

The International Studies Major

The International Studies major focuses on the political, economic, social, and cultural forces that shape relations among states and peoples at the transnational level. The major is inherently interdisciplinary. Students majoring in International Studies should expect to complete coursework in some combination of Anthropology, Economics, History, Philosophy, Political Science, Religious Studies, and Sociology, as well as demonstrating competence in a foreign language.

Students pursuing an International Studies major are challenged to develop critical thinking and writing skills, to master an additional language, and to engage important questions of our day from the perspectives of multiple disciplines.

Major Requirements

The International Studies major is a 12 course major composed of 3 elements: a core set of 4 introductory courses, a thematic focus, and a regional focus including the study of a language related to the region.

The introductory courses provide the general foundation for the major. The thematic

How to apply

Students interested in the International Studies major should contact the program director to discuss their interests. After this meeting, students must apply for the major through the Student Program Application system: <https://apps.holycross.edu/stuProgApp>. There is no cap on the number of majors or minimum GPA requirement for this major. The application is intended to assist students in developing an appropriate major curriculum related to their regional focus and major theme. Fall 2022 applications are accepted August 30th through October 7th and Spring 2023 applications are accepted January 24th through February 10th.

For more information, contact:

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Sample Theme Courses

International Political Economy

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| ECON 210 | Economics of the European Union |
| ECON 220 | Economics of Inequality |
| HIST 212 | History of Capitalism in US & World |
| POLS 275 | International Political Economy |
| POLS 288 | Politics of Globalization |
| SOCL 210 | Corporate & Consumer Social Responsibility |
| SOCL 220 | Drugs in the Americas |
| SOCL 280 | Global Culture and Society |
| SOCL 281 | Sociology of Travel & Tourism |

Conflict & Conflict Resolution

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| ANTH 264 | Race, Racism and Anthropology |
| ANTH 386 | Global Queer Activism |
| CISS 392 | The Holocaust |
| HIST 155 | World War II in East Asia |
| HIST 255 | Europe: Mass Politics & Total War 1890-1945 |
| HIST 256 | Europe and the Superpowers |
| HIST 327 | Cultures of the Cold War |
| HIST 352 | Rebels and Radical Thinkers |
| PHIL 278 | Philosophers on War & Peace |
| POLS 217 | The Constitution in Wartime |
| POLS 271 | International Peace |
| POLS 278 | International Politics of East Asia |
| POLS 281 | Global Governance |
| POLS 282 | American Foreign Policy |
| POLS 284 | Human Rights |
| POLS 287 | Humanitarianism |
| POLS 289 | International Law |
| POLS 290 | National Security Policy |
| POLS 333 | Ethics & International Relations |
| POLS 399 | Refugees |
| RELS 124 | Theology of Protest |
| RELS 279 | Religion and Violence |
| RELS 280 | Liberation Theology |
| RELS 327 | Holocaust: Confronting Evil |
| SOCL205 | Social Class and Power |
| SOCL 260 | Women, Poverty, and Religion |
| SOCL 376 | Women and Non-Violence |

Development Studies

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| ANTH 253 | Gender & Development |
| ANTH 380 | African Informal Economies |
| CISS 250 | Introduction to Global Health |
| CISS 255 | Critical Issues/Global Health |
| CISS 272 | Health and Development |
| CISS 350 | HIV/AIDS in Comparative Perspective |
| POLS 257 | Politics of Development |
| POLS 275 | International Political Economy |
| POLS 287 | Humanitarianism |
| SOCL 260 | Women, Poverty, and Religion |
| SOCL 280 | Global Culture and Society |
| SOCL 281 | Sociology of Travel & Tourism |

Global Governance & International Law

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| CISS 209 | Section One – Pandemic Policy (counts as POLS) |
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