

Program Requirements

The International Studies major is an interdisciplinary 120-hour course of study.

Students must complete:

- A 36 credit hour general education requirement (including an Interdisciplinary Studies course with a global focus)
- A foreign language requirement (demonstration of a foreign language equivalent to passing the intermediate level of college-level courses, which can be achieved through 16 credit hours of foreign language courses)
- A 42 credit hour major requirement (including 12 credit hours of core courses, 6 credit hours of international travel study, and 24 credit hours of major electives)
- An 18 credit hour minor
- Additional general electives adding up to the 120-hour course of study

Core Courses

INTS 200 Essentials of International Studies
GEOG 201 World Regions
POLS 370 Introduction to International Relations
INTS 499 International Studies Senior Assignment

International Travel Study

This major requires six credit hours of international travel study for the duration of a semester or during a summer session, and thus immersion in a foreign culture and first-hand exposure to international issues. The international travel study must be chosen in consultation with the International Studies program director and International Studies advisor.

Concentration Areas

International Relations and Diplomacy

Students who choose this concentration have a career interest in the art and practice of conducting negotiations between representatives of groups, governments, or international organizations. Students gain the skills to engage in international relations through the intercession of professional diplomats with regard to issues of peacemaking, war, trade, economics, environment, culture, and human rights.

International Art, Culture, and Communication

Students who choose this concentration have a career interest in the development, preservation, promotion, and strengthening of arts and national cultures to meet the challenges and opportunities of globalization and technological change. They also seek to improve access to knowledge, build networks, promote understanding, and enhance cooperation between art, culture, and communication councils and agencies at national and international levels. Additionally, they seek opportunities to support cultural diversity and fair access in regards to the media and the arts.

International Development and Sustainability

Students who choose this concentration have a career interest in global sustainable development through innovation, research, and relationships that span the entire world. Sustainable development goes to the heart of tackling, through partnerships among various organizations, a number of interrelated global issues such as inequality, poverty, hunger, and environmental degradation.

Program Electives

Major electives must be selected in such a way as to be pertinent to the degree concentration of interest to each student, in consultation with the International Studies program director and International Studies advisor.

An internship with an international focus (INTS 400 Internship in International Studies) and an independent project with an international focus (INTS 401 Independent Project in International Studies) are not required but highly encouraged as major electives.

Major electives will be selected from courses in the following academic areas (a list of major electives is available on the program's website):

- Anthropology
- Applied Communication Studies
- Art and Design
- Economics
- English Language & Literature
- Foreign Languages & Literatures
- Geography
- Historical Studies
- International Studies
- Interdisciplinary Studies
- Mass Communications
- Philosophy
- Political Science
- Theater and Dance

Additional major electives from Criminal Justice Studies, Environmental Sciences, Public Administration and Policy Analysis, Social Work, and Sociology are in the process of being added.

The Program

International Studies (INTS) at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville (SIUE) is an interdisciplinary degree program designed to help students reflect on and engage in the complex social, political, economic, and cultural interrelations that exist among nations and regions of our increasingly globalized world. The program offers a broad range of curricular options allowing students to explore, in regards to various peoples and across populations, aspects related to geography, history, religion, government, trade, communication, languages and literatures, music and arts, social justice and environmental challenges. Students in the program will have opportunities to learn critical and analytical problem-solving skills that they can apply to contemporary global issues.

Career Opportunities

Graduates with a Bachelor's degree in International Relations are qualified for many positions in diplomacy or with nonprofits, governmental organizations, and businesses. Students can apply their knowledge of globalization, language, and culture in workplace settings in the areas of foreign service, foreign aid, or international intergovernmental organizations. Examples of government agencies seeking these graduates are the U.S. Department of State, the U.S. Department of Defense, the National Security Agency, and the Central Intelligence Agency. In recent years, there have been hundreds of thousands of export related jobs and employment opportunities with foreign firms in Illinois and in the Saint Louis metropolitan area. Possible job titles include: foreign service specialist; human rights advocate; administrative/legislative aid; Peace Corps officer; family/community support service provider for humanitarian agencies; and business consultant in international firms.

Admission Requirements

The applicants for the Bachelor's degree in International Studies are expected to meet SIUE's general undergraduate admission requirements. High school students who plan to major in International Studies at SIUE are highly recommended to complete at least three to four years of a foreign language. Admission into this program requires an application to declare a major, after the student has completed all academic development courses required by the university, any required courses to address high school deficiencies, and the general education requirements for writing skills courses. Students declaring a major in International Studies must select one of the three concentration areas and a minor.

Contact Us!

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SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
EDWARDSVILLE

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

International Studies Program



**A new interdisciplinary major
at SIUE!**