International Studies, B.A.

Students graduating with a degree in international studies will be able to recognize and appreciate the historical, political, social, cultural, and economic dimensions of international processes and issues, integrating these into an interdisciplinary perspective. uwyo.edu/sppais.

University Studies Program

This degree requires that The University Studies Program 2015 requirements are met before graduation. Some of the courses required for this major fulfill USP requirements, but not all. Students should check their degree evaluations and consult with their assigned academic advisor to discuss their specific course plan.

Course Name	Credits	UW Course in Major	AA/AS/AB/ADN satisfies this USP
C 1-Communication 1 (COM1)	3		X
C 2-Communication 2 (COM2)	3		X
C 3-Communication 3 (COM3)	3	(Must be completed at UW)	
Q-Quantitative Reasoning (Q)	3		X
PN-Physical and Natural World (1) (PN)	3		X
PN-Physical and Natural World (2) (PN)	3		X
H-Human Culture (1) (H)	3		X
H-Human Culture (2) (H)	3		X
V-US & WY Constitution (V)	3		X
FYS or USP Elective-Any 3-credit hour of FYS or 3-credit hours of USP electives	3		X

Note: FYS courses have been paused. 3 hours from any additional USP designated courses is still required.

Requirements

A major in International Studies requires 33 department hours. This includes with 9 hours of INST core courses, 9 upper-division hours in an interdisciplinary “concentration,” 9 hours of required “regional study” (3 lower-division and 6 upper-division), and 6 hours of upper-division electives.

International Studies majors are also required to take 15 hours in a single foreign language or achieve fourth-semester proficiency as determined by the Department of Modern and Classical Languages.

Students can complete a maximum of 6 credit hours beyond SPPAIS-prefixed courses (that is, INST- or POLS-prefixed courses) towards the International Studies (INST) major. Students interested to complete more than the maximum of 6 credit hours beyond SPPAIS-prefixed courses for their INST major because of a study-abroad opportunity can email the INST Program Director and their academic advisor to discuss an exception to this rule.

All required courses for the major must be passed with a grade of C or better. There are numerous special topics courses offered during the academic year and these courses can fulfill the international studies requirements with approval from your adviser. Students are encouraged to satisfy the USP Q (quantitative reasoning) requirement by taking STAT 2070 - Introductory Statistics for the Social Sciences or STAT2050 - Introduction to Statistics.

Core Courses

Students take 9 hours of core coursework. INST 2350 - Introduction to Global Studies and INST 2310 - Introduction to International Relations provide the theoretical framework for the Development Studies and Security Studies tracks.
INST 4950 - Capstone in International Studies (Capstone) provides the culminating experience for students completing the B.A. degree in international studies and fulfills the COM3 writing requirement for the University Studies Program.

Course Name	Credits	Casper	CWC	EWC	LCCC	NWCCD	Northwest	Western
INST 2310 - Introduction to International Relations	3	X						
INST 2350 - Introduction to Global Studies	3	X						

Course Name	Credits	
INST 4950 - Capstone in International Studies C3	3	UW Course

Concentration

International Studies majors will complete a minimum of 9 hours in a chosen area of concentration, choosing either “Development Studies” or “Security Studies”.

The course offerings for each concentration are distinct, but they do in some cases overlap. Students who wish to further explore how coursework for one concentration might inform their understanding of coursework eligible for completion of the other concentration are also enabled to do this as part of their “electives”. Students can also supplement eligible courses in either concentration with internationally focused courses approved by the student’s advisor and the INST Program Director.

Development Studies

Development Studies focuses on theories, practices, and processes in the governance of “social” and “economic” development of communities, at multiple scales (transnational, national, subnational); relations between societies and their environments; and political-economic challenges.

For students who choose this option, 9 credits from the list below must be taken.

Course Name	Credits	
INST 3000 - Social Change	3	UW Course
INST 3050 - Economic Geography	3	UW Course
INST 3200 - Comparative Political Cultures	3	UW Course
INST 3400 - Politics and Society of Turkey	3	UW Course
INST 3910 - Global Sociology	3	UW Course
INST 4013 - Political Geography	3	UW Course
INST 4100 - Global Public Health	3	UW Course
INST 4200 - China and Globalization	3	UW Course
INST 4215 - European Union	3	UW Course
INST 4250 - East Asia Society and Economy	3	UW Course
INST 4255 - Politics of Developing Nations	3	UW Course
INST 4260 - Democratization and Regime Change	3	UW Course
INST 4270 - Government and Politics of the Middle East and North Africa	3	UW Course
INST 4340 - International Organizations	3	UW Course
INST 4350 - Culture Change	3	UW Course
POLS 4350 - Sustainable Development and Global Policy	3	UW Course
INST 4355 - Sustainable Planning and Urban Policies	3	UW Course
INST 4360 - International Peace and Conflict	3	UW Course
INST 4370 - Global Political Economy	3	UW Course
INST 4375 - Transitional Justice	3	UW Course
INST 4385 - Environment and Resource Conflict	3	UW Course
INST 4455 - Energy Security	3	UW Course
INST 4475 - Politics of Natural Resources in Latin America	3	UW Course

INST 4500 - Landscapes of the Americas	3	UW Course
INST 4540 - International Marketing	3	UW Course
INST 4555 - Political Ecology	3	UW Course
INST 4560 - Global Cities H	3	UW Course
INST 4570 - Cultural Geography	3	UW Course
ECON 4700 - Economic Development	3	UW Course
ECON 4720 - International Trade	3	UW Course
ECON 4740 - International Economics and Policy	3	UW Course
AGEC 4880 - International Agricultural Trade, Markets and Policy	3	UW Course

Security Studies

Security Studies focuses on theory, practices, and processes in the governance of perceived insecurities, risks, and threats in social-cultural, political, and economic contexts, including around themes of human security, international relations, war and peace, intelligence, geopolitics, and geostrategy.

For students who choose this option, 9 credits from the list below must be taken.

Course Name	Credits	
POLS 3220 - Government and Politics of Russia and FSU	3	UW Course
INST 3400 - Politics and Society of Turkey	3	UW Course
INST 4013 - Political Geography	3	UW Course
INST 4100 - Global Public Health	3	UW Course
INST 4175 - Gender, Women, and Health	3	UW Course
INST 4215 - European Union	3	UW Course
POLS 4230 - Governments and Politics of Asia	3	UW Course
INST 4255 - Politics of Developing Nations	3	UW Course
INST 4260 - Democratization and Regime Change	3	UW Course
INST 4270 - Government and Politics of the Middle East and North Africa	3	UW Course
INST 4275 - US Foreign Policy of the Middle East	3	UW Course
INST 4280 - Comparative Criminal Justice	3	UW Course
INST 4290 - Inter-American Relations	3	UW Course
INST 4330 - American Foreign Relations	3	UW Course
INST 4340 - International Organizations	3	UW Course
INST 4360 - International Peace and Conflict	3	UW Course
INST 4375 - Transitional Justice	3	UW Course
INST 4380 - International History of Human Rights	3	UW Course
INST 4385 - Environment and Resource Conflict	3	UW Course
INST 4445 - Drug War Geopolitics in the Americas	3	UW Course
INST 4455 - Energy Security	3	UW Course
INST 4475 - Politics of Natural Resources in Latin America	3	UW Course
INST 4545 - Conflict Resolution and Management	3	UW Course
INST 4582 - 20th Century USForeign Relations	3	UW Course
POLS 4600 - Political Violence	3	UW Course
INST 4705 - Terrorism	3	UW Course

Regional Study Requirement

INST majors complete their “regional study” requirement as part of learning about the distinctiveness of different world regions as well as about the interconnections and interdependencies between them. Through “regional study” courses, students come to understand the global economic, political, and social-cultural processes that constitute and cut across world regions. INST majors must take one of the “gateway” options and at least two upper-division offerings, as listed below. Students can supplement the courses listed below with internationally focused courses approved by the student’s advisor and the INST Program Director.

Gateway Options

International Studies majors must take 3 credits from the list of course offerings below:

Course Name	Credits	Casper	CWC	EWC	LCCC	NWCCD	Northwest	Western
INST 1060 - World Regional Geography H	3	Note 1	Note 1	Note 1	Note 1	Note 1	Note 1	
INST 2200 - Politics of Europe C2	3	Note 2						

Course Name	Credits	
INST 2230 - Introduction to Asian Studies C2	3	UW Course
INST 2240 - Introduction to African Studies C2	3	UW Course
INST 2250 - Introduction to Latin American Studies C2	3	UW Course
INST 2280 - Introduction to European Studies C2	3	UW Course

Upper Division Options

International Studies majors must complete 6 credits of coursework from the below list of offerings:

Course Name	Credits	
INST 3100 - Chinese Society	3	UW Course
FREN 3110 - Contemporary French Civilization	3	UW Course
AAST 3130 - Global Impact of African Cultures	3	UW Course
CHIN 3160 - See Movies, Touch China	3	UW Course
POLS 3220 - Government and Politics of Russia and FSU	3	UW Course
PHIL 3320 - Eastern Thought H	3	UW Course
PHIL 3933 - African Philosophy H	3	UW Course
INST 3400 - Politics and Society of Turkey	3	UW Course
HIST 4170 - Europe in the Nineteenth Century	3	UW Course
SPAN 4190 - 20th and 21st Century Spanish-American Texts	3	UW Course
INST 4200 - China and Globalization	3	UW Course
INST 4215 - European Union	3	UW Course
POLS 4230 - Governments and Politics of Asia	3	UW Course
INST 4250 - East Asia Society and Economy	3	UW Course
GERM 4255 - 19th Century German Novellas	3	UW Course
RELI 4270 - Buddhist Ethics H	3	UW Course
INST 4270 - Government and Politics of the Middle East and North Africa	3	UW Course
INST 4275 - US Foreign Policy of the Middle East	3	UW Course
INST 4290 - Inter-American Relations	3	UW Course
INST 4315 - History, Politics and Memory of the Holocaust in Europe	3	UW Course
INST 4330 - American Foreign Relations	3	UW Course
INST 4445 - Drug War Geopolitics in the Americas	3	UW Course
INST 4475 - Politics of Natural Resources in Latin America	3	UW Course
INST 4500 - Landscapes of the Americas	3	UW Course

Electives

Majors are required to complete 6 additional hours of INST-prefixed upper-division coursework. This element of the major provides students with flexibility. Majors can complete this element of the major with INST "topics" courses that are not anticipated or are otherwise unlisted among the courses eligible for completing their concentration in "Development Studies" or "Security Studies," or for completing their "regional study" requirement; they can complete more credits towards their concentration than the nine they otherwise need; or they can complete more courses for the regional study requirement than they otherwise need. Students can also supplement the courses available for completion of this aspect of the major (that is, upper-division courses listed under the other requirements of the major) with internationally focused coursework across campus, or study abroad courses, with approval from the student's advisor and the INST Program Director. Some of the courses that might supplement the listed courses as part of a major's "electives" are announced in the Advising Newsletter for the major, which is distributed by the Advising Center during the registration window for each semester.

Foreign Language

All majors must complete 15 credits of the introductory sequence of foreign language courses in one language, consistent with the curriculum in the Department of Modern and Classical Languages (that is, the 1010-1020-2030-2040 sequence in one language). The same sequence (1010-1020-2030-2040) is also available in Arabic, a language program housed in the School of Politics, Public Affairs, and International Studies. Students who already are proficient in a foreign language can instead demonstrate fourth semester proficiency, as evident in a test of proficiency.

International Study Abroad and Internship Opportunities

All International Studies majors are strongly encouraged to consider taking part in a semester long study abroad program or a shorter-term faculty-led international fieldwork or study abroad course taught by UW faculty (typically offered during the Summer and Winter breaks) as a way to earn course credit towards their International Studies degree. In addition, International Studies majors are also encouraged to consider participating in paid or unpaid international internship opportunities as a way of earning additional academic credit towards their International Studies degree. For more information on international study abroad exchanges, faculty-led fieldwork courses and internship opportunities, please visit the UW Abroad Office at: uwyo.edu/geo/eda/index.

Notes:

Note 1: INST 1060 is cross listed with GEOG 1000; both courses satisfy the requirement.
Note 2: INST 2200 is cross listed with POLS 2200; both courses satisfy the requirement.

COURSE SUBSTITUTIONS: WyoTAGs reflect published equivalencies. UW academic departments occasionally arrange for course substitutions when indirect equivalencies exist. Please contact your UW Academic Advisor for details.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This document is in effect as of the 2026-2027 catalog year; it reflects the published UW curriculum as of that date. Any changes to the UW curriculum or the WYCC course equivalents will require this document to be updated. To request an updated document, faculty should contact transfer@uwyo.edu via email.