

Program Proposal

**Overview**

The review and approval of the program proposal confirms the student’s understanding of the requirements for the degree and forms much of the basis for the department to later confer or deny conferral of the degree. The adviser assists the student in planning the program of study. The program proposal should represent a coherent program of study that includes components to synthesize material covered and to allow for some degree of depth.

**Learning Outcomes (Graduate)**

The purpose of the master’s program is to further develop knowledge and skills in International Policy Studies and to prepare students for a professional career. This is achieved through completion of required courses in the global, quantitative, and skills core, as well as courses in an area of concentration and the capstone course. Students are also encouraged to gain experience through a summer internship and research opportunities with Stanford faculty.

**International Policy Studies Degree Requirements**

To receive the M.A. degree in International Policy Studies, students must complete the courses listed in the curriculum below. These requirements include:

-Two courses in the Global Core

-Four courses in the Quantitative Core

-Four courses in the Skills Core

-Six courses in the Area of Concentration, including the gateway course

-Capstone course (practicum or master’s thesis)

The minimum number of units required to graduate is 73.

During the first year of the program, students must complete required coursework in statistics, econometrics, international economics, advanced economics, international relations theory, policy writing, and the gateway course in the area of concentration. During the second year of the program, students are required to complete the practicum or master’s thesis during autumn and winter quarters, as well as coursework in the core sections and the area of concentration. Only students with two or more years of relevant policy work may petition to write a master’s thesis.

**Area of Concentration Requirements:**

• Students must select an area of concentration during the first year of the program.

• Students must complete a minimum of six courses within the area of concentration, including the gateway course, for a minimum total of 26 units.

• Each course must be taken for a minimum of three units.

• Students may petition to count two two-unit courses as one elective course within the area of concentration.

• All coursework must be taken for a letter grade.

• Students concentrating in International Political Economy must complete IPS 202: Topics in International Macroeconomics for the international economics requirement. They will then complete IPS 203: Issues in International Economics for the area of concentration gateway. In addition, they will complete IPS 204A: Microeconomics for the advanced economics requirement.

**Language Requirement**

In order to receive the M.A. degree in International Policy Studies, students must be proficient in a foreign language. Foreign language proficiency can be demonstrated by:

* Completion of three years of university-level coursework in a foreign language (verified by a transcript)
* Passing an oral and written proficiency exam at Stanford prior to graduation
* Status as a non-native English speaker

**Grade Requirement**

All courses taken to fulfill degree requirements, except IPS 300: IPS Student-Faculty Colloquium, must be taken for a letter grade. An overall GPA of 3.0 must be maintained.

**Academic Policies**

All courses taken to fulfill requirements for the M.A. degree in International Policy Studies must be taken for a letter grade. The only exception is IPS 300, which is only offered as “S/NC”, or courses taken in the Law School, the School of Medicine, or the Graduate School of Business where a letter grade may not be offered. Pre-approval is required from the IPS student services officer in order to apply a non-letter grade course in Law, Medicine, or the Graduate School of Business toward the IPS degree.

A maximum of 10 undergraduate units can be applied towards the IPS degree (not including ECON 102A: Introduction to Statistical Methods (post-calculus) for Social Scientists or ECON 102B: Introduction to Econometrics). Courses listed at the 100-level or below are considered to be at the undergraduate level. The exceptions are History and Political Science, which list undergraduate courses at the 200-level and below.

Units from language courses do not count towards the IPS degree requirements, except in cases in which they are used to substitute for units that were made available through an exemption from a core course.

Only students with two or more years of relevant policy work may petition to write a master’s thesis (IPS 209A: IPS Master’s Thesis).

Students are not required to repeat a course that covers material they have already mastered. In such cases, students may petition to substitute a different course for a core, required course. This flexibility does not reduce the unit requirements for the M.A. degree.

All graduate degree candidates must submit a Master’s Degree Program Proposal to the International Policy Studies office by the end of Spring Quarter of their first year in the program. This document must be on file in order for a student to apply to graduate.

**Course Petitions**

Students may petition for units from a course that is not currently listed in the Related Courses tab to fulfill area of concentration requirements. A course petition may also be used to apply for an exemption from a core course that covers coursework previously completed at the graduate level, or to propose a replacement course in place of a core requirement. IPS faculty leadership and academic staff will review petitions.

**Directed Readings**

Students may arrange a directed reading if the current course offerings do not meet particular research or study needs. Directed reading courses are independent study projects that students may undertake with Stanford faculty members. Once the student has found a faculty member to support his or her studies, the student must submit the directed reading petition to the IPS office for review by IPS faculty leadership. Directed reading petitions must be submitted no later than the end of the second week of the quarter to allow sufficient time to for review. If approved, the IPS staff creates a section for the specific instructor so that the student can enroll in the course. The course is listed as IPS 299: Directed Reading and the section number is based on the particular instructor. The limitations for directed reading units are:

* A maximum of five units per directed reading course
* The course must be taken for a letter grade



NAME: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

STUDENT ID: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ EXPECTED GRADUATION QUARTER: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

AREA OF CONCENTRATION: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

INTERNATIONAL POLICY STUDIES – DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Directions: Please fill out the program proposal by listing all courses that have **been completed or are currently in progress**.

EXEMPTIONS/REPLACEMENT COURSES

PLEASE LIST APPROVED PETITIONS FOR CORE COURSES HERE; DO NOT INCLUDE PETITIONS FROM THE AREA OF CONCENTRATION

(E.G., ECONOMETRICS (PUBLPOL 303D: APPLIED ECONOMETRICS FOR PUBLIC POLICY (4 UNITS)

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| COURSE # | COURSE TITLE | UNITS | GRADE | AQ  1 | WQ  1 | SQ  1 | AQ  2 | WQ  2 | SQ  2 |
| **GLOBAL CORE** | | | | | | | | | |
| IPS 300 | Issues in International Policy Studies | 1 |  | X |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **SECTION TOTAL** | |  |  | | | | | | |
|  | | | | | | | | | |
| **QUANTITATIVE CORE** | | | | | | | | | |
| STATISTICS | | | | | | | | | |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ECONOMETRICS | | | | | | | | | |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ADVANCED ECONOMICS | | | | | | | | | |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS | | | | | | | | | |
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| **SECTION TOTAL** | |  |  | | | | | | |
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| **SKILLS CORE** | | | | | | | | | |
| POLICY WRITING | | | | | | | | | |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| JUSTICE | | | | | | | | | |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| DECISION MAKING | | | | | | | | | |
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| SKILLS ELECTIVE | | | | | | | | | |
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| **SECTION TOTAL** | |  |  | | | | | | |
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| **CAPSTONE** (Practicum or Thesis) | | | | | | | | | |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | X |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | X |  |
| **SECTION TOTAL** | |  |  | | | | | | |
| **PAGE 1 TOTAL** (SUM OF YEAR 1 UNITS) | |  |

INTERNATIONAL POLICY STUDIES – DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

PAGE 2

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ AREA OF CONCENTRATION: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| COURSE # | COURSE TITLE | UNITS | GRADE | AQ  1 | WQ  1 | SQ  1 | AQ  2 | WQ  2 | SQ  2 |
| **AREA OF CONCENTRATION** | | | | | | | | | |
| GATEWAY COURSE | | | | | | | | | |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ELECTIVE 1 | | | | | | | | | |
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| ELECTIVE 2 | | | | | | | | | |
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| ELECTIVE 3 | | | | | | | | | |
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| ELECTIVE 4 | | | | | | | | | |
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| ELECTIVE 5 | | | | | | | | | |
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| ADDITIONAL CONCENTRATION ELECTIVES | | | | | | | | | |
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| **SECTION TOTAL** | |  |  | | | | | | |

NOTE: Place an asterisk (\*) next to the course number for any course for which you received petition approval (e.g., IPS 244\*)

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| **SUMMARY** | |
| YEAR 1 – PAGE 1 UNITS (core) |  |
| YEAR 1 – PAGE 2 UNITS (concentration) |  |
| YEAR 1 – TOTAL UNITS |  |
| YEAR 2 – UNITS STILL TO COMPLETE |  |
| DEGREE PROGRAM – TOTAL UNITS |  |

SECOND LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT

☐ Previous coursework \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

☐ Exam taken at Stanford \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(list language and institution) (list language and date of exam)

☐ English is my second language

☐ Coursework taken at Stanford \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(list language)

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS TO COMPLETE IN YEAR 2 (*IPS will fill out this section*):

Student Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

IPS Student Services Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_