Master of Arts Degree in International Studies

The Master of Arts with a major in international studies (30 semester credit hours) is a professional and interdisciplinary degree drawing upon existing graduate courses which are offered by several departments in various colleges at the university. The Master’s degree prepares students for careers in government, the private sector and non-profit organizations that are focused on international security, sustainability, and humanitarian affairs and development. The degree provides students with the professional skills and substantive knowledge necessary for careers relating to the global agenda, such as development and humanitarian aid and non-profit operations.

Students interested in the Master of Arts degree in International Studies are interested in diverse, internationally-themed careers, including national security and diplomacy, governmental and non-governmental/nonprofit humanitarian affairs and development work, disaster relief, sustainability, climate change response, refugee and migrant settlement, international business and entrepreneurship, global education and research, political activism, and many other careers. It is important to remember that internationally-focused jobs are found on the global, regional, and local level, and INST has alumni working in their chosen fields throughout the world as well as locally in the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex.

Degree Requirements
Students wanting to pursue a Master’s degree in International Studies must meet the following requirements:

* Must have an academic background in international studies, or in a field of study related to international studies. Such related fields may include anthropology, economics, history, journalism, political science, public administration, sociology, or equivalent training or expertise. Students without this background will be required to take INST 4851 and INST 4853.
* Should have foreign language proficiency at the intermediate level proficiency equivalent to four courses in a foreign language.
* Expected to have completed their Bachelor’s degree with a minimum GPA of 3.0, as evidenced by their transcript.

Application Materials
As part of the application process, students will be asked to provide:

1) A statement of purpose of 750-1000 words in which they address their career goals and the place of the Master’s degree in working toward those goals, and their international experience through study abroad, service work abroad, living abroad, etc.
2) An official transcript
3) A resume or CV
4) Two letters of recommendation
5) Foreign language proficiency at the intermediate level. Proficiency equivalent to four courses in a foreign language.
Program structure

Thirty (30) semester credit hours are required for this master’s degree. The program is structured around two major components, a professional skills area and a specialization area. Individual course offerings are listed below for these areas. The program will culminate with a graduate practicum seminar, as detailed below. Students will meet with the academic advisor during their first semester in the master’s program to establish their degree plan. In consultation with the advisor, students will determine what courses and which tracks will best suit their professional aspirations.

Professional skills area, 9 hours

The professional skills area has two tracks: management skills and assessment and evaluation. Students must take 9 hours in this area. Some of these courses have prerequisites and may require permission of the respective department and/or instructor of the course.

INST 5600 - Issues and Policies in International Studies - all students take this upon entering the program

Management skills

* courses are also available through online format

MGMT 5140 - Organizational Behavior and Analysis *
MGMT 5210 - Human Resource Management Seminar *
MGMT 5240 - Project Management
MGMT 5300 - Entrepreneurship and Venture Management
MGMT 5710 - Seminar in Business Ethics and Social Responsibility *
MGMT 5870 - Leadership Research and Development
MKTG 5150 - Marketing Management *
LSCM 5300 - Strategic Supply Chain Management *
LSCM 5560 - Strategic Logistics Management *

Students with a non-business background: Students who do not have a background in business may be required to take the following course as prerequisite to the above listed courses:

MGMT 5070 - Management Issues (1.5 hours) *

Assessment and evaluation skills

ANTH 5032 - Ethnographic and Qualitative Methods for Non-Majors
ANTH 5700 - Topics in Applied Anthropology (when topic is “Evaluation in Anthropological Practice”)
SOCI 5200 - Research Methods and Design
Specialization Area, 18 hours

The specialization area is divided into three separate tracks: international development and sustainability, human security, and national security and diplomacy. These tracks allow the student to design an individualized program to serve their personal career aspirations. Students should take 18 hours in at least two of the three approved subject areas in consultation with the graduate advisor. Some of these courses have prerequisites and may require permission of the respective department and/or instructor of the course.

International Development and Sustainability
ANTH 5400 - Environmental Anthropology
BIOL 5030 - Foundations of Environmental Science
BIOL 5040 - Contemporary Topics in Environmental Science and Ecology
BIOL 5100 - Environmental Impact Assessment
BIOL 5200 - Environmental Health
ECON 5440 - Economics of Natural Resources and Environment
GEOG 5130 - Research in Human Geography
GEOG 5150 - Water Resources Seminar
GEOG 5400 - Environmental Modeling
GEOG 5420 - Critical Resource Geography
GEOG 5700 - Global Environmental Change
GEOG 5750 - Surface Water Hydrology
GEOG 5850 - Introduction to Groundwater Hydrology
EMDS 5615 - Environmental Planning and Hazards
PSCI 6620 - Comparative Political Institutions
PSCI 6625 - Democracy and Democratization
PSCI 6630 - Political Development
Other courses in consultation with advisor

Human Security
AARS 6810 - Global Perspectives on Aging and Disability
ANTH 5201 - Medical Anthropology
ANTH 5210 - Anthropology in Public Health
ANTH 5300 - Migrants and Refugees
ANTH 5620 - Anthropology of Education
EMDS 5610 - Disaster Preparedness and Management
PADM 5700 - Seminar in Public Administration
EMDS 5010 - Emergency Management Theory and Practice
EMDS 5620 - Challenges of Disaster Response
PSCI 6850 - Human Rights
SOCI 5260 - Topics in Sociology
SOCI 5300 - Social Inequalities
SOCI 5330 - Seminar on Race and Ethnicity
SOCI 5450 - Population and Society
WGST 5350 - Globalization and Gender
WGST 5800 - Seminar in Women’s and Gender Studies
Other courses in consultation with advisor
National Security and Diplomacy
CJUS 5100 - Information Warfare, Security and Risk Analysis
HIST 5190 - Studies in Near East/African History
HIST 5220 - Studies in United States Military/Diplomatic History
HIST 5230 - Seminar in United States Military/Diplomatic History
HIST 5240 - Studies in European Military/Diplomatic History
HIST 5250 - Seminar in European Military/Diplomatic History
HIST 5260 - Seminar in Near East/African History
PSCI 6660 - Civil War
PSCI 6830 - International Conflict
PSCI 6831 - International Conflict Management
Other courses in consultation with advisor

Graduate Practicum Seminar, 3 Hours

The practicum seminar will integrate the student’s learning and demonstrate the student’s professional preparedness. The practicum seminar will also accommodate the possibility of an internship, when possible and relevant to the student’s educational objectives.

INST 5700 - International Studies Practicum

Additional Course Options

Students may use INST 5900 to enroll in relevant undergraduate 4000-level courses or use it for a relevant internship in the student’s area of concentration. Students must consult with the International Studies Advisor for permission to enroll in INST 5900.

Please reach out to internationalstudies@unt.edu for more information.

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internationalstudies.unt.edu