



Choose
UMSL

And your major.

International Relations BA

The BA in International Relations is designed for students who want to change the world through careers in government service, nonprofits, business, think tanks, and consulting. The curriculum provides flexibility in allowing students to select international relations and comparative politics courses that will prepare them for their specific career and academic needs. Throughout the program students will develop skills in critical thinking, communication, quantitative analysis, and cultural awareness along with deeper knowledge of cross-cultural and international phenomena. These skills will prepare students for the workforce as well graduate study. Students have opportunities to apply these skills through internships and study abroad.

Career Outlook

There is demand for employees who have a global understanding and incorporate a variety of perspectives to solve problems. Graduates can work in government, think tanks, consulting firms, nonprofit organizations, and businesses. Early and mid-career International Affairs graduates enjoy higher average salaries than those in Business Management and many other fields. Students will be also prepared for graduate school; careers for an MA in International Relations have median pay of \$97,500 and 21% projected employment growth.

Future Career Options

- International Affairs Military Officer
- International Law Specialist
- Research Analyst
- National Security Expert
- Consultant
- Communications Specialist
- Program Officer
- Humanitarian Advocate
- Educator

Skills Developed by Degree Completion

- Identify key trends in IR expected to impact life in the US and other countries in the foreseeable future
- Demonstrate cross-cultural competence and a global worldview
- Apply major international relations theories and concepts to contemporary issues in global affairs
- Analyze the foreign policy behavior of the US and other major actors in world politics
- Compare and contrast the major political, economic, cultural, and geographic features of different regions of the world
- Assess international relations issues, formulate evidence-based recommendations, and communicate them with clarity and coherence.

Successful alumni have gone on to fulfill many of the opportunities above. Additional possibilities are taken from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Contact an advisor to discuss additional future career options.

4-YEAR ACADEMIC MAP

Bachelor of Arts in International Relations

Year

1

FALL SEMESTER (16 credit hours)

POL SCI 1100: Introduction to American Politics (3)
 GEN ED CORE: Mathematics Proficiency (3)
 ENGL 1100: First-Year Writing (3)
 GEN ED EXPLORE: Math & Life/Natural Sciences (3)
 GEN ED EXPLORE: Humanities & Fine Arts (3)
 INTDSC 1003: University Studies (1)

SPRING SEMESTER (15 credit hours)

POL SCI 1500: Introduction to Comparative Politics (3)
 GEN ED EXPLORE: Humanities & Fine Arts (3)
 GEN ED EXPLORE: Math & Life/Natural Sciences (3)
 GEN ED CORE: Communication Proficiency (3)
 Elective (3)

Year

2

FALL SEMESTER (14 credit hours)

POL SCI 1800: Introduction to International Politics (3)
 POL SCI XXXX: Comparative Politics Course (3)
 GEN ED EXPLORE: Humanities & Fine Arts (3)
 FGN LANG 1001: Language & Culture I (5)

SPRING SEMESTER (15 credit hours)

POL SCI 2800: International Relations Theories (3)
 GEN ED EXPLORE: Math & Life/Natural Sciences (3)
 FGN LANG 1002: Language & Culture II (5)
 Elective (3)
 Elective (1)

Year

3

FALL SEMESTER (15 credit hours)

POL SCI 3000: Political Analysis (3)
 POL SCI XXXX: International Relations Course (3)
 FGN LANG 2101: Language & Culture III (3)
 Elective (3)
 Elective (3)

SPRING SEMESTER (15 credit hours)

POL SCI XXXX: Comparative Politics Course (3)
 POL SCI XXXX: International Relations Course (3)
 ENGL 3100: Junior-Level Writing or Equivalent (3)
 Elective (3)
 Elective (3)

Year

4

FALL SEMESTER (15 credit hours)

POL SCI XXXX: International Relations Course (3)
 POL SCI XXXX: Comparative Politics Course (3)
 Elective (3)
 Elective (3)
 Elective (3)

SPRING SEMESTER (15 credit hours)

POL SCI 4950: Senior Seminar in Political Science (3)
 POL SCI XXXX: International Relations Course (3)
 Elective (3)
 Elective (3)
 Elective (3)


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Degree completed!

2023-2024

4-YEAR ACADEMIC MAP

This is a sample academic map for the courses to take each academic semester/session. ***This map is not a substitute for academic advisement.*** Contact your advisor when making final selections.



– University Studies

is required for all first-year students and those with less than 24 credit hours.



– Milestone courses

should be taken in the order shown to ensure you stay on a timely and accurate path toward graduation.



– **Summer and Intersession courses** Don't forget that summers and winter breaks are a way to fast-track your route to degree completion – and lighten your load during fall and spring!



Ready to be
an UMSL Triton?
Apply today.

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