



International Studies

In today's global society, cross-cultural understanding plays an increasingly vital role in business, government, and academic scholarship. Gonzaga University's International Studies program develops students' awareness of the political, religious, economic, and cultural diversity among nations. Students also explore the interdependence of nations—and the rights and obligations that arise from that interdependence—by examining significant international issues.

THE PROGRAM

Gonzaga University offers a Bachelor of Arts in International Studies (44 credits) with four possible concentration areas. Three concentrations focus on particular regions of the world: Asian Studies, European Studies, or Latin American Studies. In these concentrations, students specialize in the languages and cultures of either Asia, Europe, or Latin America. In contrast to this regional focus, the fourth concentration area, International Relations, emphasizes developing a global perspective and an appreciation of the issues and challenges that face all nations.

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES MAJOR

All students majoring in International Studies, no matter which concentration they choose, take a total of 44 credits to complete the International Studies degree requirements, including:

- The first two years of a single foreign language (students should start completing language classes as early as the first semester of their freshman year)
- A third year of a foreign language, or its equivalent, in courses taken while studying abroad
- Survey of International Studies (3 credits)
- Perspectives on Global Issues (3 credits)
- A senior project: students research a topic related to their area of emphasis, write a senior thesis paper, and deliver a research presentation on the thesis topic

Recent senior project titles include:

- Operation Unified Protector: NATO's Successful Humanitarian Intervention in Libya
- The Rise of the British National Party in the United Kingdom: Why the Working Class Vote Has Shifted to the Extreme Right
- Corruption and Cartel Violence in Northern Mexico: Analyzing the Potential for State Failure in Chihuahua
- Crumbling into the Sea: Somalia's Descent into Civil War and the Failure of Humanitarian Relief Efforts
- Environmental Policy in Evo's Bolivia: An Examination of the Tipnis Conflict

AREA STUDIES

Asian Studies develops a broad appreciation of East Asian civilization, while requiring students to specialize in at least one Asian language and national culture. Emphasis is placed on Japan and China, though students may also take courses that introduce them to the history and culture of other parts of Asia, including the Middle East. Course offerings include Japan Past and Present, Politics of the Pacific Rim, Comparative Middle Eastern Politics, Asian Religions, Japanese Culture, and Islamic Civilization.

European Studies cultivates an appreciation of European civilization in general, while requiring students to specialize in at least one language and European national culture. Emphasis is placed on France, Germany, Spain, and Italy. Course offerings include 19th Century Germany, The New Europe, Comparative European Politics, and The Age of the French Revolution.

Latin American Studies fosters a broad appreciation of Latin American civilizations and requires studying Spanish and specializing in at least one Latin American national culture. Course offerings include Colonial Latin America, Revolutions in Latin America, Latin American Politics, and Latin American Society.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

The International Relations concentration allows students to pursue coursework and research in a variety of global issues. These students study any of the modern foreign languages offered at Gonzaga University. International Relations majors also take courses that focus on international interactions and the similarities and differences between nations across the globe.

International Studies majors are encouraged to spend at least one semester in a study abroad program. Students pursuing area studies should participate in programs that promote foreign language proficiency and cultural immersion in their region of specialization. Although study abroad programs are generally designed for junior year participation, students should consult the Study Abroad Office as early as their freshman year to begin

planning appropriate coursework. For more information about opportunities to study abroad at Gonzaga, please visit studyabroad.gonzaga.edu.

After completing the required International Studies courses, students work closely with faculty advisors to choose courses that match their individual interests and career goals. As an interdisciplinary program, the International Studies major includes courses in history, political science, sociology, women's and gender studies, religious studies, economics, philosophy, and modern languages.

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES MINOR

International Studies minors also choose one of the four concentration areas and complete courses appropriate to their chosen concentration. All students minoring in International Studies complete a total of 31 credits to meet requirements in the following areas:

- Modern Languages courses
- International Studies core courses
- International Studies electives

OUTCOMES

Many students choose a major in International Studies as the beginning of a more intensive course of academic or professional education.

Some of Gonzaga's recent International Studies graduates have attended these graduate programs:

- Monterey Institute of International Studies
- Schiller International University (Paris, France),
- International Business and International Relations
- University of Denver, International Development

Some of Gonzaga's recent International Studies graduates are working in business, foreign service, Peace Corps, and state government.

THE PEOPLE

The International Studies major incorporates faculty from multiple academic departments at Gonzaga. Students are encouraged to solicit information and advice about coursework, careers, and graduate studies from professors in the departments that participate in the program.

Professor Ted Nitz serves as Director of Gonzaga's International Studies program. Students pursuing International Studies majors should consult the director in conjunction with any additional faculty advisors they may choose.

Ted Nitz

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