BACHELOR OF EDUCATION
IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
AND
BACHELOR OF ARTS (BA)
IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

DEGREES OFFERED

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS focuses on cross-border interactions between various groups in the world and how these interactions affect people, states, regions, and the global community. You will gain a solid foundation in the economic, political and socio-historical interactions between nations. You can specialize in one of the following international political economy, security and strategy, international institutions and governance, as well as focusing on one of six geographic regions, including North America, Latin America, the Middle East and North Africa.

As an International Relations student, you will have the opportunity to apply for the Washington Center Program, which is a world-renowned internship and academic seminar in Washington, D.C. It offers Alberta post-secondary undergraduate and graduate students an important edge in the competition for future professional employment and admission to graduate and professional schools, while earning credit towards their degree.

Visit: ucalgary.ca/uci/abroad/washington_centre for more details.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS is an interdisciplinary program. This means we don’t teach or research just one specialized area of study. Research and classroom learning teaches you to look at themes, issues and problems from numerous integrated perspectives—and that’s the best way to prepare to participate in a dynamic and changing world.

YOUR EXPERIENCE

As an International Relations student, you can take courses from 22 different departments and programs according to the specialization you choose. Core International Relations courses that you will be taking include Economics, History, and Political Science in addition to three dedicated International Relations courses:

International Relations 301: A multidisciplinary survey of International Relations integrating the approaches applied in various social sciences disciplines.

International Relations 501: Advanced Seminar in International Relations – An integrative seminar on selected themes from the International Relations field. Prerequisite: International Relations 301 and third or fourth year standing. Open only to majors in the International Relations program.

International Relations 597: Directed study in International Relations – Open to students in their third and fourth years, this experience can be tailored to fit your individual program of study and can be done through work on campus or study abroad.

The International Relations Club is a community of students interested in International Relations issues and it promotes understanding of international relations as well as social activities. To contact the club email: irclub@ucalgary.ca

Limitation of Enrolment: Due to high demand, admission to the International Relations Major is limited. Whenever demand exceeds capacity, enrolment will be limited and students will be admitted on a competitive basis.

BA MAJORING IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Introduction: The Faculty of Arts offers an interdisciplinary Major in International Relations. The International Relations Major requires careful selection of courses to meet its requirements. Students should consult with the Program Coordinator concerning their course selection. There is neither a Minor nor an Honors program available in International Relations.

A. FACULTY OF ARTS REQUIREMENTS

Major must complete the Faculty of Arts requirements. Please consult the University Calendar, Degree Navigator or the Undergraduate Programs Office at 201.220.3580 or visit arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate for a complete list of Arts requirements.

B. MAJOR-FIELD REQUIREMENTS

Students must successfully complete a minimum of 8.0 (48 units) and a maximum of 10.0 full-course equivalents (60 units) in the Field of International Relations while fulfilling the following requirements:


2. Thematic Cluster: 2.0 full-course equivalents (12 units), of which at least 1.0 full-course equivalent (6 units) at the 400 level or above, from a single one of the three thematic clusters: International Political Economy, Security and Strategy or International Institutions and Governance. Co-op students may consult with the International Relations for more information.

3. Regional Cluster: 2.0 full-course equivalents (12 units), of which at least 1.0 full-course equivalent (6 units) at the 400 level or above, from a single one of the six regional clusters: North America; Latin America; Europe; Asia/Pacific; Middle East and North Africa; and Africa.

C. OTHER REQUIREMENTS

1. Language Requirement: 2.0 full-course equivalents (12 units) in a single Language other than English.

2. Statistics Requirement: Political Science 399, Statistics 205, 215 or equivalent.

D. DEGREE OPTIONS

The BA in International Relations can be taken with Co-operative Education.

WHERE CAN YOU GO FROM HERE?

Graduates have found work in foreign affairs, government, the private sector, international human rights organizations, information technologies, international trade, policy analysis, with not-for-profits, non-government organizations and with the United Nations.

RESEARCH

Research and learning in International Relations looks at themes, issues and problems in individuals’ daily lives, community affairs, and world events from multiple academic perspectives. You will learn from some of the leading researchers in the field and gain a deep appreciation and understanding of global and political issues, cultural sensitivity, global security and international institutional governance.

COOPERATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM

Co-op is an academic program that integrates university study with relevant work experience. If you choose to do the co-op program, you will alternate academic terms with up to four paid work terms.

Each work term is approximately four months in duration and counts towards academic credit on your transcript. By graduation, you will have 12-16 months of paid, degree-related work experience and a co-op designation on your degree—something that is very attractive to potential employers.
NOTES

• Students should select a language of study that will assist them with their research or an understanding of the world. Culture courses offered in English by language departments cannot be used toward this requirement.

• Apart from International Relations 501, the core courses should be taken early in a student's program. International Relations 501 is open to all students after their second year, and after they have completed 301.

• Students may take International Relations 597 (Independent Study) or existing Departmental independent study courses from their declared clusters, but only one-half course equivalent may be counted towards the Major. Any proposed syllabus for such independent study, whether International Relations 597 or existing departmental independent study courses, must be approved by the Program Director. Students may include Geography 397 (Regional Geography of Selected World Areas) and 592 (Overseas Field Studies in Social and Economic Geography) in their regional electives, with the permission of the Program Director, provided the regions covered are relevant to their declared group electives. Questions about requirements may be directed to the Program Director.

• Students are encouraged to consider a Minor Field in a modern language, religious studies, or philosophy to complement the International Relations Major. The same course(s), however, cannot be used toward the Major and the Minor.

The program director in International Relations is a faculty member who is your key resource about course information, and research in International Relations. Contact: intrprog@ucalgary.ca

Program Director, Dr. Gavin Cameron
gcameron@ucalgary.ca