

Mission Statement

The Master's Program in International Relations is a professional academic program providing high-level education and training for those interested in pursuing an international affairs career in government, the private sector, an international organization, the foreign service, or a non-governmental organization.

The program provides students a broad study of international affairs with an emphasis on international organization, foreign policy analysis, international law, and international political economy. Within this framework, students will have the opportunity to pursue additional elective concentrations in diplomacy, security issues, human rights, regional politics, or international economics.

The Master's Program in International Relations supports the College's mission to provide "a diverse student body with exceptional opportunities to participate in creative intellectual pursuits" and accord well with the College's emphasis on "attainment of rigorous academic goals."

Learning Outcomes

One of the primary objectives of our MA program is to promote critical thinking and to enable students to acquire knowledge and apply critical thinking to the international relations discipline and to practical problems within the international setting. It is our intention to encourage the development of these skills in each of our courses, using readings, writing assignments, classroom exercises and through the hands-on experience of internships. We also encourage the development of these skills through mentoring and advisement during the thesis writing process.

Student with the M.A. in International Relations will:

1. Provides the tools to analyze the political institutions and processes that define the international system of nation-states and transnational actors.

2. Offers an in-depth examination of the legal norms and rules that regulate the behavior of states across borders.
3. Examines the global and regional institutions that promote security, prosperity, development and human rights.
4. Trains students to conduct major research projects at a high academic level.
5. Provides students with the opportunity to study the major economic institutions.
6. Improves students' information-seeking skills: ability to scan the literature efficiently, using manual or computerized methods, to identify sets of useful articles, books, and other peer reviewed resources.
7. Increases critical appraisal: the ability to apply principles of analysis to identify valuable (and valid) research.
8. Provides practices in formulating concise summary: the ability to briefly and cogently summarizing complicated issues.
9. Helps students understand world events and interactions.
10. Encourages students to think, debate, and be critical.
11. Develops students' communication skills (oral and written).