

Degrees Available at SIUE

- Bachelor of Arts, International Studies

International Studies at SIUE

International studies is an interdisciplinary degree program designed to help students reflect on and engage in the complex social, political, economic, and cultural interrelations that exist among nations and regions of our increasingly globalized world. The program offers a broad range of curricular options allowing students to explore, in regards to various peoples and across populations, aspects related to geography, history, religion, government, trade, communication, languages and literatures, music and arts, social justice, and environmental challenges. Students in the program will learn critical and analytical problem-solving skills that they can apply to contemporary global issues.

The international studies major is an interdisciplinary 120-hour course of study including, in addition to general education and foreign language requirements, core courses, international travel study, and electives. Students declaring a major in international studies must select one of the three concentration areas and a minor.

Concentration Areas**International Art, Culture and Communication**

Students who choose this concentration have a career interest in the development, preservation, promotion, and strengthening of arts and national cultures to meet the challenges and opportunities of globalization and technological change. They also seek to improve access to knowledge, build networks, promote understanding and enhance cooperation between art, culture and communication councils, and agencies at national and international levels. Additionally, they seek opportunities to support cultural diversity in the media and the arts.

International Development and Sustainability

Students who choose this concentration have a career interest in global sustainable development through innovation, research and relationships that span the entire world. Sustainable development goes to the heart of tackling a number of interrelated global issues such as inequality, poverty, hunger and environmental degradation.

International Relations and Diplomacy

Students who choose this concentration have a career interest in the art and practice of conducting negotiations between representatives of groups, governments or international organizations. Students gain the skills to engage in international relations through the intercession of professional diplomats with regard to issues of peacemaking, war, trade, economics, environment, culture and human rights.

What can I do with a degree in international studies?

Graduates with a bachelor's degree in international studies are qualified for many positions in diplomacy or with nonprofits, governmental organizations and businesses. Students can apply their knowledge of globalization, language and culture in workplace settings in the areas of foreign service, foreign aid or international intergovernmental organizations. Examples of government agencies seeking these graduates are the U.S. Department of State, the U.S. Department of Defense, the National Security Agency and the Central Intelligence Agency. In recent years, there have been hundreds of thousands of export related jobs and employment opportunities with foreign firms in Illinois and in the St. Louis metropolitan area. Possible job titles include: foreign service specialist; human rights advocate; lobbyist and administrative/legislative aid; Peace Corps officer; teacher of English as a foreign language in international settings; family and community support service provider for humanitarian agencies in the United States and internationally; and business consultant in international firms.

Hands-On Learning

Students in this program have multiple opportunities to apply their newly acquired knowledge.

Each international studies major is required to take six credit hours of international travel study, either for the duration of a semester or during a summer session, and thus experience immersion in a foreign culture and first-hand exposure to international issues.

An internship with an international focus is not required, but highly encouraged as an elective course.

An independent project option is also available as an elective course and allows students to deepen their involvement with international issues.

Additionally, during senior year, each international studies major is required to create a capstone project that integrates a thematic focus and a regional focus. For example, a student might combine the theme of human rights and the region of Latin America in a project about the issue of street children in Brazil.

**Core Faculty****Sorin Nastasia, PhD,
Program Director**

2010, University of
North Dakota
Office: Peck Hall, Room 2334
Phone: 618-650-2334

Gillian Acheson, PhD

2003, Texas A&M

Kimberly Carter, PhD

2010, Washington University
in St. Louis

Saba Fatima, PhD

2012, Binghamton University

Connie Frey Spurlock, PhD

2007, University of
Nebraska-Lincoln

Carole Frick, PhD

1995, University of California
at Los Angeles

Andrew Greenwood, PhD

2012, University of Chicago

Thomas Lavallee, PhD

2004, Washington University

Nancy Lutz, PhD

1986, University of
California - Berkeley

Suman Mishra, PhD

2010, Temple University

Sangsook Park, MFA, EdD

2004, University of Illinois

Anushiva Ramaswamy, PhD

1997, University of
Nevada - Reno

Laurie Rice, PhD

2005, University of California-
San Diego

Carolina Rocha, PhD

2001, University of
Texas - Austin

Johanna Schmitz, PhD

2001, University of
California - Davis

Stephen Tamari, PhD

1998, Georgetown University

**Kathleen Vongsathron,
DPhil**

2012, University of Oxford

Jason Yu, PhD

2008, The University of North
Carolina-Chapel Hill

Sample Curriculum for the Bachelor of Arts in International Studies

Fall Semester

Spring Semester

	Fall Semester	Spring Semester		
Year 1	ENG 101 English Composition I	3	ENG 102 English Composition II	3
	Foreign Language 101 (FL, BICS)	4	Foreign Language 102 (FL, EGC)	4
	ACS 101 Public Speaking	3	RA 101 Reasoning & Argumentation	3
	Breadth Social Science (BSS)	3	Breadth Humanities (BHUM)	3
	Breadth Fine & Performing Arts (BFPA)	3	Breadth Life Sciences (BLS, EL)	3
	FST 101 Succeeding & Engaging at SIUE	1	Total Credits	16
Total Credits	17			
Year 2	INTS 200 Essentials of International Studies	3	POLS 370 Intro to International Relations	3
	Foreign Language 201 (FL)	4	Foreign Language 202 (FL)	4
	GEOG 201 World Regions	3	Health Experience (EH)	1
	QR 101 Quantitative Reasoning	3	Experience United States Cultures (EUSC)*	3
	Breadth Physical Science (BPS)	3	INTS Elective**	3
	Total Credits	16	Total Credits	14
Year 3	IS Course (one of the recommended)	3	INTS Elective**	3
	INTS Electives** or International Travel Study	6	INTS Electives** or International Travel Study	6
	Minor	3	Minor	3
	Minor	3	Minor	3
	Total Credits	15	Total Credits	15
	Year 4	INTS Electives** or International Travel Study	6	INTS 499 Senior Assignment
INTS Elective**		3	Minor	3
Minor		3	Minor/Elective	3
General Elective		3	Elective	3
Total Credits		15	Total Credits	12
			Total Hours	120

NOTES – A grade of C or better is required in all international studies courses.

*Course taken to meet this requirement may meet other general education requirements. Please refer to the SIUE Undergraduate Catalog.

**INTS Majors - INTS electives are selected from accompanying course list and will vary depending on the concentration being pursued.

Bachelor of Arts requires completion of eight courses in fine and performing arts or humanities, including two semesters of the same foreign language.

Transfer Students: To maximize your transfer experience, complete the **bolded** courses/requirements pre-transfer and satisfy either the Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI) General Ed Core or receive an AA, AS, or AAT (early childhood, special ed or math) degree from an IAI community college. If 'Minor' requirements are shown, discuss careful course selection with the academic advising contact. Visit siue.edu/transfer to find course equivalency guides.

Global Experience

A variety of coursework that is part of the international studies program is related to global experiences. The program benefits from: an outstanding set of cross-cultural and cross-disciplinary core and elective courses; a focus on combining the theoretical learning about social, political, economic and cultural developments in different world regions with hands-on applications of such knowledge by means of a foreign language requirement, a study abroad component, a senior assignment experience, as well as possibilities of internships and independent projects; and various opportunities to tap into existing and emerging groups and networks on the SIUE campus, regionally, nationally and internationally.

Admission Requirements

Applicants seeking a bachelor's degree in international studies are expected to meet SIUE's general undergraduate admission requirements.

To be admitted to the international studies program, students must:

- Complete all academic development courses required by the University
- Complete any required courses to address high school deficiencies
- Attain a cumulative GPA of at least 2.0 on a 4.0 scale
- Complete the general education requirements for writing foundation courses (i.e. ENG 101 and 102 or equivalent)

Admission into this program requires an application to declare a major. Students declaring a major in international studies must select, in consultation with the program director and the program advisor, one of the three concentration areas and a minor.

This information is concurrent with the 2021-2022 Academic Catalog. Courses are subject to change at any time.

Graduation Requirements

To graduate, students must:

- Receive a grade of C or better in all major coursework
- Complete all requirements for the academic minor
- Have a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or above in coursework completed at SIUE
- File an application for graduation by the first day of the term in which the student plans to graduate

International Travel Study

This major requires six credit hours of international travel study, either for the duration of a semester or during a summer session, and thus immersion in a foreign culture and first-hand exposure to international issues.

Elective Courses

Elective courses may be selected from an array of academic areas, including anthropology, applied communications studies, art and design, biological sciences, criminal justice, economics, English language and literature, environmental sciences, foreign languages and literature, geography history, humanities, mass communication, music, philosophy, physics, political science, public administration and policy analysis, social work, sociology, theater and dance, and interdisciplinary studies (IS).