

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (MA)

Department Website (<http://as.nyu.edu/ir/>)

NYSED: 33288 HEGIS: 2210.00 CIP: 45.0901

Program Description

Since 1886, NYU's Graduate School of Arts and Science (GSAS) has prepared generations of global leaders. The MA in International Relations (MAIR) continues that tradition, training MAIR candidates for careers in the field of international affairs with a rigorous curriculum rooted in world-class scholarship. Our graduate program approaches International Relations as a subject that can be studied from a variety of disciplinary perspectives, using various methodologies. Drawing on scholars from across GSAS, as well as colleagues at the Law School, the Stern School of Business, and the Wagner School of Public Service, MAIR candidates have a range of academic options to shape their degree and career trajectory. Moreover, the Program strives to offer events on various topics with scholars, practitioners, and students to create an academic and professional dialogue within the field.

Dual Degree

The International Relations Department offers a dual degree with the NYU Wagner Graduate School of Public Service: International Development Policy and Management Specialization MPA/International Relations MA (<https://wagner.nyu.edu/education/degrees/dual-degree-program/MPA-international-development-MA-international-relations/>).

See International Relations (<https://gsas.nyu.edu/admissions/arc/programs/international-relations.html>) for admission requirements and instructions specific to this program.

Admissions

All applicants to the Graduate School of Arts and Science (GSAS) are required to submit the general application requirements (<https://gsas.nyu.edu/nyu-as/gsas/admissions/arc.html>), which include:

- Academic Transcripts (<https://gsas.nyu.edu/nyu-as/gsas/admissions/arc/academic-transcripts.html>)
- Test Scores (<https://gsas.nyu.edu/nyu-as/gsas/admissions/arc/test-scores.html>) (if required)
- Applicant Statements (<https://gsas.nyu.edu/nyu-as/gsas/admissions/arc/statements.html>)
- Résumé or Curriculum Vitae
- Letters of Recommendation (<https://gsas.nyu.edu/nyu-as/gsas/admissions/arc/letters-of-recommendation.html>), and
- A non-refundable application fee (<https://gsas.nyu.edu/admissions/arc.html#fee>).

See International Relations (<https://gsas.nyu.edu/admissions/arc/programs/international-relations.html>) for admission requirements and instructions specific to this program.

Program Requirements

General Program

Course	Title	Credits
Major Requirements		
INTRL-GA 1700	International Relations	4
INTRL-GA 1600	Global & Intl History	4
INTRL-GA 3992	Writing for International Affairs	2
Elective Core Requirements		
Select one of the following:		4
INTRL-GA 1120	Quantitative Analysis I	
INTRL-GA 1220	Qualitative Analysis I	
INTRL-GA 1450	Regional & Comp Politics	
INTRL-GA 1900	The World Economy	
Thesis Seminar		
INTRL-GA 4000	Master's Thesis Seminar	2
Other Elective Requirements ¹		
Select a minimum of 12 credits in International Relations electives defined as any course listed under International Relations course code, INTRL-GA		12
Select 12 credits of general electives which can be a graduate level course from any NYU department or school, subject to approval from the Program Director		12
Total Credits		40

¹ Students cannot double-count core or required courses as elective courses, but may take additional core courses to fulfill the elective course requirements.

Concentrations

Students in this program may compliment their major with one of the following concentrations:

Asian Studies

The program will provide a listing of approved Asian Studies elective course offerings each term. Other NYU courses may be approved as electives with the permission of the program director. Courses taken outside the IR program may require permission of the instructor. Students must also attain the level of "advanced" in an Asian language (speaking, oral comprehension, reading, and writing), to be demonstrated by passing an examination; completing a third-year language course with a grade of B+ or higher; or completion of primary and/or secondary school with language of instruction in an Asian language.

Course	Title	Credits
Major Requirements		
INTRL-GA 1700	International Relations	4
INTRL-GA 1600	Global & Intl History	4
INTRL-GA 3992	Writing for International Affairs	2
Elective Core Requirements		
Select one of the following:		4

INTRL-GA 1120	Quantitative Analysis I	
INTRL-GA 1220	Qualitative Analysis I	
INTRL-GA 1450	Regional & Comp Politics	
INTRL-GA 1900	The World Economy	
Thesis Seminar		
INTRL-GA 4000	Master's Thesis Seminar	2
Other Elective Requirements ¹		
Select a minimum of 12 credits in International Relations electives defined as any course listed under International Relations course code, INTRL-GA		12
Select 12 credits of Asian Studies electives, by advisement		12
Total Credits		40

¹ Students cannot double-count core or required courses as elective courses, but may take additional core courses to fulfill the elective course requirements.

European and Mediterranean Studies

In addition to the requirements shown below, students must also attain the level of "advanced" in a contemporary European language (speaking, oral comprehension, reading, and writing), to be demonstrated by either passing an examination or completing a third-year language course with a grade of B+ or higher.

Course	Title	Credits
Major Requirements		
INTRL-GA 1700	International Relations	4
INTRL-GA 1600	Global & Intl History	4
INTRL-GA 3992	Writing for International Affairs	2
EURO-GA 2301	What is Europe?	4
Elective Core Requirements		
Select one of the following:		4
INTRL-GA 1120	Quantitative Analysis I	
INTRL-GA 1220	Qualitative Analysis I	
INTRL-GA 1450	Regional & Comp Politics	
INTRL-GA 1900	The World Economy	
Thesis Seminar		
INTRL-GA 4000	Master's Thesis Seminar	2
Other Elective Requirements ¹		
Select a minimum of 12 credits in International Relations electives defined as any course listed under International Relations course code, INTRL-GA		12
Select 8 credits of European and Mediterranean Studies electives, by advisement		8
Total Credits		40

¹ Students cannot double-count core or required courses as elective courses, but may take additional core courses to fulfill the elective course requirements.

International Law

Students must complete the same core and required course sequences as the standard MA program described above. In addition students must take 12 credits in International Law electives and 12 credits in International Relation electives. All other requirements are the same. The following existing international law courses will be accepted as the concentration's international law electives.

Course	Title	Credits
Major Requirements		
INTRL-GA 1700	International Relations	4
INTRL-GA 1600	Global & Intl History	4
INTRL-GA 3992	Writing for International Affairs	2
Elective Core Requirements		
Select one of the following:		4
INTRL-GA 1120	Quantitative Analysis I	
INTRL-GA 1220	Qualitative Analysis I	
INTRL-GA 1450	Regional & Comp Politics	
INTRL-GA 1900	The World Economy	
Thesis Seminar		
INTRL-GA 4000	Master's Thesis Seminar	2
Other Elective Requirements ¹		
Select a minimum of 12 credits in International Relations electives defined as any course listed under International Relations course code, INTRL-GA		12
Select 12 credits of International Law electives, by advisement		12
Total Credits		40

¹ Students cannot double-count core or required courses as elective courses, but may take additional core courses to fulfill the elective course requirements.

The following existing international law courses will be accepted as the concentration's international law electives:

- European Union Law (LAW-LW.10851.001)
- Chinese Attitudes Toward International Law Seminar (LAW-LW.10070.001)
- Indigenous Peoples in International Law (LAW-LW.10902.001)
- International Human Rights and Humanitarian Law Scholarship Seminar (LAW-LW.10492.001)
- International Human Rights (LAW-LW.11329.001)
- International Humanitarian Law (LAW-LW.12259.001)
- The United Nations and the Making of International Law Seminar (LAW-LW.10043.001)
- War, Crime and Terror Seminar (LAW-LW.11756.001)
- European Human Rights Law (LAW-LW.11601.001)

- Foreign Relations Law of the United States Seminar (LAW-LW.10235.001)
- History and Theory of International Law Seminar (LAW-LW.10997.001)
- International Organizations (LAW-LW.10256.001)
- Law and Development (Colloquium only; LAW-LW.10295.001)

Other NYU courses may be approved as electives with the permission of the program director. The Law School courses above will require permission from the instructor and for students to fill out this request form (<https://www.law.nyu.edu/sites/default/files/Non-Law%20Student%20Request%20Spring%202024.pdf>). Space is limited and priority will be given to Law students.

International Politics and Business

Course	Title	Credits
Major Requirements		
INTRL-GA 1700	International Relations	4
INTRL-GA 1600	Global & Intl History	4
INTRL-GA 3992	Writing for International Affairs	2
Elective Core Requirements		
Select one of the following:		4
INTRL-GA 1120	Quantitative Analysis I	
INTRL-GA 1220	Qualitative Analysis I	
INTRL-GA 1450	Regional & Comp Politics	
INTRL-GA 1900	The World Economy	
Thesis Seminar		
INTRL-GA 4000	Master's Thesis Seminar	2
Other Elective Requirements ¹		
Select a minimum of 12 credits in International Relations electives defined as any course listed under International Relations course code, INTRL-GA		12
Select 12 elective credits at NYU Stern, by advisement		12
Total Credits		40

¹ Students cannot double-count core or required courses as elective courses, but may take additional core courses to fulfill the elective course requirements.

Latin American and Caribbean Studies

The program will provide a listing of approved Latin American and Caribbean Studies elective course offerings each term. Other NYU courses may be approved as electives with the permission of the program director. Courses taken outside the IR program may require permission of the instructor. Students must also attain the level of "advanced" in a Latin American or Caribbean language (speaking, oral comprehension, reading, and writing), to be demonstrated by passing an examination; completing a third-year language course with a grade of B+ or higher; or completion of primary and/or secondary school with language of instruction in a relevant language.

Course	Title	Credits
Major Requirements		
INTRL-GA 1700	International Relations	4

INTRL-GA 1600	Global & Intl History	4
INTRL-GA 3992	Writing for International Affairs	2
LATC-GA 2001	Intro Lat Am & Carib II: Hemispheric & Postcol	4
Elective Core Requirements		
Select one of the following:		4
INTRL-GA 1120	Quantitative Analysis I	
INTRL-GA 1220	Qualitative Analysis I	
INTRL-GA 1450	Regional & Comp Politics	
INTRL-GA 1900	The World Economy	
Thesis Seminar		
INTRL-GA 4000	Master's Thesis Seminar	2
Other Elective Requirements ¹		
Select a minimum of 12 credits in International Relations electives defined as any course listed under International Relations course code, INTRL-GA		12
Select 8 credits of Latin American and Caribbean Studies electives, by advisement		8
Total Credits		40

¹ Students cannot double-count core or required courses as elective courses, but may take additional core courses to fulfill the elective course requirements.

Middle Eastern and Levantine Studies

The program will provide a listing of approved Middle East and Levantine Studies elective course offerings each term. Other NYU courses may be approved as electives with the permission of the program director. Courses taken outside the IR program may require permission of the instructor. Students must also attain the level of "advanced" in a language of North Africa or Middle East (Arabic, Persian, Turkish, Greek, Hebrew, and Armenian). Language skills (speaking, oral comprehension, reading, and writing) are demonstrated by passing an examination; completing a third-year language course with a grade of B+ or higher; or completion of primary and/or secondary school with language of instruction in a language of the Levant.

Course	Title	Credits
Major Requirements		
INTRL-GA 1700	International Relations	4
INTRL-GA 1600	Global & Intl History	4
INTRL-GA 3992	Writing for International Affairs	2
INTRL-GA 1756	Middle East Politics	4
Elective Core Requirements		
Select one of the following:		4
INTRL-GA 1120	Quantitative Analysis I	
INTRL-GA 1220	Qualitative Analysis I	
INTRL-GA 1450	Regional & Comp Politics	
INTRL-GA 1900	The World Economy	

Thesis Seminar		
INTRL-GA 4000	Master's Thesis Seminar	2
Other Elective Requirements ¹		
Select a minimum of 12 credits in International Relations electives defined as any course listed under International Relations course code, INTRL-GA	12	
Select 8 credits of Middle Eastern and Levantine Studies electives, by advisement	8	
Total Credits	40	

¹ Students cannot double-count core or required courses as elective courses, but may take additional core courses to fulfill the elective course requirements.

Russian and Slavic Studies

In addition to the program requirements below, students must also attain the level of "advanced" in all Russian language skills (speaking, oral comprehension, reading, and writing), to be demonstrated by either passing an examination or completing a third-year Russian language course (NYU's RUSSN-UA 108 Advanced Russian II equivalent) with a grade of B+ or higher.

Course	Title	Credits
Major Requirements		
INTRL-GA 1700	International Relations	4
INTRL-GA 1600	Global & Intl History	4
INTRL-GA 3992	Writing for International Affairs	2
RUSSN-GA 2121	Graduate Proseminar	4
Elective Core Requirements		
Select one of the following:		4
INTRL-GA 1120	Quantitative Analysis I	
INTRL-GA 1220	Qualitative Analysis I	
INTRL-GA 1450	Regional & Comp Politics	
INTRL-GA 1900	The World Economy	
Thesis Seminar		
INTRL-GA 4000	Master's Thesis Seminar	2
Other Elective Requirements ¹		
Select a minimum of 12 credits in International Relations electives defined as any course listed under International Relations course code, INTRL-GA	12	
Select 8 credits of Russian and Slavic Studies electives, by advisement	8	
Total Credits	40	

¹ Students cannot double-count core or required courses as elective courses, but may take additional core courses to fulfill the elective course requirements.

U.S. Foreign Policy

The thesis requirement for this program must deal with a policy issue relevant to U.S. foreign policy.

Course	Title	Credits
Major Requirements		
INTRL-GA 1700	International Relations	4
INTRL-GA 1600	Global & Intl History	4
INTRL-GA 3992	Writing for International Affairs	2
INTRL-GA 1748	US Foreign Policy	4
INTRL-GA 1751	The US in the World	4
Elective Core Requirements		
Select one of the following:		4
INTRL-GA 1120	Quantitative Analysis I	
INTRL-GA 1220	Qualitative Analysis I	
INTRL-GA 1450	Regional & Comp Politics	
INTRL-GA 1900	The World Economy	
Thesis Seminar		
INTRL-GA 4000	Master's Thesis Seminar	2
Other Elective Requirements ¹		
Select a minimum of 8 credits in International Relations electives defined as any course listed under International Relations course code, INTRL-GA	8	
Select 8 credits of U.S. Foreign Policy electives, by advisement	8	
Total Credits	40	

¹ Students cannot double-count core or required courses as elective courses, but may take additional core courses to fulfill the elective course requirements.

Additional Program Requirements

Thesis

Students are required to take INTRL-GA 4000 Master's Thesis Seminar, during their last semester. The course is designed to provide structure and guidance to students writing a thesis. The thesis will be an academic work of ~15,000 words dealing with an important and timely topic in international relations.

Internship

To further their professional development all MAIR students are required to complete an internship. The internship places students in a professional work environment in either the public or private sector. The internship must total at least 140 hours over 14 weeks. Students can opt out of the Internship requirement if they are pursuing a scholarly track with the intention of completing a PhD after earning the MA. In this case, students complete the 'Readings and Research' course, INTRL-GA 3991 Reading and Research, in lieu of 2 points of International Relations Electives in their second to last term, and then the Master's Thesis Seminar, INTRL-GA 4000 Master's Thesis Seminar, in their final term. The R&R course work should be designed with their MA thesis supervisor to provide for a more advanced and rigorous MA thesis.

Language

Students must demonstrate proficiency in one language other than English. Students demonstrate proficiency in a foreign language by completing one of the following:

1. Passing the GSAS foreign language proficiency examination;
2. completing an intermediate-level foreign language course with a grade of B or better at NYU or another accredited institution (student must submit official transcript as proof of completion); or
3. completing secondary education or undergraduate degree in an institution where language of instruction is not English.

Sample Plan of Study

Course	Title	Credits
1st Semester/Term		
INTRL-GA 1600	Global & Intl History	4
INTRL-GA 3992		2
General Elective/IR Elective		4
Credits		10
2nd Semester/Term		
INTRL-GA 1700	International Relations	4
One of INTRL-GA 1120, 1220, 1450 or 1900	Elective Core Course	4
General Elective/IR Elective		4
Credits		12
3rd Semester/Term		
General Elective/IR Elective		4
General Elective/IR Elective		4
General Elective/IR Elective		4
Credits		12
4th Semester/Term		
General Elective/IR Elective		4
INTRL-GA 4000	Master's Thesis Seminar	2
Credits		6
Total Credits		40

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the program, graduates will have:

1. The ability to conduct rigorous investigation and analysis of a wide range of social phenomena, with a particular emphasis on International Relations and International Affairs.
2. An understanding of common theories in the field of International Relations and their application to current and historical events.
3. Used a combination of quantitative and/or qualitative research methods in addressing a substantial range of research questions in the field.
4. The ability to write high quality research papers and/or policy papers on a range of topics in the field of International Relations.
5. The ability to communicate concepts in the field of International Relations at a level that is appropriate for a practitioner or analyst of the field and utilize these concepts in future graduate study or place of employment.

Policies

NYU Policies

University-wide policies can be found on the New York University Policy pages (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/nyu/policies/>).

Graduate School of Arts and Science Policies

Academic Policies for the Graduate School of Arts and Science can be found on the Academic Policies page (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/graduate/arts-science/academic-policies/>).