

# International Studies Catalog, 2025-26

## MAJOR

- **PROFESSORS:** LeeRay Costa (anthropology, gender and women's studies), Edward A. Lynch (political science),
- **ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS:** Vladimir Bratic (communication studies), Pablo Hernandez (economics)
- **ASSISTANT PROFESSOR:** Ashleigh Breske (international studies and political science, coordinator), Jaeyeon Lee (international studies)
- **VISITING PROFESSOR:** Marwood Larson-Harris (religious studies)

The major in international studies is an interdisciplinary program combining courses in the social sciences, humanities, arts, and sciences. Themes present throughout the program include globalization, development, national and transnational identities, migration, diaspora, global conflicts and peacekeeping, post-colonialism, international relations, space and place, and environmental and foreign policy. Studies focus on the evolution of cultural, aesthetic, political, economic, and diplomatic relations among nations and peoples. In order to fulfill the major requirements, students must spend at least a semester studying abroad, take a foreign language beyond the intermediate level, and write a senior thesis on a topic with an international focus. Many of our students also pursue course work in a second major, combining their interdisciplinary focus in international studies with that of another disciplinary field such as political science, economics, business, foreign language, history, or religion. The major serves as good preparation for careers in international service and business, non-governmental organizations, foreign service, the Peace Corps, and for pursuing additional graduate work in the humanities and social sciences.

The goals of the program are to combine academic theory and course work with practice-based research and fieldwork in international studies. The goals are:

1. To introduce students to themes of interdependence and globalization of cultures and world economic and political systems.
2. To develop critical students capable of understanding and analyzing international studies from a variety of diverse theoretical frameworks, including post-colonialism, feminism/gender, race and class, post-structuralism, materialism/Marxism, space and place, identity politics, and environmental risk and sustainability.

3. To give students first-hand experience of a non-U.S. culture through the Hollins semester abroad program and to develop language skills beyond the intermediate level.
4. To develop research and analytical skills through the intellectual and creative challenge of the senior thesis project.

## **REQUIREMENTS FOR A MAJOR IN INTERNATIONAL STUDIES:**

11 courses (44 credits)

Working closely with an advisor from the international studies program, each major will complete six core courses in international studies, language through the intermediate level, a Short Term, full semester, or approved academic summer experience abroad, and take five additional courses from the list of approved international studies or affiliated courses.

The department chair will be responsible each semester for drafting and maintaining a list of approved electives that fill each concentration.

At least three of the electives should be at the 200 level or above, with one course required at the 300 level. Up to 12 credits of elective courses may be taken at universities abroad, with prior written departmental approval. Electives chosen from the major should cover at least two of the following general concentrations:

- politics
- cultural affairs
- business and economics

Students who are double majors in INTL and another department offering a senior thesis may substitute a thesis in their other major for INTL 480, provided the following requirements are met:

- permission of other department
- the thesis has a substantial cross-cultural, international, or multiethnic dimension
- the thesis is co-directed by members of two different departments
- the student participates in a senior thesis class involving peer workshops, either in the INTL department or in the other major
- the student adds an extra INTL elective at the 300 level

It is highly recommended that Introduction to International Studies 120 and World Geography 210 be taken during the first four semesters of study.

## **CORE COURSES IN INTERNATIONAL STUDIES (24):**

- INTL 120: Introduction to International Studies (4)
- INTL/ES 210: World Geography (4)
- GPS 216 Research Methods in Social Sciences (4)
- INTL/ES 220/POLS 221: Globalization and Local Responses (4) or INTL/ECON 259 International Political Economy (4) or INTL/COMM 380 Global Communication and Media (4)
- GPS 480: Senior Thesis Seminar (4) or GPS 490: Senior Honors Thesis Seminar (4, 4)
- POLS 102: International Relations (4)

## **FIVE ADDITIONAL INTERNATIONAL STUDIES OR AFFILIATED COURSES (20)**

- Language through the intermediate level
- Study Abroad
  - A Short Term, full semester, or approved summer academic experience abroad
- Affiliated Courses:

### **AFFILIATED COURSES**

*Special Topics offered in 2025-2026*

- FREN 250/350 Understanding the French Caribbean: Thoughts and Literatures

*Regular Catalog courses*

- ART/CLAS 261 Ancient Art
- ART 262 Medieval Art
- ART 263 Renaissance/Baroque Art
- ART 264 Modern Art
- ART 266 History of Photography
- ART 354 Italian Renaissance Art
- BUS 263 International Business
- COMM 380 Global Communication and Media (elective or core requirement)
- ECON 230 Economics and the Environment
- ECON/INTL 259 International Political Economy (elective or core requirement)
- ECON 265 International Trade and Finance
- ECON 312 Economics of Development and Globalization
- ENG 174 International Women's Voices
- ENG 211 Multicultural Women's Writers

- ENG 263 Holocaust Literature
- ENG 313 Literature of the Renaissance
- ENG 317 Medieval Literature
- ENG 320 Immigrant Literature
- ENG 330 17th- and 18th-Century Literature
- ENG 339 18th-Century British Novel
- ENG 346 Arab-American Literature
- ENG 358 Literature of the African Diaspora
- ENG 375 Writing Out of the Multicultural Experience
- FREN 275 Social Justice and the Forgotten Francophonies
- FREN 237 Understanding Contemporary France
- FREN 324 Introduction to French and Francophone Women Authors
- ES/INTL 220/POLS 221 Globalization and Local Responses (elective or core requirement)
- ES/POLS 261 Political Ecology
- POLS 217 Politics of the Middle East
- ES/POLS 271 Politics of the World's Ocean
- GWS/ES 219 Food, Culture, and Social Justice
- GWS/HIST 225 Women in Early Modern Europe
- GWS/HIST 310 Body and Sexuality in the History of Europe
- GWS/HIST 334 Sex/Race in the Age of Empire
- GWS/REL 362 Spiritual Activism
- HIST 155 Hitler and the Holocaust
- HIST 248 Decolonization
- HIST 270 Making Revolution
- HIST 329 Slavery: A Global History
- PH 101 Introduction to Public Health
- PH 201 Epidemiology
- PH 301 Global Health
- PHIL 275 Asian Philosophy
- PHIL 202 Early Modern Philosophy
- POLS 103 Modern Comparative Politics
- POLS 104 Political Theory
- POLS 210: Ethnicity, Nationalism, and Conflict
- POLS 225 Conquest
- POLS 226 International Law

- POLS 262 Government and Politics in Africa
- POLS 337 Seminar in US Foreign Policy
- REL 126 Introduction to Religion in a Global Context
- REL 212 Christian Traditions
- REL 217 Islam and the West
- REL/SOC 241 Sociology of Religion
- REL 270 Sacred Stories: World Scriptures
- SOC 250: From Tramp Stamps to Designer Genes: Body Modification
- SOC 260 Race, Class, and Gender: A Reflexive Approach
- SOC 343 Critical Race Theory
- SPAN 216 Hip Hop in the Americas
- SPAN 236 Spanish Culture and Civilization
- SPAN 243 Modern Hispanic Culture
- SPAN 341 20th/21st-Century Hispanic Relations
- SPAN 348 20th-Century Spanish-American Literature

## **COURSES IN INTERNATIONAL STUDIES:**

### **INTL 120: INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL STUDIES (4)**

Offers a multidisciplinary perspective, drawn from the fine arts, humanities, and social sciences, to our understanding of nations and cultures of the world. Topics and geographical focus will change yearly depending on the instructor. Open to first-year students. Offered Term 1. (o, GLO, MOD, INQ)

### **INTL 160: MODEL UNITED NATIONS (2)**

We study the history and functions of the U.N., as well as the current major political, social, and economic issues. The course focuses on preparation for Hollins' delegations to the American Model U.N. Conference in Chicago, which is held the weekend before Thanksgiving. Participation is recommended, but not required for all class members. The course may be repeated for credit since the countries and issues change from year to year. Also listed and described as POLS 160. Open to first-year students. Offered both terms. (o, 4 credits for GLO)

### **INTL 210: WORLD GEOGRAPHY (4)**

The methods of geography applied to global issues. Emphasis placed on regional geographic analysis and the complexity of world politics. Also listed and described as ES 210. Open to first-year students. No prerequisite. Offered Term 2. (GLO, MOD)

### **INTL 220: GLOBALIZATION AND LOCAL RESPONSES (4)**

Analyses of international issues and systems based on social science perspectives and methodologies, including statistics. Topics are drawn from the following: trade, finance, and development; diplomacy, terrorism, and security; technology and communication; demographics and immigration; energy and transportation; and the global environment. Also listed and described as ES 220 and POLS 221. Open to first-year students.

Prerequisite: q. (Q, GLO)

### **INTL 239: CULTURAL HERITAGE STUDIES AND THE UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SYSTEM (4)**

This course examines the politics and history of developing UNESCO World Heritage sites through the conventions and international frameworks used to preserve and protect culturally significant, natural, and/or mixed sites. It also explores and critiques the concept of contested spaces that may be claimed, erased, and/or appropriated by others. Also listed as POLS 250. Open to first-year students. Also listed and described as POLS 239.

Offered Term 2. (DJP)

### **INTL 250: KOREAN MEDIA, LITERATURE, AND SOCIETY (4)**

This course explores Korea's history, culture, and society through the lens of contemporary Korean media and literature. Beyond a national framework, the course also situates Korea within a broader transpacific context, encouraging students to develop a more expansive understanding of Korea's place in the world. Readings include novels by Han Kang, selections of Korean women's poetry, essays by Grace M. Cho, etc. We will also explore the lives of Korean immigrants through films such as *Past Lives* and *Minari*, highlighting themes of migration, displacement, and cultural belonging. Offered Term 1.

### **INTL 250: THE PSYCHIC LIVES OF POLITICS (4)**

This course explores the intersections of politics and the unconscious, drawing on psychoanalytic theory to interrogate the affective, libidinal, and often irrational forces that structure political life. Guided by the works of scholars such as Ilan Kapoor, Paul Kingsbury, Jacqueline Rose, Joan Copjec, Slavoj Žižek, etc., we examine how fantasy, desire, repression, and anxiety shape not only individual political subjectivities but also collective formations such as nationalism, populism, neoliberalism, colonialism, and international development. Also listed and described as POLS 250. Offered Term 2.

### **INTL 259: INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY (4)**

Also listed and described as ECON 259. Open to first-year students. Prerequisites: q and ECON 157 or ECON 158. (o, r, Q, GLO, MOD)

### **INTL 265: CULTURAL PROPERTY, RIGHTS, AND MUSEUMS (4)**

This course examines the concept of ownership and how cultural property and heritage are defined throughout the world. We examine themes related to identity, memory, and ownership. Students study the history of collecting, domestic and international cultural heritage laws, regulations, and policies related to objects and human remains. The impacts of globalization, war, and historical colonial practices are also explored. Also listed and described as ARTH 265. Open to first-year students.

### **INTL 290: INDEPENDENT STUDY (2 TO 4)**

Independent study conducted below the advanced level. Application must be made with faculty prior to registration. Offered any term.

### **INTL 302: COMPARATIVE URBANISM (4)**

This course introduces the complex issues that continue to face a society that is increasingly urban and integrated into the world economy. The structures of our urban society and the relationships of those to cities around the world are critical issues of contemporary society. The “Urban World” is tremendously diverse, and so the course introduces and explores many aspects of city life from a range of perspectives: cultural, economic, political, social, and environmental. After discussing some basic concepts of urbanism and public policy, the course focuses on specific case studies introducing the complex and cultural forces shaping cities throughout the world. Also listed and described as POLS 302. Offered Term 2. (GLO, MOD)

### **INTL 303: GEOPOLITICS (4)**

This course serves as an introduction to contemporary geopolitical issues of globalization, sovereignty, nationalism, war, legitimacy, and hegemony. Key issues include: the nature and production of political sovereignty, the intersection between the nation and new global forms of government, the future of cosmopolitan democracy, the roots of geopolitical thinking, and the role of the U.S. within the world system as global “imperial” hegemon. The goals of the course are to highlight key geopolitical issues present within international affairs and for students to develop their own views informed by analysis of course readings and classroom discussions. Also listed and described as POLS 304. Open to first-year students with permission. Offered Term 1. (GLO, MOD)

### **INTL 305: CULTURAL GEOGRAPHY AND LANDSCAPE STUDIES (4)**

This course introduces the student to the study of culture and landscape interpretation within modern geography. The course examines cultural processes and how they interact and construct the world we inhabit. After introducing a number of key themes and

theoretical perspectives that will recur throughout the semester, we will be looking at cultural processes present within different geographical examples. In each of these cases we highlight popular cultural aspects such as sports, music, television and film, literature, etc. Open to first-year students with permission.

### **INTL 307: INTERNATIONAL TOURISM (4)**

In this course we examine tourism and travel from a number of methodological and theoretical perspectives. We'll analyze a number of different types of tourism, including ecotourism, the sex trade, heritage tourism, beach vacations, cruising, dark/macabre tourism, and the "grand tour." The goal of this course is to inform and critique, to situate ourselves as critical tourists in order to examine the impact all tourists have on local forms of culture and on the natural environment. (MOD, GLO)

### **INTL 317: REFUGEES AND RESETTLEMENT (4)**

In this course, we analyze some of the significant political, economic, and social issues that influence forced migration of peoples across borders and evaluate the varied relationships between refugees and their new homes through concepts such as enculturation, socialization, adaptation, and international policies. Our discussions look critically at global conflict and the laws and/or policies that cause displacement. Also listed and described as POLS 317. Open to first-year students. Offered Term 2. (DJP)

### **INTL 380: GLOBAL COMMUNICATION AND MEDIA (4)**

This course deals with the development of various international media systems and international communication. Topics include comparative analysis of U.S., British, Russian, Chinese, and other countries' media systems and the role of commercial, intergovernmental, and non-governmental organizations in shaping of global communication and critical analysis of documentary films portraying international media issues. Also listed and described as COMM 380. Prerequisite: sophomore standing or permission. Offered Term 1. (o, GLO, MOD)

### **INTL 390: INDEPENDENT STUDY (2 TO 4)**

Independent study conducted at the advanced level. Application must be made with faculty prior to registration. Offered any term.

### **INTL 490: SENIOR HONORS THESIS (4, 4)**

A student may be invited to write a thesis for departmental honors. For honors candidates, the thesis is a Fall Term, Short Term, and Spring Term project.