Webster University

Department of History, Politics, and International Relations

Undergraduate Advising Handbook (effective August 2019)

“Throughout their academic careers at Webster, students work with their academic advisors to plan their choice of University courses. The advisor helps the student choose coursework to meet individual educational and career goals, informs students about academic policies and procedures, and helps solve a variety of academic problems. Ultimately, however, it is the responsibility of each student to keep apprised of current graduation requirements for his or her particular degree program.”

-- Webster University Undergraduate Studies Catalog

This Advising Handbook supplements the Undergraduate Studies Catalog (http://www.webster.edu/catalog/current/undergraduate-catalog/) and the website of the Department of History, Politics, and International Relations at Webster University (http://www.webster.edu/arts-and-sciences/academics/history-politics-internationalrelations/).

Overview of Programs

The Department of History, Politics, and International Relations at Webster University offers a diverse curriculum that combines tradition and innovation. Our faculty members are committed to the concept of a liberal arts education. Our aim is to help students become fearless and perceptive readers, vivid and effective writers, and well-informed citizens of the world. At the same time, we know that students learn in different ways and have different goals and aspirations. Our programs allow students the flexibility they need to excel in their studies and pursue their personal career aims. Most of our majors study abroad -- including many who never dreamed of leaving the United States when they came to Webster. Others have taken advantage of our rich opportunities for internships right here in the Midwest.

Undergraduate Program

The Department offers undergraduate study (majors and minors) in history, political science, international relations, and European studies. Students in the political science program can choose the Emphasis in Public Law. The international relations program offers separate Emphases in International Economics (offered only in St. Louis and Geneva) and Migration and Refugee Studies (offered only in Geneva). The Department also offers a Certificate in Migration and Refugee Studies (offered only in Geneva) and boasts an innovative combined BA/MA Program in International Relations.
History

Learn about the modern world since 1500 and how to make historical arguments. The undergraduate history program at Webster gives students valuable cross exposure to relevant work in complementary fields. As a Webster student, you will gain in-depth knowledge of one geographic area or historical epoch while studying specific historical topics. Your area of research could lead to a career as an archivist, historian, librarian, politician, or writer.

The history program at Webster combines a traditional liberal arts approach to the history degree with an innovative array of course offerings: we value critical thinking and intellectual inquiry in the study of history, but instead of generalized courses, our faculty members offer topic-specific instruction in their areas of expertise, starting in students’ first semester. We also make a point to connect our curriculum to relevant current events and take our learning outside the classroom and into the community. In recent years, students have designed and installed an exhibit at the Old Courthouse in downtown St. Louis and participated in the “Change Begins with Me” program at the Holocaust Museum.

All of this means that our graduates have not only a solid understanding of the outlines of modern history but also in-depth knowledge of at least one geographic area or historical epoch, the ability to make historical arguments using concrete illustrations and examples, and insight into the ways that history impacts the present day. Alumni go on to apply this knowledge in a variety of fields, including law, business, politics, diplomacy, and human rights.

Political Science

If you are interested in politics, history, law, or government, the political science field might be right for you. Webster’s political science program lets students examine political institutions and the social, cultural, and economic forces that reinforce and shape them.

Webster’s undergraduate degree in political science lets you examine political institutions, the social and economic forces that shape them, the cultural context within which they operate, and human behavior in political matters. Political science majors at Webster graduate understanding and being able to evaluate the international and transnational dimensions of particular problems and policies. And they can put contemporary political issues in historical context and use historical facts to build persuasive political arguments.

Students have the option to choose the Emphasis in Public Law, which features a range of courses in American government, comparative politics, international relations, political theory, and foreign policy. This dynamic program prepares
students to examine the judiciary and legal system in the context of broader political structures and forces, both national and global.

**International Relations**

The undergraduate international relations major at Webster is designed to help you develop political awareness, economic literacy, and cross-cultural understanding. In addition to preparing you for global citizenship, the international relations degree will empower you with critical thinking skills necessary to be successful in any career path you choose.

Under the guidance of our expert faculty, you will learn about the key actors on the world stage and how they confront today’s problems. Webster’s global footprint means you will study at one or more of our international locations, gaining in-depth exposure to different cultures and socio-political environments. You may also avail yourself of our many internship opportunities.

The program offers the following two Emphases:

**Emphasis in International Economics (offered only in St. Louis and Geneva) --** This is designed for students interested in a deeper understanding of the global economy on a micro and macro scale.

**Emphasis in Migration and Refugee Studies (offered only in Geneva) --** This is designed to give students a working knowledge of migration and displacement issues, as well as the sociocultural, political, and economic forces that surround them.

**European Studies**

Explore European society and culture from a multi-disciplinary perspective. European studies students enjoy learning about and discussing Europe’s distinctive media, politics, history, and art.

European studies is a flexible, interdisciplinary program for students interested in all things European, drawing upon Webster’s strengths in both liberal arts and professional studies. Students will have the opportunity to study at one or more of Webster’s European campuses. Alongside their rigorous academic training, European studies students meet European leaders in government, business, media, and the arts. Students may also opt to do an internship in Europe.

Graduates of this program will be able to demonstrate a broad knowledge of European affairs. They will be well-equipped for international careers in business, the arts, and government service or graduate study in a range of liberal arts and professional fields.
Migration and Refugee Studies (Certificate) (offered only in Geneva)

The Geneva-based certificate program in Migration and Refugee Studies provides students with a working knowledge of migration and displacement issues. Combining several disciplinary perspectives and methodologies, classwork and hands-on learning experiences enable students to examine issues from a variety of perspectives and study policies, concepts, and responses to economic and political migration. Students gain practical experience by interning, conducting field work, or researching with governmental and non-governmental organizations that engage with migration and displacement issues.

BA/MA Program in International Relations

The Department offers an innovative combined BA/MA Program in International Relations. This allows students to start working on their MA while completing their BA, saving 12 credits in total.

Students majoring in political science or international relations will have completed all the requisite courses for the BA/MA because they are requirements for the major anyway. History students will have completed many of them and can easily do the other.

Students in the Department can easily complete the four transition courses (two selected upper-level undergraduate and two selected graduate-level courses) because they are frequently available.

The BA/MA Program in International Relations is not available at overseas campuses, though courses taken at overseas campuses can be used toward completion of the program in St. Louis.

Students who have completed between 64 and 98 credit hours and who have maintained a 3.3 GPA in previous college work are eligible to apply.

For more information, contact Dr. Kristen Anderson, Interim Head of International Relations at kanderson80@webster.edu or 314-246-7065.

Advising

The Department prides itself on its close mentoring of students, in all of its programs. Students who major in history, political science, international relations, or European studies are assigned a full-time member of faculty as an advisor as soon as they declare their major. Students meet with their advisor at least once a semester to discuss their academic plan, semester schedule, and career goals. Students are always welcome to schedule additional meetings with their advisor throughout the academic year. We are here for our students.
Course Selection

Undergraduate students in the Department work closely with their advisors in selecting courses that work for them, while meeting all program requirements. What follows are the Department’s requirements for each of the majors. Students are advised to also consult the Undergraduate Studies Catalog.

To graduate with a BA in History, Political Science, International Relations, or European Studies, students must meet all University, College, and Department requirements, including successful completion of the 30 credit hour Global Citizenship Program (see Frequently Asked Questions).

History

The BA in History requires student to earn a minimum of 128 credit hours. This includes:

-3 international language credit hours

-Successful completion of the Global Citizenship Program -

42 credit hours for the history major, which includes:

-INTL 1500 The World System Since 1500 (3 credit hours)
-American History (3 credit hours)
-European History (3 credit hours)
-Non-Western History (e.g., Asia, African, Latin American) (3 credit hours)
-HIST 2600 The Craft of History (3 credit hours)
-HIST 4000 Research Requirement (to be taken in conjunction with a designated 3000-level or 4000-level) (0 credit hours)
-Senior Overview (0 credit hours)
-Political Science/International Relations (6 credit hours)
-Department electives (can include courses in HIST, POLT, INTL) (6 credit hours)
-One additional Department course (3 credit hours)
-Upper-level coursework in the Department (12 credit hours), of which a minimum of 6 credit hours must be HIST

30 of the 42 required credit hours must be in history courses, including HIST 2600, INTL 1500, a research requirement (completed by placing on file with the Department a substantial research paper from an upper-level course or a senior thesis), and Senior Overview.

-Electives
Political Science

The BA in Political Science requires students to earn a minimum of 128 credit hours. This includes:

- 3 international language credit hours
- Successful completion of the Global Citizenship Program
- 42 credit hours for the political science major, which includes:
  
  **Core Courses (18 credit hours)**
  
  - INTL 1500 The World System Since 1500 (3 credit hours)
  - POLT 1060 Introduction to American Politics (3 credit hours)
  - POLT 1080 Introduction to Comparative Politics (3 credit hours)
  - POLT 1050 Introduction to International Relations (3 credit hours)
  - POLT 1070 Introduction to Political Theory (3 credit hours) or HIST 3000 Ideas in History: History of Economic Thought (3 credit hours)
  - POLT 2600 Research Methods and Approaches in Political Science (3 credit hours) (INTL 2700 may be substituted)

  **Additional Required Courses (12-13 credit hours)**
  
  - POLT 4000 Research Requirement (0 credit hours) (to be taken in conjunction with a designated 3000-level or 4000-level course)
  - Senior Overview (0-1 credit hours)
  - History courses (6 credit hours)
  - Department electives (can include courses in POLT or INTL) (6 credit hours)

30 of the required 42 credit hours must be in political science, including INTL 1500, POLT 2600, or INTL 2700, a research requirement (completed by placing on file with the Department a substantial research paper from an upper-level course or a senior thesis), and Senior Overview. 

Students also have the option of the Emphasis in Public Law.

For further detailed information, see:

http://www.webster.edu/catalog/current/undergraduatecatalog/majors/history.html

For further detailed information, see
International Relations

The BA in International Relations requires students to earn a minimum of 128 credit hours. This includes:

-12 international language credit hours (or advanced proficiency)

-Successful completion of the Global Citizenship Program

-Study abroad residency requirement of at least one term (eight weeks) outside the United States

-42 credit hours for the international relations major, which includes:

-INTL 1050 or POLT 1050 Introduction to International Relations (3 credit hours)
-POLT 1070 Introduction to Political Theory (3 credit hours) or INTL 2680 International Relations Theory (3 credit hours) (recommended)
-POLT 1080 Introduction to Comparative Politics (3 credit hours) or POLT 1060 Introduction to American Politics (3 credit hours) or POLT 2250 Politics of the Industrialized World (3 credit hours) or POLT 2550 The Politics of the Developing World (3 credit hours)

-INTL 2700 Methods of Political Inquiry (3 credit hours) or POLT 2600 Research Methods and Approaches in Political Science (3 credit hours)

-INTL 1500 World System since 1500 (3 credit hours)

-A 2000-level or above HIST course with an international focus (3 credit hours)

Three of the following sub-field courses (9 credit hours)
INTL 2030 International Law (3 credit hours)
INTL 3100 International Political Economy (3 credit hours)
POLT 3310 Conduct of Foreign Policy (3 credit hours)
INTL 3800 International Security (3 credit hours)
INTL 3500 Environmental and Energy Security (3 credit hours)
INTL 3700 International Organizations (3 credit hours)

-INTL 4000 Research Requirement (to be taken in conjunction with a designated 3000- or 4000-level course) (0 credit hours) – INTL 4620 Senior Overview (0-1 credit hours)

-INTL/POLT/HIST electives (in the department with international focus and at least 3 courses (9 credit hours) at 3000+ level (15 credit hours total) Students are required to complete 42 credit hours within the Department, including methods, a research requirement (fulfilled by taking the seminar, senior thesis, or a designated upper-division course), and Senior Overview.
At least 12 credit hours of upper-level (3000 or above) coursework in the Department with an international focus must be completed in addition to methods and Senior Overview. Note: In Europe, the research requirement and Senior Overview are satisfied by the seminar course (INTL 4600).

-Electives

The 4-year plan that appears below is a guide to aid students in course selection. Deviations from this plan occur frequently, due to changes in the schedule or individual situations (such as completing a minor or double major). Please note that in St. Louis, many courses are not offered every semester, so be sure to consult with your advisor to ensure that you are making proper progress toward degree. To complete 128 credits in 4 years, students should average 16 credit hours each semester. The below plan focuses on completion of GCP and major requirements as early as possible to allow for maximum flexibility late in the program for specialized study, additional minors or majors, or a second study abroad residency.

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<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>FALL SEMESTER</th>
<th>SPRING SEMESTER</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>FIRST</strong></td>
<td><strong>First Year Seminar (3)</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>GCP course (3)</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>INTL 1500 (3)</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>INTL 1050 (3)</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Language course (4 with workshop); counts toward GCP</strong>&lt;br&gt;Total Credit hours: 16</td>
<td><strong>GCP course (3)</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>GCP course (3)</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>POLT 1080 or alternate (3)</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Degree Elective (3)</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Language course (4 with workshop)</strong>&lt;br&gt;Total Credit hours: 16</td>
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<td><strong>INTL 2700 (3)</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>HIST with INT'L focus (3)</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Degree elective (3)</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>GCP course (3)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Subfield course e.g. INTL 3100 (3)</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>3100 (3)</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>3100 (3)</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Degree elective (3)</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Degree</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>INTL 2680 (3)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>SECOND</strong></td>
<td><strong>Students should take INTL 2700 no later than this</strong></td>
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The priority this year is to complete introductory work in the major and make strong inroads into the GCP program. Language training should start immediately.
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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Course</th>
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<td></td>
<td>Language course (4 with workshop)</td>
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<td>Total Credit hours: 16</td>
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<td>GCP course (3)</td>
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<td>Language course (4 with workshop)</td>
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<td>Total Credit hours: 16</td>
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<td>GCP Keystone course (3)</td>
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<td>Subfield course e.g. INTL 3800 (3)</td>
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<td>Degree elective (3)</td>
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<td>University Elective (1)</td>
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<td>GCP course (3)</td>
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<td>University Elective (4)</td>
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<td>Study Abroad</td>
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<td>University Electives (13 credit hours)</td>
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<td>GCP course (3)</td>
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<td>Total Credit hours: 16</td>
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<td>INTL 4000 Res. Req.(0)</td>
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<td>3000+ course for res. req. e.g. INTL 3700 (3)</td>
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<td>Subfield course e.g. POLT 3310 (3)</td>
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<td>University Elective (10)</td>
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<td>Total Credit hours: 16</td>
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<td>INTL 4620 (0-1) or 4600 (if at int’l campus) (3) Dept. Elective (3)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>University Electives (13; 10 if taking 4600 instead of 4620)</td>
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<td>Total Credit hours: 16</td>
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Students also have the option of the Emphases in International Economics (offered only in St. Louis and Geneva) and Migration and Refugee Studies (offered only in Geneva).
Emphasis in International Economics (48 credit hours)

Students in St. Louis and Geneva may elect an Emphasis in International Economics by fulfilling the above core requirements for international relations and structuring their electives and two additional courses around the following:

- ECON 2010 Principles of Macroeconomics (3 credit hours)
- ECON 2020 Principles of Microeconomics (3 credit hours)
- ECON 3030 Intermediate Macroeconomics (3 credit hours)
- ECON 3700 Economics of Development (3 credit hours)
- ECON 4600 Comparative Economic Systems (3 credit hours)
- ECON 3720 International Trade and Finance (3 credit hours)
- ECON 4910 Comparative Economic Problems (3 credit hours)
- INTL 4280 International Economics (3 credit hours)
- INTL 3290 Politics of International Economic Relations (3 credit hours)
- INTL 3330 International Economic Integration (3 credit hours)
- HIST 3000 Ideas in History: History of Economic Thought (3 credit hours) or ECON 4900 History of Economic Thought (3 credit hours)

Emphasis in Migration and Refugee Studies (48 credit hours)

Students in Geneva may elect an Emphasis in Migration and Refugee Studies by fulfilling the above core requirements for international relations and structuring electives and two additional courses around the following:

- SOCI 2000 Issues in Contemporary Society: Sociocultural Factors Behind Migration and Refugee Movements (3 credit hours)
- HIST 2360 Refugee and Migration Movements (3 credit hours)
- POLIT 2550 Politics of the Developing World (3 credit hours)
- POLIT 3400 Comparative Politics (subtitled Refugee and Migration) (3 credit hours)
- INTL 2610 Advocacy, NGOs, and Civil Society (3 credit hours)
- INTL 3030 Advanced Studies in International Law (subtitled International Refugee Law) (3 credit hours)
- INTL 4280 International Economics (3 credit hours)
- INTL 4600 International Relations Seminar (subtitled Refugee and Migration Studies) (3 credit hours)
- Field Experience (0 credit hours)

For further detailed information, see http://www.webster.edu/catalog/current/undergraduatecatalog/majors/internationalrelations.html.
**European Studies**

The BA in European Studies requires students to earn a minimum of 128 credit hours. This includes:

- ISTL 4510 European Studies Overview (may be taken for 0 or 1 credit hour)

- Proficiency in one of the following languages: French, German, Italian, or Spanish. Proficiency may be demonstrated either by a foreign language exam or by passing a course in one of these languages at the 3000 level.

- Successful completion of the Global Citizenship Program

- At least one term of study at Webster’s campus in London, Leiden, Geneva, or Vienna. (Students may, with the approval of the program director, also fulfill this requirement at a university in Europe that is outside the Webster network.)

- 36 credit hours for the European Studies major, which includes:
  - European History and Politics (12 credit hours)
  - Commerce and Communications (12 credit hours)
  - European Arts and Expression (12 credit hours)

Of these 36 credit hours, four must be advanced-level courses (3000 or 4000) that cover all of the (three) distribution areas.

- Electives

For further detailed information, see http://www.webster.edu/catalog/current/undergraduate-catalog/majors/europeanstudies.html.

**Migration and Refugee Studies (Certificate) (offered only in Geneva)**

The 27 credit hours required for the Certificate in Migration and Refugee Studies include the following courses:

- SOCI 2000 Issues in Contemporary Society: Sociocultural Factors Behind Migration and Refugee Movements (3 credit hours)
- HIST 2360 Refugee and Migration Movements (3 credit hours)
- INTL 2030 International Law (3 credit hours)
- INTL 3030 Advanced Studies in International Law: International Refugee Law (3 credit hours)
- INTL 2610 Advocacy, NGOs, and Civil Society (3 credit hours)
INTL 4280 International Economics: Migration and Refugees (3 credit hours) 
POLT 3400 Comparative Politics: Migration and Refugee Movements (3 credit hours) 
INTL 2700 Methods of Political Inquiry: National and Transnational Issues in 
Migration and Refugee Movements (3 credit hours) 
INTL 4600 International Relations Seminar: Migration and Refugee Movements 
(3 credit hours) 
Field experience and Refugee Studies Program (RSP) Seminar Overview 
examination (0 credit hours)

For further detailed information, see 
http://www.webster.edu/catalog/current/undergraduatecatalog/certificates/migration-
and-refugee-studies.html.

Minors

Minors are offered in history, political science, international relations, and 
European studies. Generally-speaking, these require 18 credit hours in each 
discipline. For European studies, 6 credit hours must be distributed across each of 
the following fields: European History and Politics; Commerce and 
Communications; and European Arts and Expression.

Students majoring in political science or international relations are not permitted 
to double-count courses toward their major and minor requirements.

BA/MA Program in International Relations

Undergraduate Requisite Courses

12 credits

-POLT 1050 Introduction to International Politics 
-POLT 1080 Introduction to Comparative Politics 
-INTL 1500 The World System Since 1500 
-POLT 2600 Research Methods or INTL 2700 Methods of Political Inquiry

Transition Courses (Count Double)

12 credits -- these do not have to be done first

-INTL 4600 International Relations Seminar or INTL 4100 Advanced 
International Relations 
-INTL 4280 International Economics or INTL 3100 International Political 
Economy 
-INTL 5590 Security or INTL 5550 War and Diplomacy
- One course from the Graduate Comparative Politics cluster (see graduate requirement in international relations)

**Graduate Courses**

24 credits -- required MA courses

- INTL 5100 Research Methods and Perspectives
- One additional course from Comparative Politics cluster
- Two additional courses from International Politics cluster
- Three elective courses
- INTL 6000 International Relations: Theory and Practice

**Internships**

The Internship Program is designed to enhance the undergraduate curriculum in the Department. Student interns earn course credit and gain valuable professional experience. They play an instrumental role in creating an experience that blends coursework knowledge with practical knowledge by working with a host organization under the supervision of a qualified professional. Interested students should contact Prof. Gwyneth I. Williams (williagi@webster.edu).

**Frequently Asked Questions**

1.) What makes the Department so distinctive?

Department faculty members include top scholars in their fields.

Five faculty members have won Webster’s **top teaching prize**.

Three faculty members have written textbooks that are used by colleges nationwide.

Webster’s campuses in Austria, England, Ghana, Greece, the Netherlands, Switzerland, and Thailand provide amazing **study abroad opportunities** with recognized scholars in their fields.

**Small class size** translates into personalized attention from faculty members.

2.) Where can I find out what courses are offered, and when?

Students are advised to visit the Course Schedule page (http://www.webster.edu/academics/course-schedules.html).

3.) Is there a foreign language requirement?
There is a foreign language requirement on the undergraduate program.

**History**

A minimum of three credit hours in a foreign language is required. Courses used towards the international language requirement may also be used to fulfill global citizenship requirements or a major/minor in a foreign language.

Transfer students who have completed their 3 credits at an institution of higher education are considered to have fulfilled the requirement, as are students who have scored a “3” or higher on an Advanced Placement exam in a non-native language.

For students whose native language is not English, a passing grade on the TOEFL will count as their foreign language requirement. Students who are from bilingual families but have no evidence of academic study of the second language on a transcript will need to take one course.

**Political Science**

A minimum of three credit hours in a foreign language is required. Courses used towards the International Language requirement may also be used to fulfill global citizenship requirements or a major/minor in a foreign language.

Transfer students who have completed their 3 credits at an institution of higher education are considered to have fulfilled the requirement, as are students who have scored a “3” or higher on an Advanced Placement exam in a non-native language.

Students whose native language is not English are exempt from the foreign language requirement.

**International Relations**

Students are required to have significant international language experience. This requirement can be met by completing the full elementary and intermediary sequence in a single foreign language (usually consisting of four 3-credit hour sequential courses), completing a 3000 or 4000 level course in a foreign language with a grade of C- or better, or by passing an advanced-level proficiency examination. This requirement will be waived for students whose native language is not English and who are studying in English. Their mastery of English as a second language fulfills the requirement.

**European Studies**
Proficiency is required in one of the following languages: French, German, Italian, or Spanish. Proficiency may be demonstrated either by a foreign language exam or by passing a course in one of these languages at the 3000 level.

4.) Does the Department support study abroad for its students?

Students are strongly encouraged to take advantage of Webster’s nationally-recognized study-abroad opportunities while pursuing their education. The Webster World Traveler Program (http://www.webster.edu/study-abroad/resources/resources_for_students/scholarships_wwtp/wwtp.html), for example, offers a free round-trip flight for eligible students who study at one of our international campuses or international partner institutions; applications are collected three times a year.

For more information regarding available study abroad programs and global locations, as well as links to blogs and testimonials from students currently studying overseas, visit the Office of Study Abroad (http://www.webster.edu/study-abroad/).

Please note that there is a study abroad residency requirement for majors in international relations and European studies. To satisfy the study abroad residency for international relations, students may study at one of Webster’s international campuses or at an approved alternative location. (International students who have lived outside of the country of their home campus are exempt from this requirement.) European studies majors are required to spend at least one term of study at Webster’s campus in London, Leiden, Geneva, or Vienna. (Students may, with the approval of the program director, also fulfill this requirement at a university in Europe that is outside the Webster network.) Please bear in mind that all programs are not given at all overseas campuses.

5.) Are there resources at Webster that will help me discern career options?

The Career Planning and Development Center (CPDC) assists individuals with exploring and defining their personal career goals while developing the skills and confidence necessary to succeed. For further information, visit the CPDC’s webpage (http://www.webster.edu/career-services/).

Of course, students are also welcome to meet with Department faculty members to discuss their career thoughts.

6.) Can I do a thesis while an undergraduate student in the Department?

Yes. Students are advised to consult with their academic advisors for details.

7.) What is Senior Overview?
All Department majors are required to take Senior Overview in order to graduate. It is offered each year in the spring semester. The Senior Overview process involves reading a book selected by Department faculty and engaging in an oral examination with a faculty panel. The purpose of Senior Overview is to evaluate the student’s ability to analyze the book’s thesis and discuss it in an informed manner. Majors should register for Senior Overview (either HIST 4620 or POLT 4620) along with other spring classes and take Senior Overview for one credit or as a non-credit course.

The actual overview examinations occur at the end of the Spring 1 term (i.e., toward the end of the first 8 weeks). In order to prepare for Senior Overview, there will be at least 3 class meetings on Saturday mornings at the beginning of the spring semester. It is very important that students make every effort to attend these meetings. In the class meetings, students will discuss Senior Overview procedure and format and provide some background information related to the book.

8.) Is there a research requirement in the undergraduate program?

Yes. Students are advised to consult with their academic advisors for details.

9.) How do I register for classes?

Students in the Department must meet with their academic advisors prior to registering for classes. Registration opens roughly two weeks prior to the beginning of each semester. For specific dates, see http://www.webster.edu/academics/academic-calendar/.

10.) Can I take classes outside of the Department? If so, which ones are recommended?

Yes. Students are advised to consult with their academic advisors for details.

11.) What is the Global Citizenship Program?

The Global Citizenship Program is a set of undergraduate degree requirements and a general education program developed by Webster faculty to help prepare students to confront global problems and 21st century challenges. Holistically, it is the blueprint to ensure Webster graduates skilled women and men, prepared to take responsibility and apply what they know in any situation anywhere.

12.) How can I find out who teaches in the Department and areas of expertise that faculty offer?

The Department webpage contains information about who teaches in the programs and their areas of expertise. See http://www.webster.edu/arts-andsciences/academics/history-politics-international-relations/contact.html.

13.) How can I learn more about the student clubs and organizations at Webster?
For a list of student clubs and organizations, see https://involved.webster.edu/organizations/. Get involved!

14.) I need to learn more about financial aid and tuition. Where can I go to for assistance?

Webster’s Office of Financial Aid is here to help. See http://www.webster.edu/financialaid/.