

B.A. IN INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

Overview

The International Studies major provides a focused educational experience aimed at familiarizing students with the key structural features and dynamics of the international system and preparing them to enter the growing international job market. Processes of globalization, in part driven by global capital flows, expanding trade and the unrelenting development of communication and information technologies, have affected virtually everyone in every country, often in ways we are just beginning to understand. These developments often pose serious problems for government and other societal institutions, while also creating a demand for individuals who understand international processes. Jobs in virtually all sectors have acquired a decidedly international dimension, whether in trade, tourism, finance, public policy, government, or education. INS Graduates have moved on to the corporate world, the public sector, started their own businesses, or have continued their studies at the graduate level (i.e. Law, Business, and International Studies).

Curriculum Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Core Requirements		
INS 101 or INS 103	Global Perspectives ¹ World in Crisis	3
INS 102	Global Economics	3
INS 201 or GEG 110	Globalization and Change in World Politics ¹ Introduction to Human Geography	3
INS 202	INS Methodology	3
Thematic Core		
Select a total of 6 courses from the following listed below: ²		18
INS 321	International Development	
INS 322	Economics of Development and the Environment	
INS 357	Global Food: A Hands-On Approach	
INS 359	Culture, Civilizations and Religion in International Relations	
INS 460	United Nations Seminar	
INS 501	Capstone in International Studies	
INS 519	Internship: Knowledge Partnership Civic Engagement	
INS 533	Transnational Social Movements	
INS 561	Negotiation and Bargaining	
INS 566	U.S.-Latin American Relations	
INS 569	Global Issues and Film Making: A Trans-disciplinary Approach	
INS 584	Latin American Thought	
INS 591	The European Union	
INS 592	European Union and the World	
INS 594	European Topics	
GHS 570	Globalization and Health	
GHS 571	Global Health and International Development	
GHS 573	Disasters, Terrorism and Global Public Health	
POL 340	Civil Wars	
POL 384	Postcommunist Russian Politics	
GEG 306	Geographic Research Methods	
GEG 310	Geographic Information Systems I	
GEG 312	People, Plagues Pandemics	
GEG 321	Remote Sensing of the Environment	
GEG 331	Sustainable Development	
GEG 335	Sustainable Food Systems	
GEG 337	Climate Change, Sea Level Rise and Society	
GEG 338	Landscape Character, Dynamics, Evolution; Influence on Societal Habitation and Risks	
GEG 341	Population, Health, and Environment	

GEG 343	Population, Sustainability, and the Media	
GEG 345	Global Water Security Sustainability	
GEG 346	Immigrant and Refugee Health	
GEG 348	Climate Change and Public Health	
GEG 351	Geopolitics and Peacebuilding	
GEG 357	Economics of Sustainable Development	
GEG 366	Cities in Time and Space	
GEG 382	Political Geography of the Middle East	
GEG 386	China in the 21st Century	
GEG 410	Geographic Information Systems II	
GEG 414	Crime Mapping and Analysis	
GEG 432	Climate Change and Security	
GEG 520	Sustainable Cities	
INS Electives and Interdisciplinary Options		
Select six credit hours of electives at the 300 level or above. ³		6
General Education Requirements		
Written Communication Skills:		
WRS 105	First-Year Writing I	3
WRS 106 or ENG 106	First-Year Writing II Writing About Literature and Culture	3
Quantitative Skills:		
MTH 113	Finite Mathematics	3
Areas of Knowledge:		
Arts and Humanities Cognate		9
People & Society Cognate (9 credits) (fulfilled through the major)		
STEM Cognate		9
Additional Required Courses		
UMX 100	The University of Miami Experience	0
Language Requirement		3-9
Minor Requirement		15
General Electives		33
Total Credit Hours		120

¹ These courses must be completed before taking the Thematic Core courses. Students may take either INS 101 or INS 103.

² Additional classes will be counted toward the elective portion of the INS major, if taken. Other courses, including classes in other disciplines, may be taken with the approval of the INS Advisor.

³ With the approval of the INS Advisor, students may take courses from other departments outside of INS such as Geography and Regional Studies, History, Anthropology, Sociology, Political Science, Economics, Religion, Art History, Foreign Languages, Environmental Science, et cetera. Appropriate study abroad courses, an approved internship (INS 519), or an honors thesis (INS 418 & INS 419) may also be used to fulfill elective credit hour requirements.

Important Advising Notes for all International Studies Majors

- Double Counting:** Of the combined courses in the INS Electives, no more than 6 credit hours may count double towards a second major. Any course used to fulfill the requirements of a minor may not be used to fulfill the requirements of the INS major.
- Study Abroad:** Students are strongly encouraged to study abroad for a summer, a semester, or an entire year, depending on the program. Study abroad at carefully selected institutions will complement the student's curriculum and area of specialization, will enhance fluency in the foreign language, and will result in heightened affinity for a foreign culture. The study abroad experience need not result in credit hour overloads or extended time spent in the program.
- Internship Credit Hour:** Students are encouraged to find a suitable internship during their undergraduate career. Upon approval by an advisor in the International Studies Undergraduate Program Office, 3 credit hours may be earned with an internship (INS 519), either toward the major or as elective credit hours (depending on the relevance of the particular internship to the INS major). The University's Toppel Career Planning and Placement Center regularly advertises internships.

4. **Academic Standing:** Only courses in which a grade of C- or better is attained, may be counted towards the International Studies major and students must maintain a GPA of 2.75 or better in all major requirements (30 credit hours).

Suggested Plan of Study

Year One		
Fall		Credit Hours
WRS 105	First-Year Writing I	3
MTH 113	Finite Mathematics	3
UMX 100	The University of Miami Experience	0
INS 101	Global Perspectives	3
Language 101 Course		3
STEM Cognate Course		3
	Credit Hours	15
Spring		
WRS 106 or ENG 106	First-Year Writing II or Writing About Literature and Culture	3
INS 103	World in Crisis	3
INS 201	Globalization and Change in World Politics	3
Language 102 Course		3
Arts and Humanities Cognate Course		3
	Credit Hours	15
Year Two		
Fall		
INS 394	European Topics	3
Arts and Humanities Cognate Course		3
Language 201 Course		3
STEM Cognate Course		3
INS Elective 300 level or higher		3
	Credit Hours	15
Spring		
Arts and Humanities Cognate Course		3
INS Elective 300 level or higher		3
Minor Course		3
STEM Cognate Course		3
Thematic Core Course		3
	Credit Hours	15
Year Three		
Fall		
Thematic Core Course		3
Thematic Core Course		3
General Elective		3
Minor Course		3
Minor Course		3
	Credit Hours	15
Spring		
Thematic Core Course		3
Thematic Core Course		3
Minor Course		3
General Elective		3
General Elective		3
	Credit Hours	15

Year Four		
Fall		
Thematic Core Course		3
Minor Course		3
General Elective		3
General Elective		3
General Elective		3
Credit Hours		15
Spring		
INS 519	Internship: Knowledge Partnership Civic Engagement	3
General Elective		3
General Elective		3
General Elective		3
General Elective		3
Credit Hours		15
Total Credit Hours		120

Mission

The INS Program promotes, through its interdisciplinary reach, the exploration of various theoretical and analytical approaches and methodological techniques intended to offer students a broad program of study focused on the interaction between the local and the global, from the historical to the contemporary, while tracking possible alternative future scenarios and developments in the international system.

Goals

- International Studies seeks to provide students with the ability to understand international politics within the context of interstate relations and foreign policy.
- International Studies seeks to provide students with the ability to understand international economics and its sub-discipline international political economy, including such issues as trade and production, money and finance, and development.
- International Studies seeks to provide students with the ability to understand social science research methods including qualitative, quantitative, comparative case study and formal modeling.

Student Learning Outcomes

- Students will demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of international studies within the context of interstate relations and foreign policy.
- Students will be encouraged to explore interdisciplinary options that further their understanding of international studies and will produce a paper project that demonstrates competencies in presenting interdisciplinary approaches to international studies. (This type of coursework can be taken in other disciplines offered at the university or taken outside the institution, either through exchange programs or other inter-institutional options provided by UM).
- Students will demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of international economics and its sub-discipline international political economy. Specific issues such as trade and production, money and finance, and development are categories for students to demonstrate their level of knowledge.
- Students will demonstrate the ability to design and conduct social science research after an introduction to qualitative, quantitative, and comparative case study, and formal modeling methods.
- Students will demonstrate the ability to write critical essays (average 25 pages) in all classes except those emphasizing economics and methodology.