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 is with political science institute Sciences Po in Paris. The three programs, and all other aspects of the International Studies Program, are described on the International Studies website at http://krieger.jhu.edu/internationalstudies

Requirements for the B.A. Degree

Also see Requirements for a Bachelor’s Degree. (http://catalog.jhu.edu/undergrad-students/academic-policies/requirements-for-a-bachelors-degree)

Students considering a major in International should begin introductory courses required of the major early in their college careers. Choices may include 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 Contemporary International Politics, AS.190.213 International Politics, or AS.190.104 International Politics.

Major Requirements

The international studies major is comprised of three main components:

• Foreign language study
• Core courses in history, political science, and economics
• Focus area of the student’s choosing

In addition, students must earn a grade of C- or better in all course applied towards major requirements and courses may not be taken satisfactory/unsatisfactory.

Foreign Language

Proficiency in one major foreign language is required. This requirement may be met either by taking two courses 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

Courses fulfilling the specific requirements below are listed on the International Studies website (http://krieger.jhu.edu/internationalstudies/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.
• One course in international politics

• One course in American politics
• Two courses in comparative politics
• One course in political theory
• Four courses in economics. One must be an internationally-oriented course listed on the International Studies website. Two courses must be AS.180.101 Elements of Macroeconomics and AS.180.102 Elements of Microeconomics. The final course may be of the students’ choosing from courses offered in the Economics Department.

Focus Area Specialization

Every major in International Studies selects a specialization area, which consists of four semester courses within a coherent field of interest. Specialization fields may be organized in terms of area (Latin America, East Asia), theme (security studies, international economics), or language (e.g., Mandarin, Arabic). Two courses should be at the 300-level or higher.

Major Requirements:

Foreign Language Study

Two courses beyond the intermediate level or if proficient based on 6-9 exam, two additional language courses

One Core Political Science Course

AS.190.102 Introduction To Comparative Politics 3
or AS.190.104 International Politics
or AS.190.209 Contemporary International Politics
or AS.190.213 International Politics

Political Science Courses

One international relations course 3
One American politics course 3
Two comparative politics courses 6
One political theory course 3

Economics Courses

AS.180.101 Elements of Macroeconomics 3
AS.180.102 Elements of Microeconomics 3
One AS.180.xxx course 3
One approved internationally-focused economics course * 3

Five History Courses **

One AS.100.1xx history course 3
Three approved non-Western history courses 9
One history course selected by student 3

Focus Area ***

Four courses with a coherent field of interest 0-12
Total Credits 51-66

* Approved internationally-focused economics courses are identified each semester on the International Studies website and can be identified by a POS-Tag of INST-ECON in their course description in the schedule of classes.

** Two history courses must be completed at the 300- or 400-level.
It is possible that the introductory course required in the History Department (AS.100.1xx) may be a non-Western history course. If so, then the student will select another history course to complete five total history courses.
Courses fulfilling the focus area may overlap with other courses used to fulfill specific major requirements.

Double-Major and Major-Minor Programs

In lieu of a focus area of their own choosing, students may pursue one of International Studies’ unique double-major or major-minor programs. These are offered in conjunction with affiliated departments and allow students to concentrate their course of study within a specific department or program while simultaneously benefiting from the interdisciplinary training offered by the International Studies major.

Students pursuing a double-major program will receive a major in International Studies as well as a major in 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 adviser will be a faculty member from the affiliated department or program.

Students pursuing a major-minor program will receive a major in International Studies and a minor in the affiliated department or program (e.g., students pursuing the Global Modernity and the Jewish Experience minor will receive a minor in Jewish Studies) and benefit from a faculty adviser in the affiliated department or program.

Successful completion of a double-major or major-minor program will satisfy the International Studies major’s focus area requirement.

Senior Thesis and Honors in the Major

International studies majors 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 worth six credits. In addition to completion of a senior thesis, students who wish to receive honors in the major will also need a GPA of 3.7 or better in all major requirements.

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 sponsors a number of study abroad programs designed for IS majors and administers them in collaboration with the Office of Study Abroad.

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 the 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 knowledge 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 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.

Additionally, the Office of Study Abroad also offers a wide range of study abroad opportunities across the globe tailored to specific interests.

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

For students wishing to pursue a master’s degree 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 a liberal arts curriculum with a strong specialization in international studies, the program allows those enrolled to receive the B.A. and M.A. degrees in five years instead of the usual six.

Approximately eight sophomores are selected for the program each year. 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 based on need and on academic achievement.

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 coursework at the Paris School of International Affairs (PSIA), which houses the majority of Sciences Po’s internationally-oriented master’s programs. PSIA is a bilingual institution, thus students may choose to pursue either an English or French track. 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. Approximately 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.

**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**

**Director**

Sydney V. Morgan