INTERNATIONAL STUDIES - BA, INTERNATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS 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 Geographic Information Systems Track
The International Geographic Information Systems track adds a tremendous skill set to the already substantial ones offered by the core INTS major. The International GIS track immerses students in the workings of spatially distributed information that is used in the environmental, transportation, defense, and many other sectors of the economy. Students will develop skills in spatial analysis and advanced applications of GIS technologies.

Program Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Semester Credit Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>INTS 201</td>
<td>Introduction to International Studies</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>Take three hours of the following:</td>
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<tr>
<td>INTS 205</td>
<td>Current Issues in International Studies (1 hour course to be taken 3 times)</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>Select two of the following:</td>
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<td>INTS 400 to 480</td>
<td><a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/ints">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/ints</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>INTS 485</td>
<td>Directed Studies (no more than 3 hours)</td>
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<td>INTS 489</td>
<td>Special Topics in...</td>
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<td>INTS 497</td>
<td>Independent Honors Study</td>
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<tr>
<td>INTS 481</td>
<td>Senior Seminar in International Studies</td>
<td>3</td>
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Select one of the following: 3
- ATMO 201 Weather and Climate
- GEOG 203 Planet Earth
- GEOG 205 Environmental Change
- GEOL 101 Principles of Geology
- GEOS 210 Climate Change
- OCNG 251 Oceanography

Select one of the following: 3
- GEOG 320 The Middle East
- GEOG 323 Geography of Latin America
- GEOG 324 Global Climatic Regions
- GEOG 325 Geography of Europe
- GEOG 327 Geography of South Asia
- GEOG 361 Remote Sensing in Geosciences 4
- GEOG 390 Principles of Geographic Information Systems 4
- GEOG 475 Advanced Topics in GIS (Geographic Information Systems) 4

Area Studies
Select courses from one of the following areas: 1
- Latin America
- Europe
- Africa
- North Africa and the Middle East
- Asia

Foreign Language 2 20
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 ([http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts](http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts)) 6
Mathematics ([http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#mathematics](http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#mathematics)) 6
Language, philosophy and culture ([http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#language-philosophy-culture](http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#language-philosophy-culture)) 3
Creative arts ([http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#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](http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#life-physical-sciences)) 9
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.
  - 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.