POLITICAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS MINOR

The minor in International Relations offers students the opportunity to explore how peoples and nations interact across political boundaries. Students in the minor engage in topics on international relations theory, area and socio-cultural studies, international conflict and cooperation, international political economy, and transnational issues.

General Requirements

To complete the International Relations minor, students must fulfill the following requirements:

- Courses: 7 courses (2 required courses and 5 electives). See “Curriculum” section below for more details.
- Course Level: 3 out of the 5 elective courses must be at 300 level or higher. Double-Counting: Student may not double-count more than one course toward the fulfillment of another major and/or minor. Students should pay careful attention to this because many of the courses applicable to the minor in International Relations are drawn from other disciplines, such as Political Science and Economics.
- Pass/Fail: Neither of the required courses can be taken Pass/Fail. Only one elective course can be taken Pass/Fail.
- Residency: At least three courses must be taken at UMass Boston.

Curriculum

Required Courses

The following two courses are required.

- Introductory Requirement: POLSCI 220 – International Relations. This course introduces theories and approaches to studying international relations. Students should plan to take this course as early as possible.
- Senior Project Requirement: POLSCI 499L / IR 499L – Seminar in International Relations. This seminar has three major goals: integrating the knowledge gained from other courses already taken in the program; review of different approaches and perspectives on international relations; completion of a substantial research project. Students should take this course during their senior year.

Elective Courses

Students need to complete five additional courses from the four groups listed below. For adequate coverage of topics, it is strongly recommended that you take at least one course from each group. UMass Boston Political Science - International Relations Minor 2

Three out these five courses must be at 300 levels or above. Please note that new courses are offered by the university on a regular basis. Additional courses not listed here may be applicable as electives toward the minor if the focus of the content or analysis is on international politics, economics, history, or sociology. To review whether a specific course not listed here can be counted, contact the Director of the minor.

GROUP 1: AREA AND SOCIO-CULTURAL STUDY

AFRSTY 310: Modern Caribbean Society
ANTH 271: Peoples and Cultures of the Middle East
ANTH 272: Peoples and Cultures of Africa
ANTH 273: Peoples and Cultures of Mesoamerica
ANTH 274: Peoples and Cultures of the Caribbean
EASIAN 361L: The History of Modern China
EASIAN 363L: Modern Japan
HIST 316: Europe since 1945
HIST 322: Britain & Empire
HIST 324: Russia since 1861
HIST 327: Germany since 1945
HIST 331: France since 1789
HIST 334: Italy Since 1815
HIST 361L: The History of Modern China
HIST 363L: Modern Japan
HIST 364: India since 1857
HIST 366: The Middle East since 1914
LATAM 270: Human Rights in Latin America
LATAM 290: Central America: Society and Culture
LATAM 303: Reform and Revolution in Latin America
LATAM 305: The Caribbean: Culture and Society
POLSCI 201: Comparative Politics of Industrialized Societies
POLSCI 202: Comparative Politics of Third World Countries
POLSCI 353: European Political Development
POLSCI 354: Postwar European Problems
POLSCI 360: The Government and Politics of Britain
POLSCI 361: The Politics of Eastern Europe
POLSCI 363: Politics and Society in Present-Day Russia
POLSCI 369: Politics of the Middle East
POLSCI 371: Latin American Politics
POLSCI 372: Central American Politics
POLSCI 387: The Government and Politics of China
POLSCI 388: Contemporary Politics of South Asia
SPAN 361: Spanish-American Civilization

GROUP 2: INTERNATIONAL CONFLICT AND COOPERATION

ANTH 324: A Biocultural Approach to War
EEOS 352: Political Geography
HIST 315: Europe 1900-1945
HIST 349L: The Cold War: Rise and Fall
HIST 357: The Vietnam War
HIST 358: War in the Twentieth Century UMB Political Science - International Relations Minor
HIST 387: US Foreign Policy since 1898
HIST 389: The History of Modern Terrorism
IR 376L: Religion and International Relations
POLSCI 355L: The European Union
POLSCI 366: Media and International Affairs
POLSCI 376L: Religion and International Relations
POLSCI 402: World Politics and World Order
POLSCI 411: International Organizations I
POLSCI 412: International Organizations II
POLSCI 415: Law and International Relations
POLSCI 420: Imperialism
POLSCI 421: War
POLSCI 422: Nationalism
POLSCI 424: American Foreign Policy
POLSCI 430: Russian Foreign Policy
GROUP 3: INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY

ECON 334: International Trade
ECON 335: International Finance
ECON 336: Economic Development
ECON 337: Emerging Economies in Asia
ECON 338: The Latin American Economy
ECON 372: Comparative Economic Systems
ECON 435: The Multinational Corporation
EEOS 280: Economic Geography
IR 480: Political Economy of International Trade
MGT 434: Managing in the Global Economy
POLSCI 349: Cities and World Development
POLSCI 375: Third World Development
POLSCI 410: Politics of International Economic Relations

GROUP 4: TRANSNATIONAL STUDIES

ANTH 295L: Introduction to Human Rights
ANTH 346: Culture, Globalization, and the Environment
EEOS 250: Today’s Issues in Environmental Science
EEOS 260: Global Environmental Change
ECON 339: Political Economy of International Migration
ECON 345: Natural Resources and Sustainable Economic Development
HIST 290G: Globalization in Historical Perspective
POLSCI 230G: Globalization and Its Discontents
SOCIO 290: Environmental Justice & Human Disasters
SOCIO 355L: Gender, Development and Globalization
SOCIO 372: Globalization and Social Change
SOCIO 373: Population and Ecology
WOST 295L: Introduction to Human Rights
WOST 355L: Gender, Development and Globalization

Optional Curricular Recommendations

Language: International Relations, by nature, require students to understand foreign societies, cultures, and peoples. Obtaining intermediate-level proficiency in a foreign language, therefore, is recommended. This competency will be especially advantageous if you choose an international career or graduate studies in international relations.

International Experience: Students are encouraged to participate in a university-level program of study overseas. This may include intensive summer programs or one-semester programs offered through the UMass system or through comparable programs at other universities. For information in various programs, please visit the Study Abroad Office – Campus Center/Advising Office.

Internship: To broaden their experience and enhance their preparation for employment, students are encouraged to complete an internship in settings with an international dimension: e.g., business firms engaged in international trade and finance; non-governmental organizations (NGOs) such as Oxfam, Grassroots
International, and World Affairs Council; or governmental organizations related to foreign relations. To receive credit and include the internship experience as part of the curriculum, students enroll in IR 490 – Internship in International Relations. They have to participate in regular meetings with their faculty supervisor, and also prepare a final report due at the end of the semester.

**Admission**

Any UMass Boston student, regardless of major, may enroll in the International Relations minor. To do so, you need to complete a Major/Minor Declaration Form, available at the One Stop Shop in Campus Center or at departmental offices. You are encouraged to have an initial discussion with one of the faculty advisers in the Department of Political Science for guidance on selecting courses that best suit your interests and future goals.

**Contact Information**

Online: [http://www.umb.edu/academics/cla/polisci/ug/ir](http://www.umb.edu/academics/cla/polisci/ug/ir)
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