International Studies - BA, International Communication and Media Track

The BA in International Studies is a degree offered in the Department of International Studies.

**Principle objectives**

1. To guide students through the complex cultural, social, political, and economic stakes of global interdependence.
2. To assure a measurable proficiency in a foreign language.
3. To assure regional cultural competency through a structured and integrated abroad experience.
4. To provide a historical dimension to current conceptions of globalization.

**Curriculum**

The degree plan consists of a combination of INTS core courses (15 hours), with electives tailored for each track (18 hours); area studies courses in the region corresponding to the student’s foreign language choice (9 hours); foreign language courses (20 hours); and at least one long semester or 10-week summer study abroad or other approved international program with an emphasis on cultural and linguistic immersion.

**International Communication and Media Track**

As one of the largest sectors of the American and global economy, communication and media occupy a major role in our private and professional lives. Moreover, this sector of the economy often functions transnationally in a relatively seamless fashion. This track offers a discreet set of courses that provide students with a strong background in how media function in a global setting.

**Program Requirements**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Semester Credit Hours</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>INTS 201</td>
<td>Introduction to International Studies</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Take three hours of the following:</td>
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<tr>
<td>INTS 205</td>
<td>Current Issues in International Studies</td>
<td>3</td>
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Select two of the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Semester Credit Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>INTS 400 to 480</td>
<td><a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/ints">Link</a></td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INTS 485</td>
<td>Directed Studies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INTS 489</td>
<td>Special Topics in...</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>INTS 497</td>
<td>Independent Honors Study</td>
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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Semester Credit Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>INTS 481</td>
<td>Senior Seminar in International Studies</td>
<td>3</td>
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**Track courses**

Select three of the following:

- COMM 240 Rhetorical Criticism
- COMM 243 Argumentation and Debate
- COMM 320 Organizational Communication
- COMM 325 Persuasion
- COMM 415 New Media and Civil Society
- COMM 443 Communication and Conflict
- COMM 446 Communication, Organizations and Society
- ENGL 241 Advanced Composition
- ENGL 320 Technical and Professional Editing
- JOUR 203 Media Writing I
- JOUR 303 Media Writing II
- MKTG 409 Principles of Marketing
- PSYC 346 Psychology of Language

Select three of the following:

- COMM 330 Technology and Human Communication
- COMM 335 Intercultural Communication
- COMM 340 Communication and Popular Culture
- COMM 354 Political Economy of Telecommunication
- COMM 365/International Communication
- JOUR 365
- COMM 450 Media Campaigns
- COMM 454 Telecommunication Policy
- COMM 458/Global Media
- JOUR 458
- INTS 301 Theories of Globalization
- INTS 484 Directed Internship

**Area Studies**

Select courses from one of the following areas:

- Latin America
- Europe
- Africa
- North Africa and the Middle East
- Asia

**Foreign Language**

International Experience Requirement

**College and University Requirements**

- ENGL 104 Composition and Rhetoric
- Communication (Link)
- Literature in English (Link)
- Mathematics (Link)
- Language, philosophy and culture (Link)
Creative arts (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#creative-arts) 3
Life and physical sciences (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#life-physical-sciences) 9
Social and behavioral sciences (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#social-behavioral-sciences) 6
American history (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#american-history) 6
POLS 206 American National Government 3
POLS 207 State and Local Government 3
International and Cultural Diversity (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/international-cultural-diversity-requirements) 6
General electives 7
Total Semester Credit Hours 120

1 Requirement for the minor in public relations.
2 Choose courses from an approved list on the INTS website in consultation with an advisor. Courses numbered 485 or 489 that contain significant international content can be taken in any department to meet part of the track or area requirement. Students must obtain International Studies advisor approval before taking the 485 or 489 course.
3 See the Foreign Language paragraph.
4 See the International Experience Requirements paragraph.
5 At least 3 hours must be in MATH. Three hours may be PHIL 240.
6 Courses may be used to satisfy other requirements.

Foreign Language

Students entering International Studies take a placement exam to determine the level of and number of required foreign language courses. Exam results may fulfill a maximum of 14 semester credit hours.

- Students placed in 101 will take 101, 102, 201 and 202 and 6 semester credit hours at the 300- or 400-level.
- Students placed in 102 will take 102, 201 and 202 and 6 semester credit hours at the 300- or 400-level.
- Students placed in 201 will take 201 and 202 and 6 semester credit hours at the 300- or 400-level.
- Students placed in 202 will take 202 and 6 semester credit hours at the 300- or 400-level.
- Students placing out of 101, 102, 201 and 202 will take 6 semester credit hours at the 300- or 400-level.

International Experience Requirements

The International Experience must generate at least 3 hours of Texas A&M University credit. Departmental approval is required before travel. Any international experience that does not meet these criteria will not count toward the degree.

- Must be taken after completion of 100- and 200-level language requirement and INTS 201.
- Must be completed before student is eligible to enroll in INTS 481, INTS 491 or INTS 497.
- Must be an immersion experience in the foreign culture and language, which can be satisfied by:
  - An internship at a company, government agency or non-profit operation involving significant use of the foreign language. Three hours of INTS 484 elective credit can be given.
  - Courses taken at a foreign university. Courses may count for Texas A&M University credit with approval of the advisor of the relevant department. These courses cannot apply to the International Studies core. One course must be taken in the foreign language at the 300- or 400-level.
  - Selected Texas A&M University Study Abroad programs which involve intensive cultural and language immersion.
  - A combination of the above to equal the requirement of a long semester or a 10-week summer-approved experience.
- Must be taken outside of the student’s country of origin.
- Must be taken in one foreign country that matches with the foreign language and the area study requirement unless approved by the department head before travel.

Other courses may qualify for the college, university requirements categories. Students should consult the approved list of courses available in the Undergraduate Student Services Office in the College of Liberal Arts or in the International Studies Degree Program Office. The list incorporates University Core Curriculum requirements. No course can be counted in more than one category, except as allowed in the International and Cultural Diversity Graduation requirement.