

The Master of Arts (M.A.) degree 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, 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 operating in an increasingly interdependent world where cultural awareness, diverse regional perspectives, and informed understanding of regional supply chains and geopolitical concerns is a prerequisite to global peace and prosperity.

Application Requirements

Application requirements consist of institutional and program requirements for applicable semesters of entry during the current academic year. Additional information 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/>).

Unless otherwise noted on The Graduate College program page, AI tools can only be used to correct spelling and grammar errors in application materials.

Institutional Requirements

Institutional requirements are the minimum standards for admission to any graduate program at Texas State. These include:

- Completed online application
- Nonrefundable application fee
 - Degree Programs (Doctoral and Master's)
 - \$55 fee, or
 - \$90 for applications with international credentials
 - Post-Baccalaureate Programs (Certificate, Certification, Non-Degree, and Visiting)
 - \$20 fee, or
 - \$60 for applications with international credentials
- Official transcripts from each institution where course credit was granted. Final transcripts showing degree completion are required before the student may register for their second term of enrollment.
- GPA requirements (a higher GPA may be listed in the Program Requirements)
 - Doctoral programs require a 3.00 overall GPA or a 3.00 GPA in your last 60 hours (<https://www.gradcollege.txst.edu/admissions/policy.html#gpa>) of undergraduate course work (plus any completed graduate courses).
 - Master's and Specialist programs require a 2.75 overall GPA or a 2.75 GPA in your last 60 hours (<https://www.gradcollege.txst.edu/admissions/policy.html#gpa>) of undergraduate course work (plus any completed graduate courses).
 - Post-Baccalaureate programs require a 2.50 overall GPA or a 2.50 GPA in your last 60 hours (<https://www.gradcollege.txst.edu/admissions/policy.html#gpa>) of undergraduate course work (plus any completed graduate courses).
- Baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited university. (Non-U.S. degrees must be equivalent to a four-year U.S. Bachelor's degree. In most cases, three-year degrees are not considered. Visit our International FAQs (<https://www.gradcollege.txst.edu/international/faqs.html>) for more information.)

Approved English Proficiency Exam Scores

Applicants are required to submit an approved English proficiency exam score that meets the minimum requirements below unless they have earned a bachelor's degree or higher from a regionally accredited U.S. institution or the equivalent from a country on our exempt countries list (<http://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/international/language.html#wave>). Some programs may restrict acceptable tests or require higher scores than the institutional scores; this will be noted in the Program Requirements.

- official TOEFL iBT scores required with a 78 overall if taken on or before January 21, 2026
- official TOEFL iBT scores required with a 4 overall if taken after January 21, 2026
- official PTE scores required with a 52 overall
- official IELTS (academic) scores required with a 6.5 overall and minimum individual module scores of 6.0
- official Duolingo scores required with a 110 overall
- official TOEFL Essentials scores required with an 8.5 overall
- official Texas State Intensive English Program score of 90% or higher in the highest-level course (level 5)

The institution does **not** offer admission if the scores above are not met.

Program Requirements

- a 3.0 overall GPA or a 3.0 GPA in your last 60 hours (<https://www.gradcollege.txst.edu/admissions/policy.html#gpa>) of undergraduate course work (plus any completed graduate courses)*
- GRE not required*
- 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.
- resume/CV
- statement of purpose (2–5 pages) describing the following:
 - why you are considering the international studies program
 - how it fits into a process of professional development
 - what you hope to accomplish by enrolling in the program
- two letters of recommendation from professors

*If the overall GPA or last-60-hours GPA falls between 2.8–2.99, the student must submit the following:

- official GRE (general test only) scores with competitive scores

**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, the student 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 (International Business Concentration) requires 36 semester credit hours, including an internship. The program can be completed via Accelerated Online (AOP).

Code	Title	Hours
Core Requirements		12
Choose 12 hours from the following options:		
B A 5351	Organizational Performance and Competitive Advantage	
BLAW 5315	Legal Issues in International Business	
ECO 5316	Managerial Economics	
FIN 5352	Financial Management	
MGT 5314	Organizational Behavior and Theory	
MGT 5339	International Human Resource Management	
MKT 5321	Marketing Management	
Internship		3
IS 5387	International Studies Internship	
Electives		21
Departmental prerequisites and restrictions may apply. You may need to get departmental approval for a course from the offering department. *Courses taken in excess of the 12 hours required in the core may be applied to the electives requirement.		
AG 5301	Agricultural Development and Policy	
ANTH 5311	Seminar in Cultural Anthropology	
ANTH 5320	Rise of Civilization	
ANTH 5322	Peoples and Cultures of Africa	
COMM 5318	Interpersonal Communication	
COMM 5329L		
COMM 5356	Gender and Communication	
DVST 5320	Global Perspectives: Race, Ethnicity, and Social Stratification	
GEO 5312	Managing Urbanization	
GEO 5315		
GEO 5317	Seminar in Applied Human Geography	
HDFS 5340		
HIST 5318D	European Imperialism	
HIST 5324E		
HIST 5395I		
IS 5390	Problems in International Studies Research	
IS 5398	General Research Methods	
MU 5367	Music in the Caribbean	
PA 5310	Public Finance Administration	
PA 5352	Comparative Public Administration	
PA 5353	Politics and Policy of Environmental Management	
PA 5361	Introduction to the Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector	
PA 5370	Public Management and Ethics	
PHIL 5322	Professional Ethics	
PHIL 5334	Philosophy of Economics	
PHIL 5360C		
PS 5330F	Comparative Politics of European and Non-European States	
PS 5332	Topics in U.S. Foreign Relations	

PS 5375	Seminar in International Relations Theory
PS 5377	Issues in International Organizations
PS 5380	International Conflict and Security
SOCI 5320	Seminar in Demography
SOCI 5370	Seminar in Racial and Ethnic Relations
SOCI 5383	Seminar on Aging
SOCI 5395	Global Insecurity
SOWK 5309	HBSE & Global Environments
SPAN 5316	Studies in Spanish Peninsular Culture
SPAN 5317	Studies in the Cultures of the Americas
SPAN 5322	Spanish for the Professions
TECH 5382	Industrial Ecology and Sustainability Engineering

Total Hours **36**

Comprehensive Examination Requirement

Students are required to take a written comprehensive exam in their last semester of the program. Students must pass the comprehensive exam during the last semester in at most two attempts. If the student fails to pass the comprehensive exam in two attempts during the final semester, the student will retake the comprehensive exam during the next regular semester.

An oral exam is part of the comprehensive examination requirement. Students are required to take the exam in their last semester and must pass in at most two attempts. If the student fails to pass the oral exam in two attempts during the final semester, the student will retake the oral exam during the next regular semester.

Students who do not successfully complete the requirements for the degree within the timelines specified will be dismissed from the program.

Courses Offered

Master's level courses in International Studies: IS

International Studies (IS)

IS 5387. International Studies Internship.

This course is a work/research experience in a government agency, company, or organization related to the students' career interests. Internship placements include regional and international organizations, businesses, and think tanks in sectors including, but not limited to, law, medicine, art and culture, philanthropy, public policy formulation, civic engagement, global affairs, hospitality, media, education, and community outreach. The internship will consist of a minimum of 150 hours in the workplace and will require a research paper. The course may be repeated for credit. Instructor approval is required. Prerequisite: Instructor approval.

3 Credit Hours. 0 Lecture Contact Hours. 1 Lab Contact Hour.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing

Grade Mode: Credit/No Credit

IS 5390. Problems in International Studies Research.

This course provides an individualized, faculty-supervised learning experience allowing graduate students to pursue an in-depth topic, problem, or applied project not fully addressed in regularly scheduled coursework. Working with an instructor, students develop a written learning contract defining the scope, readings/resources, methods of inquiry or practice, deliverables, and a timeline for completion. The course emphasizes self-directed learning, scholarly or professional-level work products, and regular consultation with the faculty supervisor to ensure rigor and accountability. Outcomes may include a research paper, project portfolio, technical report, or other discipline-appropriate product. This course may be repeated for credit, but a student may not exceed six hours of credit in Independent Study.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Course Attribute(s): Exclude from 3-peat Processing

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

IS 5398. General Research Methods.

This course is a seminar focused on research practices in the wide-ranging arena of International Studies. The principal purpose of the seminar is to instruct students in research design, methods of data collection, and inductive analysis, enabling students to produce high quality research papers and/or theses. Students engage in the development, execution, and documentation of research that contributes to knowledge and practice related to global issues. Students in this course are expected to produce a major written assignment on an international topic using primary and secondary source materials.

3 Credit Hours. 3 Lecture Contact Hours. 0 Lab Contact Hours.

Grade Mode: Standard Letter