INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

Mission Statement

The mission of the Department of Government is to educate students in the areas of government, politics, and international affairs, and by this means to foster more knowledgeable, informed, and active citizenship, as well as more enlightened future political leadership, in the communities to which they belong.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this degree, students should be able to:

Core and Generalist Track:

Content

- Recognize the development and background of international relations and diplomatic theory, its application and scope.
- Recognize competing theories and competing methodologies for describing, analyzing, and evaluating what governments do in the political world in which we currently live.
- Recognize cultural areas of the world, the processes leading toward civilization, and frameworks for cultural comparison.
- Describe contemporary economic theory and its relationship to public policy.
- Recognize social regions, spatial behavior and cultural landscapes, including population, spatial diffusion and processes, race, language, religion, political organization, methods of livelihood, settlement patterns, and the regional distribution of the elements over the earth.

Critical Thinking

- Apply theoretical and methodological approaches to problem-solving regarding contemporary international issues derived from related academic disciplines.
- Contextualize world events within a set of geographical influences.

Communication

- Create and deliver effective oral presentations.
- Execute effective written communications in different modes appropriate to the discipline.
- Use visual communication (e.g., graphs and charts) effectively.
Develop and practice information literacy and analytical skills.

**Integrity/Values**
- Pursue the use of legitimate scholarship and appropriate citation in keeping with standards of academic integrity.
- Identify the similarities and differences between individual moral and political obligations.
- Foster a free exchange of ideas.

**International Studies Tracks:**

**Security and Diplomacy**

**Content**
- Compare and evaluate methods to explain sources of security policies, interstate relations, violent conflict and international cooperation.

**Critical Thinking**
- Develop and practice analytical skills particularly relevant to public sector employers and international organizations.

**Business and Economics**

**Content**
- Develop and apply skills and theories appropriate for work in an international business environment.
- Recognize the development and scope of globalization and its effects on international trade and business.

**Cultural Affairs**

**Content**
- Relate perspectives from disciplines such as history, anthropology, geography, languages and humanities, to foster differentiation of nations and cultures outside of the United States.
Area Studies

Content
● Identify the unique institutional, economic, political, and social character of a specific culture or region.

Critical Thinking
● Practice identifying and applying relevant theories to evaluate, in a global context, the issues and challenges of that area.

Assessment of Student Learning Outcomes in International Studies
In our International Studies program, students demonstrate learning in a variety of ways, including quizzes, examinations, contributions to class discussion, term papers and oral presentations. Required coursework provides an opportunity for students to demonstrate content knowledge across the core courses of the major as well as individual tracks. A required upper-division analysis course provides an opportunity to demonstrate academic integrity, critical thinking, communication, and project management.

Jobs Prospects for Graduates in International Studies
Media Expert                      Public Affairs Officer
Foreign Service                   Think Tank
Educator                         Public Relations Officer
Peace Corps Military             Policy Analyst
Official                         Non Profit Administrator
Humanitarian Aid                 Government Liaison
Government Official
Intelligence

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