

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (BA)

Department Website (<https://as.nyu.edu/departments/politics.html>)

NYSED: 25086 HEGIS: 0221.00 CIP: 45.0901

Program Description

International relations (IR), offered through the Wilf Family Department of Politics, seeks to provide students with an understanding of the global system's past, the tools to function effectively in the present, and the ability to respond to future developments. The program recognizes the changing nature of the contemporary political and economic environment and seeks to lay an interdisciplinary basis for understanding these changes. It provides students with an opportunity to study the complex web of transnational politics in an in-depth, interdisciplinary fashion. The breadth of courses is designed to match the breadth of knowledge and skills that the field requires. The program combines a foundation of core courses in politics, economics, and statistics with a suite of classes on international relations and political economy, elective courses focused on a particular region, advanced study in a foreign language, and a required semester of study abroad. An honors program is offered for qualified students, who take an additional two-semester seminar sequence in their senior year in which they write a thesis under close supervision of faculty members.

Honors Program

Students who have a 3.65 GPA, both overall and in the IR major, and who are motivated to pursue independent research with an emphasis on quantitative methods and techniques may apply to the program's honors track. Honors students take the two-semester (8 point) Senior Seminar sequence (INTRL-UA 990 Ir Senior Seminar, INTRL-UA 991 Ir Senior Honors) in which they work closely with faculty advisers as they write a senior thesis.

Admissions

New York University's Office of Undergraduate Admissions supports the application process for all undergraduate programs at NYU. For additional information about undergraduate admissions, including application requirements, see [How to Apply \(https://www.nyu.edu/admissions/undergraduate-admissions/how-to-apply.html\)](https://www.nyu.edu/admissions/undergraduate-admissions/how-to-apply.html).

Program Requirements

The major requirements are comprised of four core courses, four courses in the international relations environment, and two courses in a regional specialization. Students must demonstrate proficiency in a foreign language (two courses past the intermediate level) and complete a full semester (not a summer session) in a study away program outside the United States. Students majoring in IR may double-count no more than two courses between this major and a second major or a minor. They must first secure permission from both the IR program and the other major or minor department or program.

Course	Title	Credits
General Education Requirements		
First-Year Seminar		4
EXPOS-UA 1	Writing The Essay:	4
Foreign Language ¹		16

Physical Science		4
Life Science		4
Texts and Ideas		4
Cultures and Contexts		4
Expressive Culture		4
Major Requirements		
<i>Core Courses</i>		
ECON-UA 1	Introduction to Macroeconomics (or equivalent advanced standing credit)	4
ECON-UA 2	Introduction to Microeconomics (or equivalent advanced standing credit)	4
POL-UA 700	International Politics (advanced standing credits are not accepted)	4
POL-UA 850	Introduction to Research Methods for Politics (advanced standing credits are not accepted)	4
<i>International Relations Environment Requirement</i>		
Select four International Relations Environment courses		16
<i>Regional Specialization Requirement</i>		
Select two courses ²		8
<i>Foreign Language Requirement</i>		
Select two courses beyond the intermediate level ³		8
Electives		
Other Elective Credits		36
Total Credits		128

1

The foreign language requirement is satisfied upon successful completion through the Intermediate level of a language. This may be accomplished in fewer than 16 credits, but those credits must then be completed as elective credit.

2

Majors must complete two courses (8 credits) focusing on a particular world region in a variety of disciplines, including economics, history, politics, sociology, and area studies. These courses are normally taken during the term away. Whether taken at Washington Square or away, both courses must be approved in advance by the program director or the undergraduate advisor for IR. We do not accept courses in art, art history, literature, or film for this requirement.

3

It is recommended but not required that the language be related to the regional specialization and/or the study away site. If a student considers himself or herself fluent in a foreign language, he or she can 1) complete the requirement with a third language or 2) take two advanced courses (literature or advanced translation) in the foreign language of the student's fluency. In either case, the student must take two courses past the intermediate level; we do not waive this requirement for the IR major.

Study Away Requirement

All majors in IR must spend a semester (not a summer session) outside the United States at an NYU Global Academic Center or at one of the universities with which NYU has an exchange agreement. Permission to study at any other site must be petitioned in advance in the Office of the Associate Dean for Students (726 Broadway, 7th floor; 212-998-8140; cas.nyu.edu/academic-standards (<http://cas.nyu.edu/academic-standards.html>)), after approval by the IR program. Students may study abroad for an entire year, so long as they can complete the

necessary requirements for the major and consult beforehand with the undergraduate advisor for IR.

Sample Plan of Study

Course	Title	Credits
1st Semester/Term		
POL-UA 700	International Politics	4
Texts and Ideas		4
First-Year Seminar		4
Foreign Language ¹		4
Credits		16
2nd Semester/Term		
ECON-UA 1	Introduction to Macroeconomics (if no advanced standing credit)	4
EXPOS-UA 1	Writing The Essay:	4
Foreign Language ¹		4
Cultures and Contexts		4
Credits		16
3rd Semester/Term		
ECON-UA 2	Introduction to Microeconomics (if no advanced standing credit)	4
International Relations Environment Requirement 1 of 4 ²		4
Foreign Language ¹		4
Expressive Culture		4
Credits		16
4th Semester/Term		
POL-UA 850	Introduction to Research Methods for Politics	4
International Relations Environment Requirement 2 of 4 ²		4
International Relations Environment Requirement 3 of 4 ²		4
Foreign Language ¹		4
Credits		16
5th Semester/Term		
Regional Specialization Requirement 1 of 2 ³		4
Regional Specialization Requirement 2 of 2 ³		4
Advanced Foreign Language Course 1 of 2 ⁴		4
Elective		4
Credits		16
6th Semester/Term		
International Relations Environment Requirement 4 of 4 ²		4
Advanced Foreign Language Course 2 of 2 ⁴		4
Physical Science		4
Elective		4
Credits		16
7th Semester/Term		
Life Science		4
Elective		4
Elective		4
Elective		4
Credits		16
8th Semester/Term		
Elective		4
Elective		4
Elective		4
Elective		4
Credits		16
Total Credits		128

1

IR majors are advised to choose a language related to their intended regional specialization and/or intended study away site.

2

Chosen by advisement from a list of approved courses.

3

Both courses must be approved in advance by the IR program director or the undergraduate advisor and are usually taken during the mandatory study away term. Typical disciplines are economics, history, politics, sociology, and area studies. Courses in art, art history, literature, film, etc. are not accepted for this requirement.

4

All IR majors must take two courses above the intermediate level; it is strongly recommended that the language be related to the regional specialization and/or study away site.

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of program requirements, students are expected to have acquired:

1. The ability to analyze both complex political issues and quantitative data.
2. Knowledge of the fundamental theoretical debates in the field of international relations.
3. Advanced knowledge of a specialized topic in international relations, and the requisite skills for conducting sophisticated research on that topic.
4. Fluency in presenting well-grounded arguments, both orally and in writing.

Policies

Eligibility to Declare the Major

To be eligible to declare the major, students must first complete POL-UA 700 International Politics. They must also first complete either ECON-UA 1 Introduction to Macroeconomics or ECON-UA 2 Introduction to Microeconomics, or present equivalent Advanced Placement or other advanced standing credit in economics.

Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, and A-Level Credits

Students who have advanced standing credits for macroeconomics and/or microeconomics may count them toward the IR major's requirements of ECON-UA 1 Introduction to Macroeconomics and ECON-UA 2 Introduction to Microeconomics. However, statistics credit from AP, IB, or A Levels does not satisfy the IR major's research methodology requirement.

NYU Policies

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

College of Arts and Science Policies

A full list of relevant academic policies can be found on the CAS Academic Policies page (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/undergraduate/arts-science/academic-policies/>).