International Studies (BA)

This program is offered by the College of Arts & Sciences/International Languages and Cultures Department, and is only available at the St. Louis home campus.

Program Description

The international studies bachelor's degree is designed for today's interconnected global environment. The major draws upon Webster University's strengths: solid liberal arts background, professional schools' expertise, dynamic global knowledge and applicable international experience. Graduates of this program will be able to demonstrate knowledge from a set of core courses, proficiency in a second language and firsthand familiarity with both regional and thematic concentrations through a study abroad opportunity and/or internship.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the program, students will be able to:

- Compare different cultural, religious, belief and value systems.
- Demonstrate an understanding of different political and economic systems in the world.
- Explain contemporary global issues in one of the three thematic areas.
- Explain contemporary issues in one of the three regional areas.
- Proficiently use one language other than their native language and English.

Degree Requirements

A minimum of 128 credit hours consisting of the following:

- 39 required credit hours for the major
- Language proficiency up to the 3000-level
- International travel through a Webster study abroad program or ISTL 2500 Approved International Studies Internship
- Applicable University Global Citizenship Program hours
- Electives

Curriculum

The 39 credit hours required for the international studies major include the following:

- ISTL 1000 Introduction to International Studies (3 hours)
- ANTH 1100 Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (3 hours)
- INTL 1500 World Systems (3 hours)
- ECON 2030 Macroeconomics (3 hours)
- RELG 1060 World Religions (3 hours)
- ISTL 4500 Capstone Seminar in International Studies (3 hours)
- 9 credit hours (6 hours above 3000-level) in one of the regional concentrations
- 12 credit hours (9 hours above 3000-level) in one of the thematic concentrations

Regional Concentration

For the regional concentration, students may choose from the following courses:

For a concentration in Africa:

- AFCS 1000 Introduction to Africana Studies (3 hours)
- AFCS 1500 Survey of African History* (3 hours)
- AFCS 2500 African Diaspora Experiences (3 hours)

or ANTH 2500 Peoples and Cultures: African Diaspora (3 hours)

For a concentration in Media, Literature, and the Arts:

- AFCS 2700 Origins and Development of Pan-Africanism* (3 hours)
- AFCS 2200 Globalization and Contemporary Africa (3 hours)
- AFCS 3000 African Women and Development* (3 hours)
- ANTH 2000 Issues in Contemporary Anthropology: Introduction to African American Studies (3 hours)
- HIST 2050 Topics in African History (3 hours)
- HIST 2320 African-American History (3 hours)
- POLT 3400 Comparative Politics: African Area Studies (3 hours)
- PHIL 2580 African American Philosophy (3 hours)
- PHIL 3420 Philosophy of Race and Ethnicity (3 hours)
- RELG 3210 African Religions (3 hours)
- RELG 3211 African Christianities (3 hours)

*Courses marked with an asterisk (*) are offered only at the Webster Ghana campus.

For a concentration in Asia:

- ARHS 2320 Introduction to Asian Art (3 hours)
- HIST 2030 Topics in Asian History (3 hours)
- ISTL 3550 Advanced Topics in International Studies (with appropriate subtitle) (3 hours)
- MNGT 3100 Issues in Management: Asian Culture and Business (3 hours)
- RELG 2070 Introduction to Religions of the East (3 hours)

For a concentration in Latin America:

- ENGL 4030 Literature of Latin America (3 hours)
- HIST 2040 Topics in Latin American History (3 hours)
- ISTL 2450 Modern Latin America (3 hours)
- SPAN 3150 Culture and Civilization of the Spanish Speaking World: Latin America (1-3 hours)

For a concentration in Europe:

- ARHS 2210 Intercultural History of Art (3 hours)
- ARHS 3150 Baroque Art (3 hours)
- ARHS 3110, ARHS 3120, or ARHS 3130 (3 hours)
- ENGL 3900 Myth and Classical Literature (Homer, Virgil, and Dante) (3 hours)
- ENGL 4020 Heroic Themes (Malory, Spenser, and Milton) (3 hours)
- ENGL 4140 Shakespeare (3 hours)
- ENGL 4160 Shakespeare II (3 hours)
- HIST 2020 British Literature I (3 hours)
- ENGL 2030 British Literature II (3 hours)
- ENGL 4020 Heroic Themes (Malory, Spenser, and Milton) (3 hours)

Thematic Concentration

For the thematic concentration, students may choose from the following courses:

For a concentration in Media, Literature, and the Arts:
This concentration draws from media, communications, the arts, film studies, comparative literature and other humanities in order to provide students a global understanding of how these areas connect us to the world, how they shape our societies and communities and their role in international affairs. Topics include global journalism; international arts and fine arts; international media communications; international film studies; comparative literature.

For a concentration in Religion, Philosophy, and Ethics:
This concentration offers a deeper understanding of the political, philosophical and religious histories of different cultures and societies around the world in ways that shape their ethical values. The emphasis will interrogate how people make meaning in their lives through these philosophies and religions, create order in their societies and the global impacts of such values. Topics in this area include: religious studies; philosophy; politics and international relations; history; comparative ethics.

Topics-based Courses
Topics-based courses that vary from semester to semester may fulfill one of the regional or thematic areas based on the particular content of the class for that semester with the approval of the ISC. The following list of courses fit this description:

- ARHS 2210 Intercultural History of Art (3 hours)
- ARHS 2320 Introduction to Asian Art (3 hours)
- ARHS 3150 Baroque Art (3 hours)
- ARHS 3110, ARHS 3120, or ARHS 3130 (3 hours)
- ENGL 3900 Myth and Classical Literature (Homer, Virgil, and Dante) (3 hours)
- ENGL 2020 British Literature I (3 hours)
- ENGL 2030 British Literature II (3 hours)
- ENGL 4020 Heroic Themes (Malory, Spenser, and Milton) (3 hours)
- ENGL 4030 Literature of Latin America (3 hours)
- ENGL 4150 Shakespeare (3 hours)
- ENGL 4160 Shakespeare II (3 hours)
- FLST 2060 Modern World Cinema (3 hours)
- HIST 2210 Early Modern Europe (3 hours)
- HIST 2030 Topics in Asian History (3 hours)
- JOUR 3120 Global Affairs Reporting (3 hours)
- JOUR 3750 Environmental Journalism and Communications (3 hours)
- MEDC 3260/INTL 3260 International Communications (3 hours)
- ADVT 3910 International Advertising (3 hours)
- THEA 2030 History of Theatre (3 hours)
- ARHS 4600 Topics in Art History (3 hours)
- FLST 2050 History of Film (3 hours)
- FLST 3160 Topics in Film (3 hours)
- HIST 2070 Topics in Non-Western History (3 hours)
- HIST 3060 History Roundtable (3 hours)
- HIST 4600 History Seminar (3 hours)
- ANTH 2500 Peoples and Cultures (3 hours)
- PHIL 2360 Environmental Ethics (3 hours)
- PHIL 2510 The First Philosophers (3 hours)
- PHIL 2520 Philosphic Classics: Early Modern Europe (3 hours)
- PHIL 3100 Literature and Philosophy (3 hours)
- PHIL 4050 Topics in the History of Philosophy (3 hours)
- RELG 3180 Judaism (3 hours)
- RELG 3190 Christianity (3 hours)
- BUSN 4650 International Business (3 hours)
- ECON 3720 International Trade and Finance (3 hours)
- POLT 1050 Introduction to International Politics (3 hours)
- POLT 2550 Politics of Development (3 hours)
- POLT 3400 Comparative Politics (3 hours)
- SCIN 1520 Environment (3 hours)
- SOCI 3380 Transnational Crime (3 hours)
- SPAN 3150 Culture and Civilization of the Spanish Speaking World: Latin America (1-3 hours)

For a concentration in Religion, Philosophy, and Ethics:
This concentration offers a deeper understanding of the political, philosophical and religious histories of different cultures and societies around the world in ways that shape their ethical values. The emphasis will interrogate how people make meaning in their lives through these philosophies and religions, create order in their societies and the global impacts of such values. Topics in this area include: religious studies; philosophy; politics and international relations; history; comparative ethics.

Topics-based Courses
Topics-based courses that vary from semester to semester may fulfill one of the regional or thematic areas based on the particular content of the class for that semester with the approval of the ISC. The following list of courses fit this description:

- ARHS 4600 Topics in Art History (3 hours)
- FLST 2050 History of Film (3 hours)
- FLST 3160 Topics in Film (3 hours)
- HIST 2070 Topics in Non-Western History (3 hours)
- HIST 3060 History Roundtable (3 hours)
- HIST 4600 History Seminar (3 hours)
- ANTH 2500 Peoples and Cultures (3 hours)
- PHIL 2360 Environmental Ethics (3 hours)
- PHIL 2510 The First Philosophers (3 hours)
- PHIL 2520 Philosphic Classics: Early Modern Europe (3 hours)
- PHIL 3100 Literature and Philosophy (3 hours)
- PHIL 4050 Topics in the History of Philosophy (3 hours)
- RELG 3180 Judaism (3 hours)
- RELG 3190 Christianity (3 hours)
- BUSN 4650 International Business (3 hours)
- ECON 3720 International Trade and Finance (3 hours)
- POLT 1050 Introduction to International Politics (3 hours)
- POLT 2550 Politics of Development (3 hours)
- POLT 3400 Comparative Politics (3 hours)
- SCIN 1520 Environment (3 hours)
- SOCI 3380 Transnational Crime (3 hours)
- SPAN 3150 Culture and Civilization of the Spanish Speaking World: Latin America (1-3 hours)

Up to 12 credit hours may, with approval, apply to both the international studies major and a second or dual major. This option does not apply to a dual major in international studies and international relations, international human rights or international business, or to other similarly related areas.