

Possible Careers and Continuing Education for Graduates of International Studies

Graduate Programs and Related Fields

International/Global Studies Programs offer advanced degrees and provide students with subject matter that prepares them for careers in government, nonprofit organizations, and industry including:

- International Development
- Diplomacy and International Relations
- International Business Management
- International Law and Public Policy
- International Economics
- International Human Rights Law
- Cultural Diplomacy
- Tourism Management
- Conflict and Peace Studies
- Genocide Studies

Programs and Fields Aligned with International Studies offer students training in various professions that build off of the background of an IS degree. IS acts as a solid frame of reference for a range of specialties including:

- History
- Political Science
- Foreign Languages and Literatures
- Geography
- Religious Studies
- Sociology
- Law
- Economics
- Public Policy
- Urban Planning
- Archaeological Science
- Journalism
- Business

Regional Studies Programs allow students to hone their skills gained in a broad international and global studies degree by specializing in a specific region such as:

- European Studies
- Asia Pacific Studies
- African Studies
- Latin American Studies
- Middle Eastern Studies
- Scandinavian Studies
- Slavic/Eastern European Studies
- Australian Studies
- Southeast Asian Studies
- South Asian Studies

Private Individual or Small Firms

Consulting Services

Entails: Can be an individual or small consulting firm contract with various businesses and public agencies in which one researches and prepares information reports. Records management and formal suggestions on topics ranging from the International System to domestic politics depending on where the individual is hired.

Publishing and Writing

Entails: Writing either fiction or nonfiction articles and books for a small firm or on an individual basis. Can also include copy editing and substance editing.

Lecturing

Entails: At the University level it involves teaching, research and administrative duties within a specified subject area. On a broader scale in can include lecturing independently at conventions and other informational meetings around the world.

Language Services and Education

Higher Education Teaching

Entails: Course instruction and preparation in the fields related to International Relations and consultation on projects in ones area of expertise at both public and private institutions. Further education may be necessary.

Higher Education Administration

Entails: Analyzing long term trends in education and making decisions on where to take the school/department, selecting reading material and educators, and making budget and cost estimates. Further education may be necessary.

Adult Education and Continuing Education Programs

Entails: Instruction in various institutions including both the public and private sector specifically geared towards nontraditional students. Courses range from basic knowledge of the international system to professional concerns involving critical thinking and techniques.

Translating/Interpreting

Entails: Fluency in both English and a second language. Interpreters convert speech from one language to another, while translators work with written text. Work with various complex concepts in both the private and public sector.

Teaching English as a Second Language

Entails: Travel to and residing in a foreign country to teach English to primary school children. Are not usually long term options and can be done through various government programs as well as non-governmental agencies. May require a Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL) certificate.

Private Nonprofit Organizations

Research Organizations

Entails: Researching topics pertinent to the specific organization over a period of time. Usually include academic organizations, private think tanks, and research agencies.

Service Organizations

Entails: Analysis and study of the impact of a philanthropic and nonprofit organization that performs charitable work through either direct hands-on efforts or raising money for other organizations. Involves coordinating volunteers and assessing the needs of the organization's target group.

Museums, Archives, and Research Institutions

Entails: Management and execution of research and preservation of historical objects. Coordinates and promotes research and education through mediums outside of the classroom. Also manages records and acquisition of new objects.

International Associations and Societies

Entails: Administrative duties coupled with examination of long term trends of a certain association and society. Making budgetary and financial decisions as well as promotion of international public interest in the association, and analyzing the impact of the group on a global scale.

Public Agencies

Foreign Service of the United States

Entails: Working with the United States State Department to advance US interests abroad as a Foreign Service Officer in embassies and consulates around the world. To be considered for the position one has to pass the Foreign Service Officer Test (FSOT).

Military Service

Entails: Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and National Guard service, usually in their fields of diplomacy and foreign policy. May serve as attachés; security assistance officers; political military operations, plans, and policy officers; political military intelligence staff officers; liaison officers to foreign military organizations; and service school instructors.

Multinational Organizations

Entails: International agencies and organizations that the United States is involved in, including the United Nations and its subsequent bodies and organizations. Roles range from diplomats to interpreters to lobbyists, to name a few. Application of social, political, and economic understanding of the world and how to develop the international system further.

Judiciary and Regulative Agencies

Entails: The creation and enforcement of laws whether that be domestically at the US Supreme Court, or internationally at the International Court of Justice and International Criminal Court. May require further education including a law degree.

Legislative Bodies

Entails: Research and analysis of policy effectiveness in tandem with writing and producing new policy. Bodies include the US Congress and Senate, as well as their staffs at the local, state, and federal levels.

Executive Branch

Entails: Besides just the Presidential position, also includes cabinet positions, state, regional, and local executive departments and commissions. Creation of policy and analysis of intended performance, as well as preparation of current international and domestic issues and their relationship.

Public Safety and Emergency Management

Entails: Analysis of urban development and disaster risk management techniques. Coordinates and engages with multiple government agencies and first responders in wake of disasters, and aims to create a safe environment for all citizens. Involves all state and local agencies involved in disaster management and civil service.

The Peace Corps

Entails: Volunteering to work abroad for two years with governments, schools, non-profit organizations, and non-government organizations in fields such as education, business, information technology, agriculture, and the environment.

Private Sector Corporations

Banking and Finance

Entails: Conducting research on financial and political risks for commercial banks, development and reserve banks, and other financial planning institutions. Organizing and writing up international mergers and examining the global market's effect on the domestic market.

Journalism and Mass Media

Entails: Copy and substance editing for various news outlets as well as audiovisual and digital production so as to present the news in an honest, ethical, and unbiased way. The main goal is to inform the general public of current events both domestically and internationally.

Public Relations

Entails: Can work independently or within a firm to improve or protect the reputation of a multinational company or organization through the media. To analyze the organization, find the positive messages, and translate it into the international market, one must be cognizant of multiple international perspectives.

Marketing and Advertising

Entails: Similar to Public Relations, but with Marketing and Advertising the focus is on the flow of goods from the producer to the consumer. Research is more heavily focused on analysis of markets and advertising history in specific regions and subregions of the world.

Business Administration

Entails: Handling the operational, organizational, and managerial responsibilities of a multinational corporation. Make long term decisions after analyzing economic and financial trends of their company and the market as a whole. Job titles include chief executive officer, general manager, and operations manager. Additional education may be required.

Manufacturing

Entails: Engaging multiple departments within a company that produces goods on a large scale by using machinery. Analyzing long term economic trends and their impact on international trade. Coordinating efficient shipment and freight forwarding while also balancing import and export law.

Law

Entails: Investigating, evaluating, and defending people in litigation cases involving torture and abuse as a human rights lawyer. Research can include, studying human rights laws, both domestic and international, and interviewing clients and witnesses. Requires a Law Degree and further education to pass the Bar Exam.

Global Supply Chain Management

Entails: Management of the flow of materials, information and capital in sourcing, production, inventory management and storage throughout a transnational companies' global network. Requires research on international trade and compliance with international law and norms.

Healthcare Administration

Entails: Engaging with nonprofit and nongovernmental organization healthcare groups to lead healthcare systems and hospitals on a global scale. Working with healthcare professionals on the ground to ensure that patients are receiving the care necessary and safe depending on their immediate dangers.