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B.A. in International Studies

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Major and Minor Information

International Studies is an interdisciplinary and multi-cultural program that addresses the principal issues confronting today's globalizing world, drawing ideas, faculty and courses from a wide range of disciplines, including history, political science, theology and business. Special emphasis is placed on developing foreign language skills.

In addition to core courses such as Introduction to International Studies and International Studies and Globalization, majors and minors choose primary and secondary concentrations. Students may choose to concentrate in Global Culture and the Arts, Global Politics and Society, Global Political Economy, or International Peace and Security. We will soon be adding a concentration in Media, Globalization, and Social Change. In consultation with an academic adviser, students will choose the concentrations that best meet their career and graduate study goals.

To further this knowledge and help develop language skills, students will be encouraged to study and/or engage in service abroad.

SBU's Study Abroad Program

Our Study Abroad program provides the opportunity to study at more than 50 universities in more than 30 countries including Argentina, Australia, China, Costa Rica, England, Ireland, Italy, Morocco, Russia, and Spain.

In the past three years, International Studies majors have spent semesters in Northern Ireland, England, the Czech Republic, Austria, Costa Rica, and Morocco.

Career Outlook

The major in International Studies has many varied and exciting career paths available. Here are just a few fields and types of employers available with a bachelor's degree in International Studies:

Business: domestic and foreign financial institutions, international marketing firms, international trade firms, international transportation, travel, and hospitality industry.

International Relations: relief organizations, religious organizations, educational institutions, consulting firms, research institutes.

Government: United Nations, defense contractors, U.S. Peace Corps, U.S. Foreign Service, USAID, Armed Services.

Nonprofits: private voluntary organizations, humanitarian services, relief organizations.

Language Services: public and private schools abroad, English language institutes, colleges and universities.

Journalism: foreign news agencies, TV networks, wire services, online publishers, academic journals, magazines, museums, freelancing.