

The University of Iowa International Programs

GUIDE TO UNDERGRADUATE STUDY INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

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Table of Contents

Part I: Overview of the Program	3
Part II: Requirements for the B.A. in International Studies	3
Part III: Graduating with Honors in International Studies	8
Part IV: Declaring Your Major	10
Part V: Advising for International Studies Majors	10
Part VI: Study Abroad Scholarships and Guidelines	11
Part VII: PRISM, International Studies Student Group	12
Part VIII: Earning a Minor in International Studies.....	12

Part I: Overview of the Program of Study

The B.A. in International Studies is a multi-disciplinary program of study that allows students to explore opportunities in the humanities and social sciences from such disciplines as history, anthropology, economics, political science, geography, foreign languages, the arts and art history, and public health.

International Studies covers more than the study of diplomacy and relations among states. The program of study requires all students to integrate theoretical knowledge about broad global processes and the methods used to study them with in-depth examination of a particular region of the world or a major theme in international studies. It affords students the opportunity to integrate the study of politics, economics, and the arts with analyses of cultural practices, beliefs and social systems. The curriculum of the major is designed so that students will learn to appreciate and understand foreign cultures, focus on themes of global significance, and master the varied disciplinary approaches employed to study international issues.

Students direct aspects of their own studies by choosing either a geographic OR a thematic emphasis area according to their individual interests. For students wishing to double major, International Studies is an ideal complement to a wide range of academic degree programs. Many of our majors are double majoring in disciplines like political science, business, language study, or anthropology.

The B.A. in International Studies prepares students for careers in business, government, international development agencies, non-governmental organizations, philanthropic agencies, and the arts. For example, graduates might choose to pursue a career with a multi-national corporation, work overseas for an organization like the Peace Corps, or represent the United States abroad as a member of the Foreign Service. The major also prepares students for graduate study in the social sciences, the arts, international affairs, and area studies. It provides an excellent background for those anticipating professional careers with an international focus in law, journalism, public health, or medicine. International Studies majors are encouraged to make full use of the services available at the Pomerantz Career Center throughout their tenure at Iowa. Professional career advisors are available to help students better understand the current job market, search for internships and externships, create an effective resume, and conduct a job search in their senior year. To learn more about career planning go to <http://www.careers.uiowa.edu/>.

Part II: Requirements for the B.A. in International Studies

- a. Students must fulfill all College of Liberal Arts & Sciences requirements.
- b. Majors must maintain a 2.00 UI, major, and UI major GPA.
- c. All coursework for the major must be taken on a graded basis; courses taken on a P/N or S/F basis will not count toward the major.
- d. To earn a B.A. in International Studies, students must complete a minimum of 36 semester hours of graded course work. These 36 semester hours must include

completion of 187:199, International Studies Senior Project or 187:198, Honors Thesis in International Studies, and at least 12 semester hours in upper-level course work in the emphasis area, electives and/or foreign language.

- e. In order to preserve the interdisciplinary intent of the major, at least four departments must be represented in the student’s major coursework.
- f. Transfer course work may be accepted toward the major, but at least 15 s.h. of course work for the major must be earned at The University of Iowa.
- g. Students may apply up to 12 s.h. of coursework from each additional major, minor or certificate program (with a limit of 12 s.h. from any single department), to the International Studies major. **Please note**, students completing a certificate in Latin American Studies, Global Health Studies, International Business, or a minor in Global Health Studies may not choose the corresponding area of emphasis for the International Studies major.

The requirements for the B.A. can therefore be summarized as follows:

Foundation Course.....	3 s.h.
Core Courses.....	6 s.h.
Emphasis Area.....	12 s.h.
I.S. electives.....	6 s.h.
Language Requirement*.....	4-6 s.h.
Senior Project/Honors Thesis..	3 s.h.
Total.....	36 s.h. minimum

* Student completing the foreign language requirement with less than 6 s.h. must still complete major hours totaling at least 36 s.h., with any remaining hours added to the I.S. electives.

Each of these requirements is outlined in more detail below.

FOUNDATION COURSE, 3 semester hours

Each of these courses provides an overview of global issues or an introduction to a disciplinary approach to global topics. To meet the Foundation Course requirement, students must complete at least 3 s.h. from the following list of courses:

187:001	International Studies Colloquium*	1 s.h.
187:002	Issues in International Studies*	1 s.h.
187:003	Issues in International Studies*	1 s.h.
187:004	Issues in International Studies*	1 s.h.
187:005	Making of the Modern Global System	3 s.h.
187:006	Developed and Developing Places	3 s.h.
187:007	The European Union	3 s.h.
06E:125	International Economics [p= 6E:1 & 6E:2]	3 s.h.
030:060	Introduction to International Relations	3 s.h.
036:086	Global Media Studies [p= 36:1, one of 36:40-51, 2.5 gpa or higher]	3 s.h.
044:010	The Contemporary Global System	4 s.h.
044:019	Contemporary Environmental Issues	3 s.h.
113:010	Anthropology and Contemporary World Problems	3 s.h.

*These one semester-hour modules will be taught by a variety of International Studies faculty members, will focus on a different topic each time, and are repeatable up to three times.

CORE COURSES, 6 semester hours

Students choose core courses from the following list and should look at these courses as a potential introduction to their emphasis area. In order to preserve the interdisciplinarity of the program, students must choose at least one course offered from a different department than their foundation course. It is important to note that some core courses have prerequisites and may not be suitable to all International Studies students.

187:001	International Studies Colloquium*	1 s.h.
187:002	Issues in International Studies*	1 s.h.
187:003	Issues in International Studies*	1 s.h.
187:004	Issues in International Studies*	1 s.h.
187:005	Making of the Modern Global System*	3 s.h.
187:006	Developed and Developing Places*	3 s.h.
187:007	The European Union	3 s.h.
187:050	Intro to Eastern European and Central Asian Cultures	3 s.h.
187:060	The Middle East Today: A Social Inquiry	3 s.h.
187:080	Introduction to Human Rights	3 s.h.
187:142	Introduction to Caribbean Studies (035:142)	3 s.h.
06E:125	International Economics* [p= 6E:1 & 6E:2]	3 s.h.
06J:146	International Business [Special permission required]	3 s.h.
030:060	Introduction to International Relations*	3 s.h.
030:061	Introduction to American Foreign Policy	3 s.h.
036:042	Intercultural Communication [p= 2.5 gpa or higher, 36:1]	3 s.h.
036:086	Global Media Studies*[p= 36:1, one of 36:40-51, 2.5 gpa or higher]	3 s.h.
044:010	The Contemporary Global System*	4 s.h.
044:019	Contemporary Environmental Issues*	3 s.h.
044:030	The Global Economy	3 s.h.
048:022	World Film	3 s.h.
048:040	Major Text in World Literature I	3 s.h.
048:041	Major Texts in World Literature II	3 s.h.
103:055	Languages of the World	3 s.h.
113:010	Anthropology and Contemporary World Problems*	3 s.h.
130:070	Introduction to Latin American Studies (187:070, 035:070, 038:070)	3 s.h.

*These courses count as Core Courses if they are not taken as the Foundation course.

GEOGRAPHIC OR THEMATIC EMPHASIS AREA, 12 semester hours

Students should choose either a geographic emphasis area OR a thematic emphasis area according to their individual interests. This emphasis area will be listed on the student's transcript. Emphasis areas appear below; students may visit this site to see the course lists for the geographic or thematic emphasis areas, <http://international.uiowa.edu/international-studies/students/ba/courses.asp>. Students must complete 12 semester hours from any one

emphasis area. **At least 6 semester hours of emphasis area courses must be upper level**, as defined by the department offering the course.

To declare an emphasis area see your academic advisor, or fill out the Emphasis Area Declaration form, found here:

<http://international.uiowa.edu/international-studies/documents/EmphasisAreaDeclaration.pdf>, and return it the International Studies office, or email it to ip-intlstudies@uiowa.edu.

Geographic Areas:

African Studies
Caribbean Studies
East Asian Studies
European Studies
Latin American Studies*
Middle East and Muslim World Studies
Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies
South Asian Studies

Thematic Areas:

Development
Global Artistic Tradition and Change
Global Health*
Global Resources and the Environment
Human Rights
International Business*
International Communication and Information
International Politics and International Relations
Postcolonial and Diasporic Studies
War, Peace and Security

***Please note**, students completing a certificate in Latin American Studies, Global Health Studies, International Business, or a minor in Global Health Studies may not choose the corresponding area of emphasis for the International Studies major.

Other emphasis areas for which sufficient courses exist may be developed by a student with the approval of the International Studies Coordinator. A student interested in developing an emphasis area should complete the Creating Emphasis Area form, found here: http://international.uiowa.edu/international-studies/documents/Creating_EmphasisArea.pdf.

In addition, students may, by submitting a course petition form, http://international.uiowa.edu/international-studies/documents/Creating_EmphasisArea.pdf, request that a course not appearing on the approved course list be considered for application to their I.S. major emphasis area and electives. The form should be returned to the International Studies office. **Please note**, individual course petitions will not be considered for the Foundation or Core requirements.

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES ELECTIVES, 6 semester hours

Students also must complete 6 s.h. of international studies elective course work. Electives may be chosen from any of the courses approved for the international studies major, but they must not be chosen from courses in the student's emphasis area. **At least 3 s.h. must be earned in upper-level course work**, as defined by the department offering the course.

LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT beyond the CLAS general education program requirement, 2 semesters of study, 4 s.h. minimum

All International Studies students must complete either two semesters of advanced foreign language study in the same language and beyond the minimum required for the CLAS General Education Program, OR two semesters of study of a second foreign language at any level. Languages not offered on The University of Iowa campus may be studied at other universities or through an approved study abroad program.

Some language programs offer an accelerated elementary level course for 5 semester hours that compresses two semesters of material into one semester. If an accelerated elementary level language course is taken, the student may fulfill their language requirement with 5 semester hours, *provided that the student takes another hour under electives* to meet the minimum 36 semester hour requirement for the major.

Elementary review courses (035:005, 009:010, 013:014) will not fulfill the International Studies requirement if the student has earned prior high school or college credit in that language. If an elementary review language course is taken, the student may fulfill the language requirement with 5 semester hours, *provided that the student takes another hour under electives* to meet the minimum 36 semester hour requirement for the major.

Some language programs offer upper level language courses for 2 semester hours (i.e. 009:106, 009:136). Students may fulfill the language requirement using these courses, *provided that the student takes additional semester hours under electives* to meet the minimum 36 semester hour requirement for the major.

In fulfilling the language requirement, many students are eligible to receive an additional 4 s.h. of ungraded credit under the [Foreign Language Incentive Program](#) (FLIP). This credit may be applied to the minimum of 120 s.h. required for graduation, but it does not count toward requirements for the International Studies major. In order to receive the credit, students must complete and submit an [online form](#).

SENIOR PROJECT (187:199), 3 semester hours

The Senior Project is a semester of independent work under the guidance of a faculty mentor, which culminates in the completion of a written or creative project. During the semester in which the Senior Project is to be completed, students register for 187:199 Senior Project with a faculty mentor as supervisor. Students earn 3 s.h. of graded credit for completing the Senior Project which may be:

- a 15-20 page research paper;
- an innovative research project;

- or, a creative project.

The Senior Project must be approved by a faculty mentor and the International Studies Coordinator, and it must include research, analysis, and documentation of sources. The project allows students to return to a topic or project they pursued in an earlier class or to develop a new project. In either case, the Senior Project gives students the opportunity to focus on a specific research question or artistic project in a rigorous, engaged fashion with the guidance of an expert faculty member. Ultimately, the Senior Project should demonstrate careful reading and research; it should identify an important research or aesthetic question involving an international issue, and it should offer a thoughtful, well-organized, and clearly written investigation of that research problem.

Students are encouraged to enroll in 187:095 Research and Final Project Preparation, the semester prior to taking 187:199.

Complete Senior Project guidelines can be found at:

<http://international.uiowa.edu/international-studies/students/ba/senior-project.asp>. Please see the Senior Project guidelines for the procedures, required forms and semester deadlines associated with the Senior Project.

The following Standard CLAS Independent Study Policies apply to the Senior Project:

- Students may apply up to 9 s.h. of independent study credit toward the minimum 120 s.h. required for graduation.
- Eligible Faculty: Faculty (tenure-track, clinical-track, or visiting) at the rank of assistant professor or higher and faculty at the rank of lecturer may supervise independent study courses.

Students may combine their Senior Project with an honors thesis or senior project for a second major providing that the student secures permission from each department first. Failing to obtain permission constitutes academic misconduct under The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences guidelines. A combined Senior Project must be significantly larger in both scope and length than either department requires individually. Students choosing to complete a combined project must have a faculty mentor for their Senior Project independent of the second department's thesis advisor. Students should refer to the Senior Project Guidelines for more information.

Part III: Graduating with Honors in International Studies

Students may graduate with Honors in International Studies by meeting the criteria described below.

- a. Students must fulfill all College of Liberal Arts & Sciences requirements.
- b. Students must maintain a minimum grade point average of at least 3.33 in all coursework applied to the major and all course work that **may** be applied to the International Studies major. The student must also maintain a 3.33 UI GPA.

- c. To graduate with honors in International Studies, students are required to complete a minimum of 39 semester hours of graded course work. In addition to 187:199, at least **15 semester hours** must be completed in upper-level course work chosen from emphasis areas and/or foreign language. At least **6 semester hours** of upper level coursework must be completed in the first emphasis area and at least **6 semester hours** of upper level coursework must be completed in the second emphasis area. The remaining 3 semester hours of upper level coursework may be completed in the emphasis areas or through the student's foreign language requirement.
- d. Students must complete 6 semester hours in honors courses within the major. Honors courses may be offered in individual departments as special honors sections or students may, with instructor approval, designate a course approved for International Studies as an honors course by adding additional writing assignments. The required form may be found at:
http://www.uiowa.edu/~honors/forms/pdf/honors_designation.pdf
- e. In order to preserve the interdisciplinary intent of the major, at least four departments must be represented in the student's coursework.
- f. Transfer course work can be accepted toward the major, but at least 15 s.h. of course work for the major must be earned at The University of Iowa.
- g. The student may apply only 12 semester hours of coursework from each second major, minor or certificate program (with a limit of 12 s.h. from any single department), to the International Studies major. **Please note**, students completing a certificate in Latin American Studies, Global Health Studies, International Business, or a minor in Global Health Studies may not choose the corresponding area of emphasis for the International Studies major.
- h. The semester of graduation, students must complete the Honors Program application. That form and relevant deadlines can be found on the Honors Program web site. The form must be signed by Associate Dean of International Programs, at the International Studies office, before being submitted to the Honors Program at 420 BHC.
- i. Students planning to graduate with honors in International Studies **who entered the University before Fall 2007** may choose to complete *either* 187:199 International Studies Senior Project *or* 187:198 Honors Thesis in International Studies. Please review the Honors Thesis packet online at <http://international.uiowa.edu/international-studies/students/ba/honors.asp> for additional details.
- j. Students planning to graduate with honors in International Studies **who entered the University Fall 2007 or after** must complete 187:198 Honors Thesis in International Studies in place of 187:199 International Studies Senior Project and must present their research in a poster session sponsored by International Programs. The Honors Thesis packet is available on the International Studies website at <http://international.uiowa.edu/international-studies/students/ba/honors.asp>.

- k. Students planning to graduate with honors in International Studies are required to submit their Honors Thesis to the Honors Program, 420 BHC, with the signatures of their Faculty Mentor and the International Studies Honors Advisor, (Associate Dean of International Programs), on the title page, as required by the Honors program. The form required by the Honors Program can be found on the Honors Program website. Students graduating with honors who choose to complete 187:199 International Studies Senior Project will submit their Senior Project as their Honors Thesis. In addition to submitting the thesis to the Honors Program, students graduating with honors must also submit a copy of their thesis to the International Studies office.

The requirements for a B.A. with honors can therefore be summarized as follows:

Foundation Course.....	3 s.h.
Core Courses.....	6 s.h.
Emphasis Area.....	12 s.h.
Second Emphasis Area*	9 s.h.
Language Requirement**	4-6 s.h.
Honors Thesis.....	3 s.h.
Total.....	39 s.h. minimum

* Students planning to graduate with honors in International Studies choose 9 s.h. in a second emphasis area rather than the 6 s.h. of electives required for the B.A. in International Studies. Of the 9 s.h. required for the second emphasis area, at least **6 s.h. must be taken in upper level courses**, as determined by the department offering the course.

** Student completing the foreign language requirement with less than 6 s.h. must still complete major hours totaling at least 39 s.h., with any remaining hours added to the I.S. electives.

Part IV: Declaring Your Major

Students can declare their International Studies major by contacting the Academic Advising Center <http://www.uiowa.edu/web/advisingcenter/> or by going to the College of Liberal Arts & Science Academic Programs and Services at 120 Schaeffer Hall. Information about CLAS academic services and procedures can be found here http://www.clas.uiowa.edu/students/academic_programs/.

Part V: Advising for International Studies Majors

- a. Academic Advising through Graduation

All International Studies students are assigned a professional advisor in the Academic Advising Center, <http://www.uiowa.edu/web/advisingcenter/>). Students meet with their advisor at least twice each semester, and must see their advisor in order to register. In addition to discussing the International Studies major, your adviser can discuss other majors, minors and certificate programs; help you with next semester's schedule; assist you in mapping out a plan to graduation; and lend an ear if you are having academic difficulties or

need to talk about personal issues. Your advisor can answer questions about anything on campus from “How do I drop and add classes” to “Where can I get career information?”

b. Study Abroad Advising

Students interested in studying abroad should first visit the Study Abroad Resource Room or website, <http://international.uiowa.edu/study-abroad/>. The Resource Room is staffed by peer advisers who have previously studied abroad. Students can consult with peer advisers about specific programs and travel experiences, as well as general questions about the study abroad experience. Once students have researched potential programs they should make an appointment with a Study Abroad advisor. Students can schedule an appointment by visiting the Office for Study Abroad (1111 UCC) or calling 335-0353.

c. Departmental Resources

International Studies students may contact the International Studies Coordinator when they have concerns or questions about course approvals, the senior project, or updating their degree evaluation. Call the departmental secretary at 335-0368 to make an appointment with the Coordinator.

Part VI: Study Abroad Scholarships and Guidelines

International Studies encourages all majors to consider study abroad opportunities and supports students with a \$1,000 International Studies Study Abroad Scholarship. In order to qualify for a scholarship, students must:

- be a declared International Studies major
- have earned 12 semester hours towards the major*
- participate in an approved study abroad program or an academically significant internship experience abroad which grants credit towards degree and is at least six weeks in length, and
- apply by the deadline as noted on the scholarship application. Late applications will not be considered. The IS Study Abroad Scholarship application is on our website at:
<http://international.uiowa.edu/international-studies/students/ba/study-abroad.asp>.

*If a student applies for the scholarship in the semester in which they are completing the 12 semester hours, they will receive tentative approval pending the successful completion of coursework for that semester.

In order to ensure that credit earned while abroad is approved, it is the student's responsibility to complete a Study Abroad Credit Approval Form, which is available from the student's Study Abroad Advisor, and should be submitted to the International Studies Coordinator for review. The student should also make arrangements to submit study abroad transcripts to the Study Abroad office.

More information about these procedures can be found in the on-line “Re-entry Handbook” for Study Abroad students on the Study Abroad website, <http://international.uiowa.edu/study-abroad/students/returnees/>.

Part VII: PRISM, International Studies Student Group

Preparation and Resources for International Studies Majors, Minors and Maybes (PRISM) is a recognized student organization at the University of Iowa and was created to build a social and academic network for students pursuing study in International Studies. PRISM is a student-run organization dedicated to providing support for International Studies majors and minors, helping to develop faculty contacts, and collaborating with other internationally focused student groups and members of the UI community. For more information about PRISM, see their website at: <http://www.uiowa.edu/~prism/>.

Part VIII: Earning a Minor in International Studies

To earn a minor in International Studies, students must complete 15 s.h. in courses approved for the International Studies major. To preserve the minor’s interdisciplinary nature, students may not count toward the International Studies minor more than 6 s.h. applied to another major, minor, or certificate, and no more than 6 s.h. from any single department. At least 12 s.h. applied to the minor must be course work earned at The University of Iowa and designated as upper-level by the department offering the course.

Students are required to take at least 3 s.h. from the following International Studies core courses when completing the minor:

187:001	International Studies Colloquium	1 s.h.
187:002	Issues in International Studies	1 s.h.
187:003	Issues in International Studies	1 s.h.
187:004	Issues in International Studies	1 s.h.
187:005	Making of the Modern Global System	3 s.h.
187:006	Developed and Developing Places	3 s.h.
187:007	The European Union	3 s.h.
187:050	Intro to Eastern European and Central Asian Cultures	3 s.h.
187:060	The Middle East: A Social Inquiry	3 s.h.
187:080	Introduction to Human Rights	3 s.h.
187:142	Introduction to Caribbean Studies	3 s.h.
06E:125	International Economics [p= 6E:1 & 6E:2]	3 s.h.
06J:146	International Business [Special permission required]	3 s.h.
030:060	Introduction to International Relations	3 s.h.
030:061	Introduction to American Foreign Policy	3 s.h.
036:042	Intercultural Communication [p= 2.5 gpa or higher, 36:1]	3 s.h.
036:086	Global Media Studies[p= 36:1, one of 36:40-51, 2.5 gpa or higher]	3 s.h.

044:010	The Contemporary Global System	4 s.h.
044:019	Contemporary Environmental Issues	3 s.h.
044:030	The Global Economy	3 s.h.
048:022	World Film	3 s.h.
048:040	Major Text in World Literature I	3 s.h.
048:041	Major Texts in World Literature II	3 s.h.
103:055	Languages of the World	3 s.h.
113:010	Anthropology and Contemporary World Problems	3 s.h.
130:070	Introduction to Latin American Studies (187:070, 035:070, 038:070)	3 s.h.

Courses approved for International Studies coursework can be found at the link below:

<http://international.uiowa.edu/international-studies/students/ba/courses.asp>.