

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES - BA, INTERNATIONAL POLITICS AND DIPLOMACY TRACK

The BA in International Studies (INTS) is an interdisciplinary degree that combines linguistic and regional expertise, with specialization in a sub-field specific to the track.

International Politics and Diplomacy Track

This track offers students a fundamental understanding of foreign relations. Students learn about the workings of governments and civil societies in a global framework. From this program students gain a sound understanding of how governments communicate and cooperate in regional, continental, and global settings.

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.

Program Requirements

First Year

		Semester Credit Hours
ENGL 104	Composition and Rhetoric	3
INTS 205	Current Issues in International Studies	1
Foreign language ¹		4
Government/Political science (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#government-political-science)		3
Mathematics (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#mathematics) ²		3
Semester Credit Hours		14

Spring

INTS 201	Introduction to International Studies	3
INTS 205	Current Issues in International Studies	1
American history (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#american-history)		3

Foreign language ¹	4	
Life and physical sciences (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#life-physical-sciences)	3	
Semester Credit Hours		14

Second Year

Fall

Select one of the following:		3
COMM 203	Public Speaking	
COMM 205	Communication for Technical Professions	
COMM 243	Argumentation and Debate	
ENGL 203	Writing about Literature	
ENGL 210	Technical and Business Writing	
Foreign language ¹		3
International politics and diplomacy ³		3
Language, philosophy and culture (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#language-philosophy-culture)		3
Social and behavioral sciences (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#social-behavioral-sciences)		3
Semester Credit Hours		15

Spring

INTS 205	Current Issues in International Studies	1
American history (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#american-history)		3
Foreign language ¹		3
Government/Political science (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#government-political-science)		3
Life and physical sciences (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#life-physical-sciences)		3
Literature directed elective (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts/)		3
Semester Credit Hours		16

Third Year

Fall

INTS 300	International Experience ⁴	0
Foreign language ¹		3
Geographic area studies ⁵		3
Geographic area studies ⁵		3
Geographic area studies ⁵		3
International politics and diplomacy ³		3
Semester Credit Hours		15

Spring

Select one of the following:		3
INTS 400-480 (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/int/)		
INTS 485	Directed Studies	
INTS 489	Special Topics in...	
INTS 497	Independent Honors Study	

Creative arts (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#creative-arts)	3
Foreign language ¹	3
International politics and diplomacy ³	3
Life and physical sciences (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#life-physical-sciences)	3
General elective	1
Semester Credit Hours	16

Fourth Year**Fall**

Select one of the following:	3
INTS 400-480 (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/int/)	
INTS 485 Directed Studies	
INTS 489 Special Topics in...	
INTS 497 Independent Honors Study	
International politics and diplomacy ³	3
Mathematics (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#mathematics) ²	3
Social and behavioral sciences (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#social-behavioral-sciences)	3
Literature directed elective (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts/)	3
Semester Credit Hours	15

Spring

INTS 481 Senior Seminar in International Studies	3
International politics and diplomacy ³	3
International politics and diplomacy ³	3
General elective	3
General elective	3
Semester Credit Hours	15
Total Semester Credit Hours	120

¹ Students completing a Bachelor of Arts in the College of Liberal Arts are required to complete 14 hours of a foreign language (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts/>) through the intermediate level. Students in International Studies are required to complete an additional 6 hours of a foreign language through the advanced level. If you choose to enroll in a language you have studied previously without receiving college credit, you must first take a placement test. See the Foreign Language paragraph.

² At least 3 hours must be in MATH. Three hours may be PHIL 240.

³ Select six (6) courses from at least two departments. Not all courses will be offered every semester. See academic advisor. Select from COMM 354, COMM 443; GEOG 401, GEOG 420; ECON 203, ECON 320, ECON 330; HIST 343, HIST 444, HIST 462, HIST 463, HIST 464; INTS 251, INTS 301, INTS 321, INTS 484; POLS 229, POLS 231, POLS 322, POLS 323, POLS 324, POLS 325, POLS 326, POLS 328, POLS 338, POLS 347, POLS 349, POLS 350, POLS 358, POLS 362, POLS 364, POLS 365, POLS 366, POLS 367/WGST 367, POLS 368, POLS 412, POLS 413, POLS 415, POLS 423, POLS 424, POLS 429, POLS 432, POLS 447, POLS 454, POLS 475; SOCI 203, SOCI 337, SOCI 412, SOCI 423.

⁴ The course will be used to track student's completion of the International Experience Requirement (see paragraph below).

⁵ Select 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.

Graduation requirements include 3 hours of International and Cultural Diversity (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/degree-information/international-cultural-diversity-requirements/>) courses and 3 hours of Cultural Discourse (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/degree-information/cultural-discourse-requirements/>) courses. A course satisfying a core category, a college/department requirement, or a free elective can be used to satisfy this requirement. The required 6 hours may be met by courses satisfying other areas of a degree program. See your academic advisor for further information.

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 (INTS 300)

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 and Cultural Discourse Graduation requirement.