International Affairs

Chair: Bob Mandel
Administrative Coordinator: Katie Sholian

International affairs encompasses political, military, economic, legal, and cultural relations involving states, nations, international and nongovernmental organizations, and transnational groups. Study in this discipline explores how international actors, the international system, and states domestic environments individually and collectively affect the prospects for conflict and cooperation. Academic work focuses in particular on foreign policy, national security, international law, international economic relations, and national political and economic development.

Often, this field of study is contained within a political science department. Lewis & Clark’s freestanding Department of International Affairs provides an opportunity to study the multiple dimensions of international relations in greater conceptual and empirical depth and breadth. It also allows students to integrate courses and insights from other disciplines into the major.

The department offers a rigorous and challenging conceptually oriented curriculum, introducing students to core ideas in the study of international relations and the tools and methods of the social sciences and other disciplines. Students gain the analytical and methodological skills necessary to make informed judgments about the sources, significance, and consequences of the diverse developments, as well as a solid empirical grounding in the field.

The department sponsors several extracurricular activities for students interested in international relations. The annual International Affairs Symposium, a three-day event organized by students, hosts academic and policy experts who debate aspects of a chosen topic in the field. Majors also participate in an active Model United Nations. The Meridian, a student-run journal, offers students a forum in which to publish their own essays and photographs related to international affairs.

Resources for Nonmajors

An understanding of international affairs is important to each student’s growth as an individual and as a citizen of an increasingly interdependent world. A number of courses in the department are accessible to nonmajors without prerequisites. Introduction to International Relations (IA 100) gives the best general introduction to the field as a whole. Nonmajors are welcome to participate in the department’s extracurricular activities.

The Major Program

Majors in international affairs are required to take six core courses as well as an elective in each of five subject areas. Each student works with an advisor to construct a program appropriate to his/her intellectual interests and career goals.

IA 100 Introduction to International Relations should be taken early in the student’s academic career. This course provides an overview of the central concepts used in understanding international relations and is a prerequisite for most of the courses in the department. Students are advised to complete ECON 100 Principles of Economics, POLS 102 Introduction to Comparative Politics or POLS 103 Introduction to American Politics, and IA 212 United States Foreign Policy, ideally by the end of their second year. These courses introduce students to important concepts and empirical information that inform upper-level courses. Normally, Research Methods and the three other subject area classes should be completed in the third year. IA 310 International Relations Theories usually should be taken in the semester preceding the one in which the student takes IA 430 International Affairs Seminar. Students are urged to complete all other departmental requirements prior to enrolling in the seminar.

In addition to the course requirements, majors are encouraged to develop an academic program that enables them to study at least one foreign language beyond the 201 level, participate in an off-campus program, and take courses in other disciplines appropriate to individual intellectual interests and career goals. Majors also are encouraged to couple their coursework with practical learning that includes, for example, internships in Portland and elsewhere with government and nongovernmental organizations. These opportunities may be pursued during the academic year and/or the summer months.

The major’s diverse course offerings and opportunities create many career paths. Some majors decide to pursue further academic study and enter graduate and professional programs. Others find employment in public service, journalism, education, business, humanitarian work, international organizations, and local and national government.

The international affairs curriculum is organized into the following core courses and subject areas. See appropriate department listings for course descriptions.

Core Courses

International Affairs
IA 100 Introduction to International Relations
IA 212 United States Foreign Policy
IA 310 International Relations Theories
IA 430 International Affairs Seminar

Economics
ECON 100 Principles of Economics

Political Science
POLS 102 Introduction to Comparative Politics
POLS 103 Introduction to American Politics

Research Methods
Economics
ECON 103 Statistics
International Affairs
IA 200 Research Methods for International Affairs

Mathematics
MATH 105 Perspectives in Statistics

Political Science
POLS 201 Research Methods in Political Science

Sociology and Anthropology
SOAN 201 Quantitative Research Methods

Comparative and Regional Perspectives
International Affairs
IA 230 African Politics
IA 231 Latin American Politics
IA 232 Southeast Asian Politics
IA 290 Middle East Politics
IA 320 Democratization

History
HIST 121 Modern European History
HIST 142 Modern Latin American History
HIST 217 The Emergence of Modern South Asia
HIST 328 The British Empire

Political Science
POLS 322 Ethnicity and Nationalism
POLS 325 European Politics
POLS 435 Topics in Comparative Politics

Sociology and Anthropology
SOAN 266 Social Change in Latin America
SOAN 270 Cultural Politics of Youth in East Asia
SOAN 275 Africa in Social and Cultural Perspective
SOAN 350 Global Inequality

Global Security, Conflict and Diplomacy
International Affairs
IA 257 Global Resource Dilemmas
IA 312 Studies of Diplomacy
IA 330 Global Security
IA 342 Perception and International Relations

Global Governance
International Affairs
IA 211 International Organization
IA 296 Human Rights in International Relations
IA 313 International Ethics
IA 325 Power and International Relations
IA 333 International Law

Economic Perspectives
International Affairs
IA 238 Political Economy of Development
IA 318 Multinational Corporations
IA 340 International Political Economy
IA 341 Advanced Industrial Economies

Economics
ECON 232 Economic Development
ECON 291 Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory
ECON 295 Political Economy of Korea
ECON 314 International Economics

Major Requirements
A minimum of 44 semester credits (11 courses), distributed as follows:
• IA 100 Introduction to International Relations
• IA 212 United States Foreign Policy
• IA 310 International Relations Theories
• IA 430 International Affairs Seminar
• ECON 100 Principles of Economics
• One of the following:
  POLS 102 Introduction to Comparative Politics
  POLS 103 Introduction to American Politics
• One elective course from each of the departmental subject areas: research methods, comparative and regional perspectives, global security, conflict and diplomacy, global governance, and economic perspectives.

A maximum of four courses from outside the IA department may be used toward the major. Special exception may be made by the department for courses from other institutions submitted by transfer students, and for courses taken on Lewis & Clark overseas programs.

Honors
The honors program is based on the thesis. All international affairs majors who have a GPA of 3.500 or higher, both in the major and overall, are eligible. Students whose theses are judged by department faculty as of superior quality, originality, and insight will receive the award of honors on graduation.

Faculty

IA 100 Introduction to International Relations
Faculty: Coe, Cortell, Mandel, Partovi, Petersen, Smith-Cannoy.
Content: An introduction to a conceptual, analytical, and historical understanding of international relations. Emphasis on the international system and the opportunities and constraints it places on state and nonstate behavior. Cooperation and conflict, sovereignty, the rich-poor gap, determinants of national power, interdependence, the process of globalization, international institutions, and the role of transnational phenomena. Designed for students who have no previous background in the study of international relations.
Prerequisites: None.
Usually offered: Annually, fall and spring semester.
Semester credits: 4.

IA 211 International Organization
Faculty: Petersen.
Content: Examines attempts at governance in the international system, including the birth of the modern state system, the United Nations, and other international organizations. Explores competing explanations for global cooperation in conflict management, economics, and human rights.
Prerequisites: IA 100.
Restrictions: Sophomore standing required, unless section number is preceded by an "F."
Usually offered: Annually, fall and spring semester.
Semester credits: 4.

IA 212 United States Foreign Policy
Faculty: Partovi.
Prerequisites: IA 100.
Restrictions: Sophomore standing required, unless section number is preceded by an "F."
Usually offered: Annually, fall and spring semester.
Semester credits: 4.

IA 230 African Politics
Faculty: International Affairs Faculty.
Prerequisites: None.
Restrictions: Sophomore standing required, unless section number is preceded by an "F."
Usually offered: Alternate Years, fall semester.
Semester credits: 4.

IA 231 Latin American Politics
Faculty: International Affairs Faculty.
Content: Comparative analysis of politics in South and Central America. Specific emphases vary, but usually include role of the peasantry, Catholic Church and Catholicism, changing political roles of women, international linkages, causes and effects of social revolutions, military rule, transitions to democracy. Emphasis on theories attempting to explain patterns of Latin American politics.
Prerequisites: IA 100.
Restrictions: Sophomore standing required, unless section number is preceded by an "F."
Usually offered: Alternate Years, spring semester.
Semester credits: 4.
IA 232 Southeast Asian Politics  
Faculty: Coe.  
Content: Political and economic context of contemporary Southeast Asian states using a comparative perspective. Topics may include the effects of colonial and Cold War legacies on state development; the relationships among ethnicity, religion, and conflict; political transition and democratization; economic development policy; regional environmental issues; and Southeast Asian economic integration.  
Prerequisites: None.  
Restrictions: Sophomore standing required, unless section number is preceded by an "F."  
Usually offered: Annually, spring semester.  
Semester credits: 4.

IA 238 Political Economy of Development  
Faculty: Coe.  
Content: Introduction to theories on the role of the state in economic development. How politics affect the state’s role and impact. Why are some countries poor while others are rich? How does government policy contribute? How does poverty affect political development and governmental stability? Organized according to major economic and political problems affecting developing countries. The theoretical debates surrounding the role of government in addressing problems of development. Focus is on thinking critically about the complexity of these problems in countries where the state apparatus is itself new, transitional, or developing.  
Prerequisites: IA 100, ECON 100.  
Restrictions: Sophomore standing required, unless section number is preceded by an "F."  
Usually offered: Annually, spring semester.  
Semester credits: 4.

IA 244 International Affairs Practicum  
Faculty: Smith-Cannoy (Model United Nations), Mandel (International Affairs Symposium)  
Content: This course has two separate sections from which students must choose. (1) Model United Nations: Facilitation of student participation in national and regional Model United Nations conferences. Research to prepare for participation. Credit granted for preparation, participation, and post-session analysis. The Model United Nations section may be taken up to four times.  
(2) International Affairs Symposium: Guided readings on the topic of the College’s annual International Affairs Symposium. Focus on key issues of controversy within contemporary international relation. Recent topics have included global terrorism, arms transfers, migration, disease, and humanitarian intervention. Discussion of the substantive issues involved, preparation of written materials, and training and guidance to shape sessions and the ways to create an effective symposium. The International Affairs Symposium section must be taken in a fall-spring sequence; it may not be started in the spring, and students enrolling in the fall must take it in the spring. The International Affairs Symposium section may be taken up to four times.  
Prerequisites: None for Model United Nations. IA 100 and permission of instructor for International Affairs Symposium.  
Restrictions: Sophomore standing and consent required.  
Usually offered: Annually, fall and spring semester.  
Semester credits: 1-4.

IA 257 Global Resource Dilemmas  
Faculty: Mandel.  
Content: Exploration of the controversies surrounding global resource and environmental problems. Topics include the "limits to growth" and "lifeboat ethics" debates; global population, food, water, and energy problems; environment and development; and international resource conflict.  
Prerequisites: IA 100.  
Restrictions: Sophomore standing required, unless section number is preceded by an "F."  
Usually offered: Annually, spring semester.  
Semester credits: 4.

IA 290 Middle East Politics  
Faculty: Partovi.  
Content: Analysis and explanation of the historical forces that shaped the complexities of this region, placing the area in its proper setting and perspective.  
Prerequisites: None.  
Restrictions: Sophomore standing required, unless section number is preceded by an "F."  
Usually offered: Annually, spring semester.  
Semester credits: 4.
IA 296 Human Rights in International Relations  
Faculty: Smith-Cannoy.  
Content: Tensions surrounding sovereignty, or nonintervention, in the face of increasingly severe human rights abuses. Overview of the philosophical underpinnings of human rights as well as prominent debates in the human rights literature. Critical examination of the doctrine of sovereignty in international relations theory and practice. Analysis of the international community’s ways of preventing human rights violations, including political and judicial enforcement of human rights norms.  
Prerequisites: IA 100.  
Restrictions: Sophomore standing required, unless section number is preceded by an "F."  
Usually offered: Annually, fall and spring semester.  
Semester credits: 4.

IA 299 Independent Study  
Faculty: International Affairs Faculty.  
Content: Opportunities for well-prepared students to design and pursue a substantive course of independent learning. Details determined by the student and the supervising instructor. May be repeated for credit.  
Prerequisites: None.  
Restrictions: Sophomore standing and consent required.  
Usually offered: Annually, fall and spring semester.  
Semester credits: 1-4.

IA 310 International Relations Theories  
Faculty: Cortell.  
Content: Contending theories of international relations, specifically those that explain the evolution and content of world politics by reference to transnational, international, state-specific, and/or individual factors. Emphasis on the conceptual, analytical, and methodological aspects of and debates in international relations theory.  
Prerequisites: IA 100. Two 200-level international affairs courses.  
Restrictions: Junior standing required.  
Usually offered: Annually, fall and spring semester.  
Semester credits: 4.

IA 312 Studies of Diplomacy  
Faculty: Partovi.  
Content: A reading of diplomatic history and the rules governing the conduct of diplomacy. The tools of statecraft through case studies including the strategy and tactics of negotiating across cultures, diplomatic law, and multilateral diplomacy.  
Prerequisites: IA 100.  
Restrictions: Sophomore standing required.  
Usually offered: Annually, fall semester.  
Semester credits: 4.

IA 313 International Ethics  
Faculty: Petersen.  
Content: An overview of different theoretical perspectives concerning moral argumentation in IR theory; ethical dimensions of poverty, population growth, climate change, terrorism, migration, moral standing of states and borders, use of force, ethics of humanitarian intervention, individual vs. group morality, origin and meaning of human rights, global governance, and just world order. Discussion of cosmopolitanism, patriotism, and nationalism; just war theory; nuclear ethics; global distributive justice; climate ethics; and the responsibilities and duties of citizens, soldiers, leaders, and collectives.  
Prerequisites: IA 100.  
Restrictions: Sophomore standing required.  
Usually offered: Annually, spring semester.  
Semester credits: 4.

IA 318 Multinational Corporations  
Faculty: Mandel.  
Content: Causes of growth of the multinational corporation, its impact on host states and home states, and international responses to its emergence.  
Prerequisites: IA 100. ECON 100.  
Restrictions: Sophomore standing required.  
Usually offered: Every fourth year, fall semester.  
Semester credits: 4.

IA 320 Democratization  
Faculty: Coe.  
Content: The international spread of democracy in the contemporary period. How variations in national institutional design and national context impact outcomes. Particular attention is given to the transition to and consolidation of democracy, instances of limited democratization, and the question of political accountability in nondemocracies.  
Prerequisites: IA 100.  
Restrictions: Sophomore standing required.  
Usually offered: Annually, fall semester.  
Semester credits: 4.

IA 325 Power and International Relations  
Faculty: Petersen.  
Content: A survey of definitions of and perspectives on power from the fields of political philosophy, sociology, and international relations. Examines current debates about forms of power, the meaning of power, and its role in world politics.  
Prerequisites: IA 100.  
Restrictions: Sophomore standing required.  
Usually offered: Annually, spring semester.  
Semester credits: 4.
IA 330 Global Security
Faculty: Mandel.
Content: Analysis of the major theories covering human, state, and international security. Emphasis on developing a probing conceptual understanding of ongoing challenges emanating from both state and nonstate sources. Explores military, economic, environmental, political, cultural dimensions. Cross-cultural security perspectives relevant to both Western and non-Western societies.
Prerequisites: IA 100.
Restrictions: Sophomore standing required.
Usually offered: Annually, fall semester.
Semester credits: 4.

IA 333 International Law
Faculty: Smith-Cannoy.
Content: The political setting of international law, its changing content, its influence on the foreign policies of states, the special problems of regulating war, and developing and implementing human rights. Focus on insights from social science theories and perspectives, not on technical understanding of international law.
Prerequisites: IA 100.
Restrictions: Sophomore standing required.
Usually offered: Alternate Years, spring semester.
Semester credits: 4.

IA 340 International Political Economy
Faculty: Cortell.
Content: The relationship between politics and economics in international relations. History of the modern international political economy, and theories to explain how political factors affect the content and evolution of international economic systems. Focus on trade, monetary, financial, and production relations.
Prerequisites: IA 100. ECON 100.
Restrictions: Sophomore standing required.
Usually offered: Annually, spring semester.
Semester credits: 4.

IA 341 Advanced Industrial Economies
Faculty: International Affairs Faculty.
Content: The elements and conditions that affect whether and how countries promote their industries and economies. Emphasis on the role of globalization and how political forces influence the national economic strategies adopted in the countries studied.
Prerequisites: IA 100. ECON 100. IA 340 recommended (but not required).
Restrictions: Sophomore standing required.
Usually offered: Every fourth year, fall semester.
Semester credits: 4.

IA 342 Perception and International Relations
Faculty: Mandel.
Content: Processes and patterns of intergroup and international perception, views of enemies, perception in foreign policy-making and deterrence, ways of reducing perceptual distortions. Students analyze and theorize about the role of misperception-distortions in one state’s perception of other states-in international relations.
Prerequisites: IA 100.
Restrictions: Sophomore standing required.
Usually offered: Every third year, fall semester.
Semester credits: 4.

IA 430 International Affairs Seminar
Faculty: Coe, Cortell, Smith-Cannoy.
Content: Advanced research in international affairs. Students are expected to develop, research, write, and present a methodologically rigorous and analytically oriented analysis of some dimension of international relations. Topics and explanations are to be informed and guided by the relevant international relations literature. Normally taken during spring semester of senior year.
Prerequisites: IA 310. One course from the Research Methods list.
Restrictions: Sophomore standing required.
Usually offered: Annually, spring semester.
Semester credits: 4.

IA 444 Practicum
Faculty: International Affairs Faculty.
Content: Field-learning experience combining theoretical concepts and skills learned in the classroom with practical work in on-campus and off-campus organizations such as the World Trade Center, World Affairs Council, or U.S. Department of Commerce in Portland. Students must be well prepared prior to enrollment, consult the faculty supervisor about the program in advance, and write a report on the practicum experience. May be repeated for credit.
Prerequisites: None.
Restrictions: Junior standing and consent required.
Usually offered: Annually, fall and spring semester.
Semester credits: 2-4.

IA 499 Independent Study
Faculty: International Affairs Faculty.
Content: Same as IA 299 but requiring more advanced work. May be repeated for credit.
Prerequisites: None.
Restrictions: Junior standing and consent required.
Usually offered: Annually, fall and spring semester.
Semester credits: 1-4.