a minor in the affiliated department or program (for example, students pursuing the Global Modernity and the Jewish Experience focus area will receive a minor in Jewish Studies) and benefit from a faculty advisor in the affiliated department or program.

More information about the tracks and focus areas offered by International Studies can be found at the website.

Senior Thesis

Students also have the opportunity to write a senior research thesis. To be eligible to write a thesis, seniors must identify a faculty sponsor who will supervise the project. Once a faculty sponsor has approved a topic, students must enroll in a three- credit independent study during the fall semester. Students will work out a specific work plan with their faculty sponsor suitable for their project. At the end of the fall semester the faculty sponsor will assess whether adequate progress has been made and the project warrants further work as an undergraduate thesis. If so, then the faculty sponsor will grant the student permission to enroll in the senior thesis course which will be worth six credits.

Study Abroad

Studying abroad is especially valuable for International Studies majors. JHU encourages all IS majors to spend one or both semesters of their
junior year abroad. International Studies offers several of its own study abroad programs.

The Junior Year Abroad at SAIS Bologna, offered through the Bologna campus of the Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), allows motivated International Studies majors to spend their junior year taking graduate level classes at the SAIS Bologna campus. Students who spend their junior year in Bologna and subsequently apply for graduate studies at SAIS will receive one semester of credit at SAIS for their work in Bologna.

A similar exchange program with French political science institute Sciences Po allows students to spend a semester or a year studying at one of Sciences Po’s seven regional campuses: Paris, Menton, Reims, Poitiers, Le Havre, Nancy, or Dijon. Courses are offered in English as well as French, and thus are open to students regardless of their level of French. One of Europe’s most prestigious universities, Sciences Po has a strong international focus, and allows students to develop a cross-cultural and transatlantic perspective, while simultaneously offering a unique access to the field of international affairs.

Sciences Po’s School of Journalism also offers a competitive spring semester English language program in Journalism. This selective program is designed for students who are interested in pursuing a career in journalism or who have had some journalism experience. The program curriculum consists of a combination of lectures, workshops and reporting projects, in addition to mandatory French language classes for students who are not proficient in French.

More information about the SAIS and Sciences Po exchanges can be found at the International Studies website. Additionally, the Office of Study Abroad also offers a wide range of study abroad opportunities across the globe catered to the student’s specific interests.

Five-Year Accelerated B.A./M.A. Program with the Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS)

For students having a clear intent to pursue an M.A. after graduation from Hopkins, the university offers an accelerated and competitive International Studies B.A./M.A. Program drawing upon its resources at SAIS, located in Washington, D.C. Combining liberal arts with a strong concentration in international studies, it allows those enrolled to receive the B.A. and M.A. degrees in five years instead of the usual six.

Each year about eight sophomores are selected for the program. Admission is limited to those who are highly motivated toward careers for which a background in international studies is essential: research, teaching, or practice in international affairs. Financial assistance is available to those admitted. In accordance with university policies, it is based both on need and on superior academic achievement. Students interested in the B.A./M.A. program should see the International Studies website for details at: http://krieger.jhu.edu/internationalstudies/sais/index.html#program.

Five-Year Accelerated B.A./M.A. Program with Sciences Po

Students may also apply to participate in a five-year accelerated B.A./M.A. program with Sciences Po, one of Europe’s finest schools of political science. The B.A./M.A. Program is aimed principally at students who are interested in international affairs and who would like to develop their intellectual and professional capabilities from an international and multidisciplinary perspective. After the junior year, students spend two years at Sciences Po’s Paris campus completing graduate-level course work. The Paris School of International Affairs (PSIA), which houses the majority of Sciences Po’s internationally-oriented master’s programs, is entirely bilingual, and students may choose to pursue either an English or French track of study. Students may also elect to pursue a master’s degree at the School of Journalism, School of Communication, or School of Law. Students interested in an academic career may also choose to pursue a Research master’s with the Doctoral Program at Sciences Po. Students who are not proficient in French will also pursue French language training during their course of study at Sciences Po. Students will earn a B.A. from Hopkins after their first year in Paris and a master’s from Sciences Po after their second year.

Applicants follow an application and review process similar to the one for the SAIS program, described above. About three to four sophomores are selected each year for the Sciences Po program. Students pay tuition to Johns Hopkins for the first year in Paris and to Sciences Po for the second. Financial aid from Johns Hopkins continues only through the end of a student’s fourth year.

More information can be found at the International Studies website: http://krieger.jhu.edu/internationalstudies/sciencespo/index.html#BA_MA_Program.

Progress Toward the B.A./M.A. Degrees

Students in both programs described above spend their first three years at the Homewood campus and the last two at either SAIS or Sciences Po. Students receive the B.A. degree at the end of their first year at either SAIS or Sciences Po and the M.A. at the end of their second year.

Students selected for either of the accelerated programs may not study abroad during their Homewood years, with the exception of summer or intersession programs.

For current faculty and contact information go to http://krieger.jhu.edu/internationalstudies/directory/

Faculty

Associate Director

Julia Galan

For current course information and registration go to https://isis.jhu.edu/classes/
Courses

Cross Listed Courses

German Romance Languages Literatures

AS.215.327. Modern Political Thought in Latin America. 3 Credits.
Sophomores, juniors and Seniors only. The course is an introduction to modern political thought in Latin America. It draws on essays and novels written by major and influential political thinkers such as D.F. Sarmiento, Gonzalez Prada, J.C. Mariategui, Leopoldo Zea, J. E. Rodo, Octavio Paz, Jose Revueltas, Jose Maria Arguedas, Marlo Vargas Llosa, Darcy Ribeiro, Enrique Dussssel and the authors of the Sumac Kawasy as well as Liberation Theory central writings. The course will be taught in English. Students wishing to do work in the original Spanish or Portuguese will be encouraged to do so.
Instructor(s): S. Castro-Klaren
Area: Humanities
Writing Intensive.

Graduate students or advanced seniors. This seminar will explore the corpus of political thought in Latin America since independence (1810) to the present by focusing on the discourses that constructed and continue to construct 5 key questions in the negotiation of power in the post-colonial res publica: territory, nationhood, national subjectivation, cultural imagination, justice and regimes of inclusion and exclusion. Readings will include the work of Sarmiento, Euclides da Cunha, Gonzalez Prada, Mariategui, Marti, Revueltas, Paz, Dussel, Ribeiro, Freire, Arguedas, Liberation Theology and Sumaz Kawsay authors.
Instructor(s): S. Castro-Klaren
Area: Humanities
Writing Intensive.

Sociology

AS.230.150. Issues in International Development. 3 Credits.
This course will provide an undergraduate level introduction to the study and practice, as well as the successes and failures, of international development. Students will be introduced to the various theoretical frameworks used to explain underdevelopment. Students will also explore the practice of development since the 1950s by examining specific strategies employed in Latin America, South Asia, East Asia, and Africa. Using a variety of country-specific case studies, students will have the opportunity to apply the theoretical and practical frameworks learned in the class to assess the successes and failures of real-life cases. Fulfills Economics requirement for GSCD track students only.
Cross listed with International Studies (IR). Freshmen and sophomores only.
Instructor(s): R. Agarwala
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.230.175. Chinese Revolutions. 3 Credits.
This course introduces the origins, operation and impacts of five major revolutions in modern China between 1850 and 1950. These include the Taiping Rebellion, the republican revolutions, federalist and southern automatic movements, labor strikes as well as peasant rebellions. It draws on the existing historiography that examines China’s transition from an empire to a republic, impacts of western and Japanese influences to China, as well as the continuity and change of Chinese social organizations. Cross list with International Studies and East Asian Studies. Fulfills IS History requirement.
Instructor(s): H. Kuo
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.230.228. Colonialism in Asia and Its Contested Legacies. 3 Credits.
This seminar examines the theories and historiography of colonialism in Asia, with special focus on the development of British Straits Settlements and Hong Kong as well as Japanese Taiwan. We will review the competing discourses about the impact of colonial domination in these areas from the 1800s to the present-day. In the beginning of the era, the British built up the economic linkage between Hong Kong and Penang, Malacca as well as Singapore to sustain its dominance throughout the “Far East.” In the middle of the period, the expanding Japanese empire developed Taiwan as a footprint to compete with the British interests in South China and Southeast Asia. Hong Kong and the Straits Settlements, especially Singapore, became the contested terrain where two colonial powers vied for their influences in the region. The competition was not only about trade, but about the construction of a new East Asian regional order after the end of the Chinese hegemony. In the end of the period, the intervention of the US power in postwar Asia facilitated the retreat of the colonial establishments, British and Japanese ones included. The course that compares the colonial establishments and discourses on colonial legacies among the three areas points out that colonialism constituted an inalienable part of Asian history. Cross listed International Studies (CP) and East Asian Studies.Fulfills History requirement for IS GSCD track students only.
Instructor(s): H. Kuo
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.

AS.230.265. Research Tools and Technologies for the Social Sciences. 3 Credits.
This course will introduce students to a range of digital technologies that are critical for conducting social scientific research in the 21st century. Students will develop competency in the use of computer programs for statistical analysis, database management, the creation of maps and timelines, and the presentation of research reports. The research tools and technologies will be taught using examples from ongoing social science faculty research projects at Johns Hopkins on global inequality and international development. Required for GSCD track students.
Instructor(s): S. Karatasli
Area: Quantitative and Mathematical Sciences, Social and Behavioral Sciences.
AS.230.343. Political Sociology of Latin America. 3 Credits.
This course provides an overview of Latin America through its historical, economic, social, and political dimensions. Emphasis will be given to the analysis of social structures: class, race and ethnicity, and the contemporary social movements. The course begins with an overview of the pre-Columbian civilizations and colonial legacies that gave rise to the multiethnic societies and the ethnic conflicts which characterize contemporary Latin America. Cross-listed with Program in Latin American Studies and International Studies (CP)
Instructor(s): M. von der Heydt-Coca
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences

AS.230.344. Health and Society in Contemporary China. 3 Credits.
This class examines the social and health consequences of systemic transformations in China, including collapse of the urban work-unit system, resurgence of infectious disease, and implementation of the One-Child Policy. Dean’s Teaching Fellowship; Cross listed with East Asian Studies, Public Health and International Studies.
Instructor(s): R. Core
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences

AS.230.346. Economic Sociology of Latin America. 3 Credits.
This course will offer an overview of Latin America’s economic reality as an intertwined process of economic and political factors within the constraints of the world economy. Latin American development will be analyzed from a historical perspective. The first half of the semester the course will focus on the analysis of the economic developmental patterns starting in the middle of the 19th century to the populist era in the middle of the 20th century. In the second half of the semester, we will analyze in depth the contemporary neoliberal approach to development. Globalization is the force that drives economic, social and political processes in Latin America. The course will include case studies as well the social conflicts generated by the increasing polarization of the society. Students will be exposed to important sociological theories. Fulfills Comparative Politics and/or History requirement for International Studies. Fulfills Economics for GSCD students.
Instructor(s): M. von der Heydt-Coca
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences

AS.230.353. Global Social Change. 3 Credits.
This course introduces students to issues of global social change, with a particular focus on the challenges of international development and the contemporary globalization process. Specific themes include world income inequality and global poverty, the rise of supranational organizations (e.g. WTO and EU) and their relations with sovereign states, anti-globalization activism, the rise of China and India in the global economy, and the origins as well as consequences of the current global economic crisis, among others. Lectures will be aided by documentary films and other multi-media materials. Cross-listed with International Studies (IR). Fulfills Economics requirement for IS GSCD track students only.
Instructor(s): H. Hung
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences

AS.230.356. Contemporary African Social Movements. 3 Credits.
This course is a survey of contemporary social movements in sub-Saharan Africa. The course will begin with an introduction to social movement theory. Subsequent weeks will each focus on a different type of movement (e.g. independence movements, labor movements, women’s movements, environmental movements, etc.). The limited coverage of African issues in the US media tends to focus on either catastrophes or on development projects that are driven by international NGOs and the governments of northern countries. Through this course, students will gain a clear understanding of the broad range of actions that African civil society is using to address social problems throughout the continent. Materials used will include academic analysis of movements, writings by movement participants themselves, and films. The course will also introduce students to the most widely used social movement theories. Because these theories have been largely developed by social scientists in northern countries, the students will be asked to assess their applicability to African movements. Through this critical application of social theory, students will investigate the specific possibilities and constraints facing social and political actors in contemporary Africa. Cross listed with Dean’s Teaching Fellowship, International Studies (CP) and Africana Studies.
Instructor(s): B. Scully
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences

AS.230.362. Migration & Development. 3 Credits.
This course focuses on the relationship between international migration and development. The course first introduces theories of international migration, immigrant integration, and international development. Building on this foundation, we then examine how immigrants interact with their homeland and how sending country governments tap their diaspora to improve development outcomes. Cross-listed with International Studies (CP, IR). Fulfills Economics requirement for IS GSCD track students only.
Instructor(s): L. Hao; R. Agarwala
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences

AS.230.366. From Habeas Corpus to Eminent Domain: Urban Development and Urban Planning in Comparative-Historical Perspective. 3 Credits.
This course offers a broad survey of urban development in the United States by examining both the intended and unintended consequences of urban planning. Using a comparative-historical framework, issues of power, conflict, representation, participation, and planning within urban development and the American city will be addressed and critiqued with specific reference to Baltimore. Cross listed with International Studies (AP). Fulfills History requirement for IS GSCD track students only.
Instructor(s): D. Pacciuti
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences

Writing Intensive.
AS.230.391. Theories of International Development. 3 Credits.
This course will cover major theoretical approaches to the study of development. We will begin with foundational political economic texts (including those of Adam Smith, Karl Marx, and Karl Polanyi). After setting the historical context of decolonization, we will then proceed to cover major theoretical approaches to the study of development in the past sixty years, including: modernization theory, dependency and world systems analysis, state-centered approaches, neo-institutionalism, the capabilities approach, political-ecology, post-development, feminism, the Washington consensus, social capital, experimental economics, and contemporary sociological reconstructions of Marx, Smith and Polanyi. Cross listed with International Studies (IR); fulfills IS Economics requirement for GSCD track students only.
Instructor(s): M. Levien
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences.

East Asian Studies

AS.310.103. Modern Japan - 1800 to the Present. 3 Credits.
An introduction to the history of Japan from the 18th century to the present. In lectures and discussion we will draw upon a combination of primary source materials (political documents, memoirs, oral histories, journalism, fiction, film) and scholarly writings in order to gain insight into the complex and tumultuous process by which Japan became an industrialized society, a modern nation-state, and a world power.
Instructor(s): A. Bronson
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences.

AS.310.207. Mapping Migrations in East Asia. 3 Credits.
This seminar introduces students to the phenomenon of migration in Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan from theoretical, empirical, and comparative perspectives. The objectives of the course are to understand the 1) historical context behind present-day migrations in East Asia; 2) different patterns of migration flows and their consequences on receiving countries; 3) various theoretical frameworks for migration. The course is divided into three parts. In the first part, the course will examine theoretical approaches to migration, structured around the question of whether East Asia as a region represents a distinct model of migration. In the second, students will explore the empirical cases in greater detail by comparing and contrasting the different types of migrations. The third part addresses the responses to migration by host governments and societies and the implications of migration on citizenship and identity. Recommended Course Background: any class related to the history or politics of Japan, Korea, Taiwan, and/or China.
Instructor(s): D. Kim
Area: Humanities
Writing Intensive.

AS.310.356. The Buddhist Experience. 3 Credits.
This course is a survey of Buddhist practice across Asia, covering a span of nearly 2500 years (from ca 500 BCE until the present). In addition to studying the origins of Buddhism in India and its eventual spread across Asia, we will examine unique local interpretations of Buddhism. Particular focus will be on manifestations of Buddhism in art and material culture. Students will gain a critical understanding of the role of texts, art, doctrine, and practice play in the overall Buddhist experience. This course is a survey of Buddhist practice across Asia, covering a span of nearly 2500 years (from ca 500 BCE until the present). In addition to studying the origins of Buddhism in India and its eventual spread across Asia, we will examine unique local interpretations of Buddhism. Particular focus will be on manifestations of Buddhism in art and material culture. Students will gain a critical understanding of the role of texts, art, doctrine, and practice play in the overall Buddhist experience.
Instructor(s): J. Valentine
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive.