

Field Major in International Studies - Area Studies Track

In a rapidly globalizing world, the demand for college graduates who have a deeper understanding of different regions and cultures of the world is growing. Many employers look favorably on prospective employees with language skills and international knowledge.

The international studies field major is an interdisciplinary degree with courses required in multiple departments. Students have the option to follow an area studies track or a business administration track. Both require students to focus on a particular region of the world, including language courses for that region. The core courses for each track vary, with the area studies track focusing more on historical, political and cultural relations, and the business administration track focusing on international business courses. The international studies degree is a BA degree in Fairmount College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. There is also an international studies minor available.

There are many career opportunities that can be pursued with an international studies degree including possible employment with federal and state government executive agencies, multinational corporations, law firms, international organizations such as the United Nations, nonprofit organizations and public and private schools. An international studies degree can also prepare students for a course of study in graduate school.

Students interested in pursuing a major or minor in international studies should contact the international studies advisors in the departments of political science or history, or seek additional information on the International Studies website (<http://wichita.edu/is/>)¹.

¹ Link opens new window.

Program Requirements

A minimum total of 120 credit hours is required for the Field Major in international studies - area studies track. In addition to meeting the requirements of the WSU General Education Program (<http://catalog.wichita.edu/undergraduate/academic-information/general-education-program/>) and the requirements of Fairmount College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, students must meet the following requirements:

Area Studies Track

The requirements for the area studies track are as follows:

1. Language¹: four course sequence in a world language (ASL does not count). If four courses are not available, students can complete two courses in two world languages.
2. Area Studies Courses: four courses
3. Core Courses: seven courses

¹ It is possible to double major in a language and in international studies.

Course	Title	Hours
General Education		
Select courses to meet General Education requirements ²		34-35
College Requirements		
Select courses to complete all LAS Competency Areas ²		36
Language Courses		

Complete a four course sequence in a world language. If four courses are not available, students can complete two courses in two world languages.	12
ARAB 104, 105, 106, 204	
CHIN 104, 105, 106, 204	
FREN 104, 105, 106, 204	
GERM 104, 105, 106, 204	
ITAL 104, 105, 106, 204	
JAPN 104, 105, 106, 204	
SPAN 104, 105, 106, 204	
Area Studies Course Options	
Select four courses within one of the following areas	12
<i>Latin America</i>	
GEOG 530	Geography of Latin America
POLS 310	Latin American Politics
POLS 375	Latin America International Relations
SPAN 150E	Hispanic Food, Film and Stories
SPAN 520	Hispanic Film: Cinema in the Spanish Speaking World
SPAN 623G	Spanish National Cinema
SPAN 623Q	Hispanic Comics and Graphic Novels
SPAN 624	Seminar in Latin-American Literature or Culture
SPAN 632	Hispanic Cooking Communities
SPAN 626	Spanish Civilization
SPAN 627	Latin-American Civilization
<i>Europe</i>	
FREN 515J	Major Topics: Civilization
FREN 520	Novel and Film
FREN 551	French Civilization: The Middle Ages to the Restoration
FREN 552	Contemporary French Civilization
GEOG 542	Geography of Europe
HIST 314	English History
HIST 315	Modern German History
HIST 317	The Holocaust
HIST 318	The Holocaust in Film
HIST 340	World War II
HIST 399Y	Weimar Germany on Film
HIST 399Z	Nazism and the Third Reich
HIST 541	Modern France
HIST 581	Europe 1789-1870
HIST 582	Europe 1871-1945
HIST 583	Europe 1945-Present
POLS 370	European Politics
<i>Africa/Middle East</i>	
ARTH 391F	Islamic Art
ARTH 533AB	Islamic Art
HIST 365	Mongol Empire: Genghis Khan and His Empire
HIST 513	History of United States and the Modern Middle East
HIST 514	History of the Modern Middle East
WOMS 513	Issues and Perspectives on African Women and Globalism

REL 303	The Bible and the Ancient Near East
ANTH 517	Anthropology of Islam
<i>Russia/East Asia</i>	
HIST 320	Russian History Survey
HIST 321	The Vietnam Conflict
HIST 341	Cold War
HIST 393	Yeltsin, Putin and Beyond: Russia Since the End of the Soviet Union
HIST 399X	Communism and the Cold War in Film
HIST 588	Medieval Russia
HIST 589	History of Imperial Russia
HIST 592	History of Soviet Union
PHIL 228	Introduction to Japanese Philosophy
PHIL 350	Ancient Chinese Philosophy
PHIL 352	Contemporary Chinese Philosophy
PHIL 365	Survey of Asian Philosophy
POLS 312	Asian Politics
JAPN 228	Introduction to Japanese Philosophy
JAPN 323	Japanese Anime and Manga
JAPN 398	Travel Sem Japan

A Study Abroad course or Travel Seminar may be substituted for an Area Studies course at the discretion of the advisor.

Core Course Options for Area Studies Track

Select seven courses from the following	21
ANTH 200	Intercultural Relations
ANTH 303	World Cultures
ANTH 542	Women in Other Cultures
COMM 335	International and Intercultural Communication
EEPS 721	Current Issues in Global Environmental Science
GEOG 210	Introduction to World Geography
HIST 522	United States Foreign Relations Since 1898
LASI 300	Global Issues
LASI 398	Travel Seminar
POLS 153	Model United Nations I
POLS 353	Model United Nations II
POLS 220	Introduction to International Relations
POLS 226	Comparative Politics
POLS 313	Global Gender Politics
POLS 320	Developing World
POLS 336	International Organizations
POLS 337/337H	Conflict Analysis
POLS 340	Global Challenges
POLS 360	Human Rights
POLS 385	Democracy and Authoritarianism
POLS 390	Special Topics in Political Science
POLS 391S	Foreign Aid
POLS 395	U.S. Foreign Policy
POLS 570	International Political Economy
SOC 346	Sociology of Globalization

WOMS 391	Women's Global Issues
WOMS 542	Women in Other Cultures
WOMS 588	Gender, Race and the West/ East Divide

Open Electives

Select enough electives to reach 120 credit hours	4-5
Total Credit Hours	120

² Required major courses may also count towards General Education and/or LAS Competencies. Students will need to select additional electives to reach 120 credit hours required for graduation with assistance from an advisor.

Applied Learning

Students in the international studies field major are required to complete an applied learning or research experience to graduate from the program. The requirement can be met by *one* of the following:

- Travel seminar (LASI 398);
- Study abroad (LASI 479; if a student's coursework for the other requirements includes study abroad, then that student has satisfied the applied learning requirement);
- Internship (POLS 481N or HIST 481N);
- Model UN (POLS 153 or POLS 353); or
- Cooperative education (LASI 481).