International Studies - BA, Environmental Studies Track

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 Environmental Studies Track
Globalization and rapid industrialization have brought about a set of environmental concerns that defy national boundaries. Students will work through a fascinating array of coursework chosen among the Colleges of Geoscience, Science, Agrilife, and Liberal Arts. Ultimately students will have a firm grasp of the myriad environmental issues that arise from our global interconnectedness.

Program Requirements

Core Courses
INTS 201 Introduction to International Studies 3
Take three hours of the following: 3
INTS 205 Current Issues in International Studies
Select two of the following: 6
INTS 400 INTS 480
INTS 485 Directed Studies (no more than 3 hours)
INTS 489 Special Topics in...
INTS 497 Independent Honors Study
INTS 481 Senior Seminar in International Studies 3

Track Courses
Select six of the following programs from at least two departments: 18
AGEC 105 Introduction to Agricultural Economics
AGEC 350 Environmental and Natural Resource Economics
AGEC 414 Agribusiness and Food Market Analysis
AGEC 452 International Trade and Agriculture
AGLS 101 Modern Agricultural Systems and Renewable Natural Resources
BESC 201 Introduction to Bioenvironmental Sciences
BIOL 328 Plants and People
BIOL 357 Ecology
FSTC 201 Food Science
GEOG 201 Introduction to Human Geography
GEOG 202 Geography of the Global Village
GEOG 203 Planet Earth
GEOG 304 Economic Geography
GEOG 311 Cultural Geography
GEOG 324 Global Climatic Regions
GEOG 330 Resources and the Environment
GEOG 401 Political Geography
GEOG 430 Environmental Justice
GEOL 101 Principles of Geology
GEOL 420 Environmental Geology
GEOL 410 Global Change
INTS 301 Theories of Globalization
INTS 484 Directed Internship
OCNG 251 Oceanography
PHIL 314 Environmental Ethics
POLS 347 Politics of Energy and the Environment
POLS 456 Environmental Political Theory
RENR 205 Fundamentals of Ecology
RENR 375 Conservation of Natural Resources
SOCI 206 Global Social Trends
SOCI 328 Environmental Sociology

Areas Studies
Select courses from one of the following areas: 9
Latin America
Europe
Africa
North Africa and the Middle East
Asia
Foreign Language 2

International Experience Requirement 3

College and University Requirements
ENGL 104 Composition and Rhetoric 3
Select one of the following: 3
ENGL 203 Writing about Literature
ENGL 210 Technical and Business Writing
COMM 203 Public Speaking
COMM 205 Communication for Technical Professions
COMM 243 Argumentation and Debate

Literature in English 6
Mathematics 4 6
Language, philosophy and culture 3
Creative arts 3
Life and physical sciences 9
Social and behavioral sciences 6
American history 6
POLS 206 American National Government 3
POLS 207  State and Local Government  3
International and cultural diversity  5
General electives  7

Total Semester Credit Hours  120

1 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.
2 See the Foreign Language paragraph.
3 See the International Experience Requirements paragraph.
4 At least 3 hours must be in MATH. Three hours may be PHIL 240.
5 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 at least one long semester or one 10-week summer approved experience.
• 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.

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.