MASTER OF ARTS (M.A.)
MAJOR IN INTERNATIONAL STUDIES (THESIS OPTION)

Major Program
The Master of Arts (M.A.) with a major in International Studies is an interdisciplinary program that prepares students for work and leadership in an interdependent world. Through training in area studies, technology information training, oral and written communication skills, and business acumen, the program aims to develop leaders for business, government, military, education, non-profit organizations, and international institutions that are collectively facing an increasingly interdependent world where cultural diversity is a reality and the need to appreciate and value such heterogeneity is a prerequisite to global peace and prosperity.

Paul D. Coverdell Fellows Program
The Coverdell Fellowship Program for returned Peace Corps volunteers is currently available for returned volunteers pursuing the master’s degree in International Studies at the Center for International Studies.

Financial Assistance
A limited number of fellowships and scholarships are available to qualified graduate students. Departmental fellowships and scholarships are listed on the Center for International Studies website: http://www.txstate.edu/internationalstudies. The Graduate College can provide further information about scholarships.

Application Requirements
The items listed below are required for admission consideration for applicable semesters of entry during the current academic year. Submission instructions, additional details, and changes to admission requirements for semesters other than the current academic year can be found on The Graduate College’s website (http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu). International students should review the International Admission Documents webpage (http://mycatalog.txstate.edu/graduate/admission-documents/international) for additional requirements.

- completed online ApplyTexas application
- $40 nonrefundable application fee
- $50 nonrefundable international evaluation fee (if applicable)
- baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited university
- official transcripts required from each four-year institution where course credit was granted
- minimum 3.0 GPA in your last 60 hours of undergraduate course work (plus any completed graduate courses)*
- background course work: a passing grade in at least 6 hours in introductory (principles of) microeconomics and macroeconomics courses (can be taken prior to the start of the program or concurrently with first year courses) at a regionally accredited college or university
- proficiency in the speaking, reading, and oral comprehension of a modern language other than English as demonstrated by the following:
  - grade of B or better in modern language course work beyond the second year that was taken within the last three years at an accredited college, university, or language institute.
  - examination for proficiency levels in reading, speaking, and listening that would place you beyond the second year of language courses*
  - recent foreign living experience of at least six continuous months in a single non-English-speaking culture outside the U.S.
- official GRE scores not required*
- resume/CV
- statement of purpose (2–5 pages) describing the following:
  - the reasons for considering the international studies program
  - how it fits into a process of professional development
  - what the student hopes to accomplish by enrolling in the program
- two letters of recommendation from professors

Coverdell Applicants Requirements
- completed online ApplyTexas application
- baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited university
- official transcripts required from each four-year institution where course credit was granted
- minimum 3.0 GPA in your last 60 hours of undergraduate course work (plus any completed graduate courses)*
- background course work: a passing grade in at least 6 hours in introductory (principles of) microeconomics and macroeconomics courses (can be taken prior to the start of the program or concurrently with first year courses) at a regionally accredited college of university
- proficiency in the speaking, reading, and oral comprehension of a modern language other than English as demonstrated by the following:
  - grade of B or better in modern language course work beyond the second year that was taken within the last three years at an accredited college, university, or language institute.
  - examination of proficiency levels in reading, speaking, and listening that would place you beyond the second year of language courses*
  - recent foreign living experience of at least six continuous months in a single non-English-speaking culture outside the U.S.
- official GRE scores not required*
- official Peace Corps description of service (application fees will be waived upon receipt)
- resume/CV listing Peace Corps Service
- statement of purpose (2–5 pages) describing the following:
  - the reasons for considering the international studies program
  - how it fits into a process of professional development
  - what the student hopes to accomplish by enrolling in the program
- Peace Corps service
- two letters of recommendation from professors

TOEFL or IELTS Scores
Non-native English speakers who do not qualify for an English proficiency waiver.

*The requirements listed above are subject to change and may vary depending on the specific semester of entry.
• official TOEFL iBT scores required with a 78 overall
• official IELTS (academic) scores required with a 6.5 overall and
  • minimum individual module scores of 6.0

If you do not meet the scores above, you may qualify for English-based conditional admission if you meet the minimum scores below:

• official TOEFL iBT scores required with a 59 overall
• official IELTS (academic) scores required with a 5.5 overall and
  • minimum individual module scores of 5.5

*Additional Information

GPA and GRE Requirement
If your last-60-hours GPA falls between 2.8–2.99, please submit the following:

• official GRE scores with a preferred minimum of 156 in the verbal section

Foreign Language Proficiency Requirement
If the last language course was taken more than three years before the date of admission, and there has been no significant involvement in the language in the interim, you may be asked to take a refresher course(s) in the language.

Degree Requirements

The Master of Arts (M.A.) degree with a major in International Studies requires 30 semester credit hours, including a thesis. It is expected that students entering the program have a passing grade in introductory (principles of) microeconomics and macroeconomics at an accredited college or university. The economics courses can be taken after admission.

Course Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Required Courses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Choose 3 hours from the following:</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIST 5335</td>
<td>Twentieth-Century Russia</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIST 5362</td>
<td>Military History</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIST 5395B</td>
<td>Modern Middle Eastern History</td>
<td></td>
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<td>HIST 5395D</td>
<td>Interpretations of World History</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIST 5395E</td>
<td>Mahatma Gandhi in World History</td>
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<td>HIST 5395H</td>
<td>European Colonialism</td>
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<td>Choose 9 hours from the following:</td>
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<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>PS 5332</td>
<td>Problems in American Foreign Relations</td>
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<td>PS 5356</td>
<td>The British Political Order Since 1900</td>
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<td>PS 5357</td>
<td>Russian Politics and Josef Stalin</td>
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<td>PS 5358</td>
<td>Civil-Military Relations in Comparative Perspective</td>
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<td>PS 5361</td>
<td>Government and Politics of African States</td>
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<td>PS 5375</td>
<td>Seminar in International Relations Theory</td>
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<td>PS 5377</td>
<td>Problems in International Organizations</td>
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<td>PS 5378</td>
<td>Problems in International Law</td>
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<td>PS 5379</td>
<td>Problems in International Political Economy</td>
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<tr>
<td>PS 5398</td>
<td>Directed Reading and Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
<td></td>
<td>12</td>
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<td>Choose 12 hours from the following:</td>
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<td>ANTH 5314</td>
<td>Latin American Cultures</td>
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Thesis Enrollment and Credit

The completion of a minimum of six hours of thesis enrollment is required. For a student’s initial thesis course enrollment, the student will need to register for thesis course number 5399A. After that, the student will enroll in thesis B courses, in each subsequent semester until the thesis is defended with the department and approved by The Graduate College. Preliminary discussions regarding the selection of a topic and assignment to a research supervisor will not require enrollment for the thesis course.

Students must be enrolled in thesis credits if they are receiving supervision and/or are using university resources related to their thesis work. The number of thesis credit hours students enroll in must reflect the amount of work being done on the thesis that semester. It is the responsibility of the committee chair to ensure that students are making adequate progress toward their degree throughout the thesis process. Failure to register for the thesis course during a term in which supervision is received may result in postponement of graduation. After initial
enrollment in 5399A, the student will continue to enroll in a thesis B course as long as it takes to complete the thesis. Thesis projects are by definition original and individualized projects. As such, depending on the topic, methodology, and other factors, some projects may take longer than others to complete. If the thesis requires work beyond the minimum number of thesis credits needed for the degree, the student may enroll in additional thesis credits at the committee chair’s discretion. In the rare case when a student has not previously enrolled in thesis and plans to work on and complete the thesis in one term, the student will enroll in both 5399A and 5399B.

The only grades assigned for thesis courses are PR (progress), CR (credit), W (withdrew), and F (failing). If acceptable progress is not being made in a thesis course, the instructor may issue a grade of F. If the student is making acceptable progress, a grade of PR is assigned until the thesis is completed. The minimum number of hours of thesis credit ("CR") will be awarded only after the thesis has been both approved by The Graduate College and released to Alkek Library.

A student who has selected the thesis option must be registered for the thesis course during the term or Summer I (during the summer, the thesis course runs ten weeks for both sessions) in which the degree will be conferred.

**Thesis Deadlines and Approval Process**

Thesis deadlines are posted on The Graduate College (http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu) website under “Current Students.” The completed thesis must be submitted to the chair of the thesis committee on or before the deadlines listed on The Graduate College website.

The following must be submitted to The Graduate College by the thesis deadline listed on The Graduate College website:

1. The Thesis Submission Approval Form bearing original (wet) and/or electronic signatures of the student and all committee members.
2. One (1) PDF of the thesis in final form, approved by all committee members, uploaded in the online Vireo submission system.

After the dean of The Graduate College approves the thesis, Alkek Library will harvest the document from the Vireo submission system for publishing in the Digital Collections database (according to the student’s embargo selection). **NOTE: MFA Creative Writing theses will have a permanent embargo and will never be published to Digital Collections.**

While original (wet) signatures are preferred, there may be situations as determined by the chair of the committee in which obtaining original signatures is inefficient or has the potential to delay the student’s progress. In those situations, the following methods of signing are acceptable:

- signing and faxing the form
- signing, scanning, and emailing the form
- notifying the department in an email from their university’s or institution’s email account that the committee chair can sign the form on their behalf
- electronically signing the form using the university’s licensed signature platform.

If this process results in more than one document with signatures, all documents need to be submitted to The Graduate College together.

No copies are required to be submitted to Alkek Library. However, the library will bind copies submitted that the student wants bound for personal use. Personal copies are not required to be printed on archival quality paper. The student will take the personal copies to Alkek Library and pay the binding fee for personal copies.

Master’s level courses in International Studies: IS

**Courses Offered**

**International Studies (IS)**

**IS 5387. International Studies Internship.**
A work/research experience in a government agency or company related to the students’ career interests. The internship will consist of a minimum of 150 hours in the workplace and will require a research paper. This course may be repeated once for additional internship credit. Departmental approval required.

3 Credit Hours. 0 Lecture Contact Hours. 1 Lab Contact Hour.  
Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

**IS 5398. General Research Methods.**
The principal purpose of the General Research Methods seminar is to prepare students to successfully produce research papers and/or theses. Students in this course will produce a research paper using primary and secondary source materials.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter