



International Studies

International Studies is a multi-disciplinary course of study preparing students for a variety of careers with an international dimension. The curriculum is designed to support Gonzaga University's mission to foster "a mature commitment to the dignity of the human person, social justice, diversity, intercultural competence, global engagement, solidarity with the poor and vulnerable, and care for the planet." We are also committed to the College of Arts and Sciences vision of "engaging with meaningful problems in our local and global communities and pursuing the cause of social justice."

THE PROGRAM

Gonzaga University offers two courses of study in International Studies: International Relations and Area Studies. The International Relations major and minor offer students a broad curriculum in foreign relations and international governance to prepare students for careers and post-graduate education in, e.g., foreign service, diplomacy, security studies, peace and conflict resolution, or international development. Area Studies majors and minors provide students with a more focused program of study in one of three regions: Asia, Europe or Latin America.

Because foreign language skills are such a vital part of an International Studies education, all International Studies majors and minors should expect to study a foreign language during their time at Gonzaga – through the 302 level for majors, and through the 202 level for minors. Students are encouraged to continue studying a language they studied before coming to Gonzaga in order to maximize their proficiency. Area studies majors and minors (i.e., Asian Studies, European Studies, Latin American Studies) must study a foreign language used in their region of study.

In addition to meeting the foreign language requirement, all International Studies Majors and Minors must take:

- INST 201 Introduction to International Studies
- INST 401 Perspectives on Global Issues

Majors are also required to take INST 499: Senior Capstone

Total credits for all B.A.s: 28-44 credits (depending on starting point for foreign language study). Total credits for all minors: 15-31 credits (depending on starting point for foreign language).

In addition to the required International Studies courses, students work closely with faculty advisors to choose courses that match their individual interests and career goals. As an interdisciplinary program, the International Studies major

includes courses in economics, history, modern languages, philosophy, political science, religious studies, sociology, and women's and gender studies.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

The International Relations major and minor allow students to pursue coursework and research on a variety of global issues with an emphasis on interactions among countries through international organizations, treaties, law, trade and so forth. Course offerings regularly include: American Foreign Policy; Global Economic Issues; Global Political Economy; Global Sociology; Intercultural Competence Development; International Organizations; Inter-religious Dialogue; and Model United Nations.

AREA STUDIES

Asian Studies gives students a foundational understanding of Asian cultures, history, civilizations, religious traditions, and contemporary political, economic and social change. Recent course offerings include Japan Past and Present; Politics of the Pacific Rim; Buddhism; Comparative Middle Eastern Politics; Post-Soviet Russia and China; The Politics of Eurasia; and Islamic Civilizations. Asian Studies majors and minors are required to study an Asian language. Gonzaga offers Japanese and Arabic language courses (though the 202 level). Students seeking proficiency through the 300 level in Japanese or Arabic study abroad at Sophia or Akita universities in Japan or the CET Program in Amman, Jordan, as well as arranging individualized study with Gonzaga faculty. Courses, in, e.g., culture, history, etc., taken abroad can be used to substitute for language courses in cases where it is not possible to achieve the required level of proficiency at Gonzaga.

European Studies cultivates an appreciation of European civilization, a knowledge of its history and role in the world, as well as exposure to its contemporary social, economic and political challenges. Students can study French, German, Italian or Spanish at Gonzaga through the required levels. Recent course

offerings include: Renaissance Europe; The Age of the French Revolution; Italian Civilization and Culture; Spanish, Italian, French, and German Cinema; Eastern Europe since 1945; The New Europe; and Comparative European Politics. Gonzaga students have studied in: Austria (Graz); Belgium (Brussels); France (Paris and Aix-en-Provence); Italy (Gonzaga in Florence); Spain (Grenada and Madrid); the UK (Glasgow and London); and many more.

Latin American Studies introduces students to the histories, cultures, and political experiences of Latin America and requires the study of Spanish. Course offerings include: Colonial Latin America, Revolutions in Latin America, Latin American Politics, and Latin American Society. Gonzaga students can participate in faculty-led study abroad programs to Mexico and Colombia as well as study in Buenos Aires, Argentina or Valparaíso, Chile.

STUDY ABROAD

International Studies majors are encouraged, but not required, to study abroad during their time at Gonzaga. Studying abroad at Gonzaga takes a variety of forms from faculty-led summer programs to directly enrolling in a foreign institution. Living and learning experiences also vary from living in residence halls with other American students at Gonzaga in Florence or Amman, Jordan, to home-stay programs in Spain, to experiential learning and internship opportunities in Colombia, Chile, Turkey, and Zambia. Students seeking International Studies majors or minors should consult with International Studies and Modern Languages faculty as early as possible in their college career for help in finding the program that will give them the best possible experience abroad.

OPPORTUNITIES

Gonzaga's award-winning Model United Nations team regularly competes at the national simulation held at the United Nations' Headquarters in New York as well as the regional simulation held in Portland, OR.

International Studies students at Gonzaga have access to a unique 4+1 Pathway to a Master's Degree in Organizational Leadership with a Global Studies concentration. This program allows students to take 6-credits of Master's Degree coursework while studying at the undergraduate level as part of their regular full-time student tuition.

Gonzaga is among a select group of some 80 schools nationwide to offer a Master's International program in collaboration with the Peace Corps. In 2008, Gonzaga's Master of Arts in Teaching English as a Second Language (MA/TESL) program became a partner in the Peace Corps Master's International program. This program offers an important avenue for recent Gonzaga alumni to enter the Peace Corps. In fact, Gonzaga regularly produces more Peace Corps volunteers than any other school its size.

OUTCOMES

Many International Studies students choose to undertake international service or teaching positions after graduation. In addition to Peace Corps, recent graduates have been awarded Fulbright Teaching Fellowships (Austria, Bahrain, Germany), and have worked with the Borgen Project, the People for Change Foundation, the United Nations, World Relief Services, and Young Adults in Global Mission.

Some International Studies graduates go on to pursue Master's Degrees in International Relations, Development, Security Studies or area studies.

Some of Gonzaga's recent International Studies graduates have attended these graduate programs:

- The Elliot School of International Affairs at George Washington Univ.
- The London School of Economics and Political Science
- Monterey Institute of International Studies
- Schiller International University (Paris)
- University of Denver, International Development

THE PEOPLE

Faculty affiliated with International Studies are drawn from multiple academic departments. Students solicit advice about coursework, careers, and graduate study from faculty with expertise in their region and issues of interest.

FACULTY CONTACTS & SPECIALTIES

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